

MINUTES  
TROY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
27 April 2010

1. Dr. Shelton called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.
2. Mr. Jim Davis completed the roll call for the meeting. Attendance was as follows:

a. Members present:

- Catherine Allard
- Tammy Esteves
- David Hollingsworth
- Tom Kolasa
- Brian Webb
- Marty Olliff
- Scout Blum
- Jim Davis
- Regina Gaillard
- Allen Jones
- Sam Shelton
- Larry Fogelberg
- Robert Kitahara
- Jim Ryan
- Johanna Alberich
- Frank Browning
- Eddie Clark
- Frank Hammonds
- Chan Roark
- Mary Battaglia

b. Members absent:

- Tim Buckner (with notice)
- Zhang Jun
- James DeLoach
- John Irwin
- John Jinright (with notice)
- Djuana Burns (with notice)

3. The minutes for the March 30 meeting were amended. Dr. Allard asked that a 'humorous' comment she had expressed in her Troy Campus report be expunged. Dr. Alberich notified the secretary that she had previously notified the secretary that she would be absent. The minutes were approved as amended.

4. President's Report

A. Dr. Shelton expressed the hope that the standing committee vacancies were being filled by the colleges, hopefully with the assistance of the members of the Faculty Senate.

B. Dr. Shelton reported that he had sent a letter of condolence to the family of Vice-Chancellor Pitts on behalf of the Senate.

C. Dr. Shelton reported that, as a result of questions raised at the last meeting, he had discussed two parking issues with Dean Reeves. First, would the vanity license plates continue to cover the increased cost of parking decals; the answer was "yes." Secondly, the question was raised about employees who live outside of Alabama and thus have no opportunity to purchase vanity plates. Dr. Shelton suggested to Dean Reeves that perhaps a donation to the scholarship fund equal to or greater than the \$50 the plates result in being

donated to the scholarship could result in offsetting the cost of the parking decal, but only for those people who live outside Alabama. Dr. Shelton has received no reply from Dean Reeves as yet.

D. Dr. Shelton reported that the Chancellor has accepted the Senate's invitation to attend the June 30 meeting.

E. U.S. Representative Bobby Bright will be visiting campus to speak at Dr. Shelton's course on Congress in the Fall, and it may be possible to coordinate that visit with a Senate meeting and have Rep. Bright address the Senate.

F. Dr. Shelton announced his intention to attend the May 7 Board of Trustees meeting.

G. Dr. Roach had asked Dr. Shelton to remind the Senate of the Wallace D. Malone Distinguished Faculty Award and encourage senators to recognize deserving faculty by nominating them for the Malone Award.

## 5. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee—Dr. Shelton reported that the Executive Committee met the previous Wednesday to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Elections for Senate officers will also be held at the June meeting. The past practice has been to ask the outgoing Senators to serve as the nominations committee. Tim Buckner, Jim Ryan, Djuana Burns and Allen Jones have volunteered, with Dr. Buckner serving as chair. Dr. Shelton encouraged all members to run for the officer positions.

The upcoming year is a fifth year in the existence of the Senate under the current Constitution, and as such the Senate is required to conduct a review of member distribution among the colleges. In addition, other minor issues may need to be reviewed for possible updating. Dr. Allard, as vice-president, will serve as chair of the review committee. Volunteers to serve on the review committee should contact Dr. Allard.

At the June meeting, the Senate must approve the meeting schedule for 2010-2011. Dr. Shelton asked for input on whether the Senate should stay with its schedule of alternating meeting between Tuesday and Wednesday, and whether the time should be changed, perhaps to an earlier hour in the afternoon.

B. Committee on Committees—Dr. Allard reported the Graduate Council continues working on the wording for the new catalog. Dr. Shelton added that the Research Advisory Council met for the first time the previous Friday, an organizational meeting, and progress was made.

C. Elections Committee—Mr. Davis reported the results of the Spring elections. Overall participation was about 33%, approximately the same as it has been since the elections were put online. The results: Arts and Sciences (2 positions)—Govind Menon and Ben Robertson; Education (2 positions)—Mary Ann Hooten and Michael Burgan; Health and Human Services (1 opening)—Debra Lett; Phenix City at-large (1 position)—David Hollingsworth was reelected; Sorrell College of Business (3 positions)—Richard Voss and Bill Heisler, with the third position to be determined by a run-off election between Lane Eckis and John Mankelwicz. The runoff will be held next week.

D. Academic Affairs Committee—Dr. Hammonds had no report.

E. Faculty Welfare Committee—Dr. Roark asked for volunteers to help with research for her committee's study of the changing role of Lecturers at the University.

