

MINUTES
TROY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MEETING
25 Aug 2010

1. Dr. Shelton called the meeting to order at 2:02 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
- Govind Menon
- Ben Robertson
- Sam Shelton
- Lane Eckis
- Bill Heisler
- John Irwin
- Robert Kitahara
- Richard Voss
- John Jinright
- Johanna Alberich
- Frank Browning
- Michael Burgan
- Eddie Clark
- Mary Ann Hooten
- Mary Battaglia
- Debra Lett

b. Members absent:

- Regina Gaillard (with notice)
- Zhang Jun

For the benefit of the new members who may be unfamiliar with the many visitors to the Senate meetings, Dr. Shelton asked the visitors to introduce themselves. Dr. Shelton introduced William Fillmore, president of the Troy campus SGA. Other guests were Dr. Iris Saltiel, director of the Quality Enhancement Institute, Dean Maryjo Cochran of the College of Communication and Fine Arts, Dr. Diane Barron, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, Dean Lance Tatum of the College of Education, Dean Damon Andrew of the College of Health and Human Services, Dr. Ed Roach, Executive Vice-Chancellor/Provost, Dean Henry Stewart of the Library, Dr. Richard Federinko, Senior Vice-Chancellor of Student Services and Administration, Sohail Agboatwala, Associate Vice-Chancellor of Business Services, Dr. Herbert Reeves, Dean of Student Services for the Troy Campus, and Ray White, Vice-Chancellor for the Montgomery campus. Dean Judson Edwards of the Sorrell College of Business had stepped out momentarily to take a call.

4. President's Report

A. Dr. Shelton stated that the packets sent to each member contained the preliminary appointments of each member to a committee of the Senate. The Senate needed to act to confirm Marty Olliff as chair of the Academic Affairs Committee and Tom Kolasa as chair of

the Faculty Welfare Committee. There being no objections, the appointments were confirmed. Dr. Shelton asked that any members who wished to be appointed to another committee than the one on which they were listed to let him know.

B. President's Correspondence

- i. Dr. Shelton stated that as per a Senate resolution from the last meeting, letters of appreciation were sent to the outgoing members of the Faculty Senate, with copies to their chairs, to the Deans of their colleges, and to the Human Resources personnel file
- ii. Dr. Shelton reported that he attended the July meeting of the Board of Trustees. The new admissions standards were adopted. Dean Barron affirmed that the admissions standards for the Graduate School would be reexamined this fall. Revisions to the Faculty Handbook as reviewed by Dr. Roach at the last meeting were approved. The 2015 Strategic plan was approved. The Strategic plan is available online.

C. Other

- i. Dr. Shelton met with Tamara Jones of the Records Office to discuss reports from students that when they registered for courses at other Troy University campuses, they had to fill out paperwork in order for the course work to appear on their Troy Campus transcripts. Ms. Jones assured Dr. Shelton that this is not the case, that all coursework at any Troy University campus automatically shows up on the Troy University database, which is the only database onto which any coursework is recorded. The only exception is students who are members of the National Guard, who must fill out paperwork for the National Guard when they take a course at another campus besides the Troy campus, stating that the course is approved by the Troy campus.

The other matter he brought up with Ms. Jones was the matter of faculty and staff who want to take a free course but do not want to work toward a degree, still having to apply to the University and be accepted into a degree program. She consulted with Dean of Admissions Buddy Starling, and they agreed this is not required, and that they will write up procedural guidelines stating such. Dr. Menon added that he regularly registers for courses and never has to register for a degree, etc. The only problem is that he gets coded in datatel as a student every semester, which means that he is only allowed to check out library books for two weeks, etc. So he has to call records every semester to get this changed. Dr. Hooten asked if faculty must pay for tuition up-front and be reimbursed. Mr. Agboatwala answered that the faculty member must fill out the tuition assistance form and have it approved by the supervisor. The only out-of-pocket expenses are lab and registration fees.

- ii. Dr. Shelton attended the New Faculty/Staff orientation as the representative of the Senate, to inform them that we do indeed have a Faculty Senate. He also received an interesting question, namely, is there representation on the Senate specifically