## F. Campus Reports

i. Dothan Campus—Dr. Olliff reported a very positive response to the lecture by concentration camp survivor Ann Rosenhek. He especially thanked Chris Schaffer, Dan Puckett, and most especially Judy Fulmer from the office of sponsored programs. The lecture on Troy Campus has been made available on YouTube, and Dr. Olliff exhorted the Senate to avail themselves of the opportunity to see it.

Office space for new faculty is very difficult to find.

On April 30 the Dothan campus will have its Honors Colloquium, during which each college will recognize its outstanding students.

ii. Global Campus—Dr. Esteves that planning is underway for the first annual Global Campus faculty conference in Montgomery from June 22-24.

iii. Montgomery Campus—Dr. Kolasa also reported a very good turnout for the Ann Rosenhek presentation, including a large turnout from the community.

A virus outbreak on campus was contained, but many computers had to be reimaged. He found that many computers on the Troy campus, particularly in the GAB, are now reimaged every night, which is a good idea, but required that faculty carry their work in a flash drive, and not store anything on the local hard drives.

The History and Social Sciences Association has expanded its charity work to try to work with Habitat for Humanity.

Parking spaces are running very short on the Montgomery campus.

iv. Phenix City Campus—Dr. Hollingsworth had no report.

v. Troy Campus—Dr. Allard congratulated Dr. John Kline of the Troy Campus Leadership program for being this year's winner of the Ingalls Award for outstanding teaching.

The Helen Keller lecture this year was presented by a hearing-impaired actor, Anthony Natale, who has appeared in several hit movies. Entertainment was provided by the Alabama School for the Deaf and Blind ensemble.

There is an annual international film festival in conjunction with Troy Fest downtown; this past April 23-25, two films by Troy broadcast journalism students were presented as part of the film festival.

The e-colloquium was held on Troy campus. Those sessions were filmed and archived, including a session on promotion and tenure made by the Deans

Troy campus will once again be hosting the Special Olympics on May 14-15. Volunteers are welcome.

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Troy campus Psychology conference was held April 23. The keynote speaker was Kelly Hawkins, who now works in the office of the Attorney General.

Next Thursday the Empty Bowls luncheon will be held on the Troy campus. Empty Bowls is an international initiative to raise awareness of hunger, to raise money, and to showcase arts education. On portion of the art exhibit will be five pieces of art by five Troy football players, to be auctioned.

Major General Arthur Bartell, the command of all Army ROTC units, will be the commencement speaker on May 7.

vi. Library—Mr. Webb reported that the Troy campus library will extend its hours during final exams until 1:00 am.

## 6. Old Business

A. Quality Enhancement Institute—Dr. Saltiel reported that the QEP portion of the E-colloquium pre-conference was held on April 12. The sessions are archived, and are a must-see, especially the session on promotion and tenure.

The external evaluator of the QEP, Sandra Stotsky, visited campus on April 19 and met with all the QEP faculty groups.

As a function of QEI, Dr. Saltiel, Dr. Shelton and Dr. Allard met with Dr. Vardaman to continue to develop the initial proposal for a faculty orientation plan, as a follow-up to initial HR orientation. Dr. Tatum is working on a separate orientation for new faculty in the College of Education.

Dr. Saltiel gave a presentation to the Academic Steering Committee on April 20 about the work of the QEI.

B. Dr. Dew reported on the continuing response to the SACS report. He thanked the various faculty members who have assisted in collecting the information that must be presented to SACS. The University is making progress in being able to measure the results of our educational endeavors.

Concurrent with the compliance review is the issue of the level change. The University must be able to show that it is prepared to support the doctoral-level program in Nursing. A small SACS team will visit the Troy campus in September to review the DNP program in particular and the University as a whole to determine their readiness to support a doctoral program. By January 2011 we should know the results.

The 2015 Strategic Plan is nearing completion. It began with listening sessions, and about 80% of the objectives can be traced back to the listening sessions. He particularly praised the students for their input. The Strategic Plan must be presented to SACS and should be ready for implementation by 1 October 2010. There have been some changes suggested by the Board of Trustees.

The assumptions behind the planning include the following: 1. The economic conditions for the state will probably continue to decline, as will the state's contribution to Troy's budget, while the state may seek to exercise more control over higher education. The economic problems will probably continue through to the end of the planning period. 2. Success in academic quality depends on hiring and developing uniquely qualified faculty, staff and leaders to carry out the University's mission. Our people must interact with the diverse student populations, traditional students, adult students, students in the military, international students, and on-line learners. Our teaching mission is more complicated than most institutions.

We must move forward in three broad areas. The first is to increase engagement with our stakeholders, to increase our growth by increasing engagement with these stakeholders in order to meet their needs. We will continue to try to expand the number of undergraduate and graduate programs where there are areas of need, and where there are opportunities. A major example of this growth is what the Sorrell College of Business was able to accomplish with the Master of Taxation program, which was approved by ACHE. It did not require the addition of many new courses. The second area of growth will be to increase students' access to more on-line program opportunities. This is one of the greatest areas of potential growth. Not all programs are ready for this development, but many are. Also important will be the responsibility to be more responsive to military and veteran students and their families. We must also increase our on-line availability to communities without community colleges. To highlight a few of these plans, Dr. Dew said that we want to establish a Troy professional development institute. We need to look for opportunities to spread the Troy name nationwide with relatively little expense with attractive programs.

The second area is to enhance academic quality and institutional effectiveness. One objective is to continue what we are doing with the QEP. The external reviewer gave us good reviews for what we are doing in this area. Also, we need to think in terms of strengthening the College of Business. We also plan to strengthen the Honors Program. We are not to the point yet of creating a full-fledged honors college, but we do want to strengthen the program we do have, because at some time in the future we do want to create an honors college. We want to increase diversity among our faculty. We want to continue to increase the opportunity

for faculty international travel. We want for the faculty to have increased exchange scholar opportunities, as well as for the faculty to be able to take students along as exchange students. We also are strengthening our admissions standards.

The third area is to continue to build for the future, even in hard economic times. We must maintain our leadership position in information technologies and on-line learning, in order to continue to serve our existing students as well as attract new ones. We must implement a new sustainability plan. For instance, energy efficiency will be paramount in existing and new buildings. We will continue to be an eco-friendly institution. We must plan for additional faculty, staff, and infrastructure to support increased enrollment. We want to increase media coverage, not just in athletics, but also in the performing arts, publicity, and in scholarly events, all over the state.

Dr. Shelton asked whether there will be a limit to the number of doctoral programs we will be able to offer. Dr. Dew said that we will be able to offer up to three doctoral programs, and that after we prove ourselves able to handle three doctoral programs, the approval process to move from level five to level six will not require another team visit. Dr. Shelton asked whether the student comments from the listening sessions were on the website. Dr. Dew said that if they are not, they will be placed there. Dr. Fogelberg asked what the administration's commitment to specialized accreditation for the College of Business. Dr. Dew says he sees a strong sense of commitment to another threshold that the University will have to prepare to cross.

C. Admission Standards Study Update—Dr. Shelton reported that the admissions standards committee is hard at work and will report its recommendations soon.

D. Plus/Minus Grading Study—Dr. Shelton reported that there has been no word on the status of this suggestion.

## 7. New Business

A. Tenure and Promotion Process—Dr. Shelton introduced Dr. Allard as representing the Senate Executive Committee in a statement on the topic of the T&P process. Dr. Allard stated that Dr. Roach will be reviewing some of the language in the Faculty Handbook regarding T&P because there are times when there is some confusion. For instance, in the last cycle some of the files submitted were hard to navigate and review because of the way in which the files were organized. So there is a committee to review the language of such instructions, and Dr. Allard read two such language revisions to submit to the URC for possible inclusion in the Faculty Handbook.

1. "Each college has established its own criteria for teaching, service, and scholarly/creative work (which are available on the college websites)."

Dr. Allard stated that even though these criteria are available on-line, they need to be included in the Faculty Handbook.

2. "Deans, regional directors, or other administrators seeking tenure or promotion in faculty rank may elect to bypass the College Review Committee process and submit their portfolios directly to the University Review Committee."

Dr. Roach stated that Dr. Allard and Dr. Hammonds both serve on the University Review Committee, and that she is correct in pointing out that we all need to be familiar with the Faculty Handbook. Dr. Roach explained that every year after the P&T process, the Deans review the results and bring their findings to the URC. Yesterday (Monday, 26 April) the second post-mortem meeting on the process was held. There was some tweaking of the language and process in the Schools of Business and Education. At this meeting, Dr. Roach

had asked for volunteers to serve on a sub-committee to review the T&P process and refer their comments to the full URC for possible changes to the handbook.

As for the need for a better system for filing electronically, Dr. Roach stated that Dr. Menon and others are looking into this, with Dr. Tatum and Dr. Vardaman. Their goal is to tweak the system University-wide. The hope is to take all of these changes to the Board for approval by next academic year.

Dr. Shelton stressed that Dr. Allard and Dr. Hammonds are members of the URC, and that everyone should get involved in the process. He also stressed that these suggestions for changes will go to the full URC for approval.

Dr. Roach stressed that any changes must be approved at all levels.

Dr. Blum stated that she felt the language Dr. Allard had suggested for inclusion in the handbook should be adopted, as Deans who are going up for P&T should be required to recuse themselves from the process, as faculty members going up for P&T are, in effect, required to do.

B. Other New Business—Dr. Fogelberg asked for and received a motion for the Senate to send condolences to the family of Chuck Thompson.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm.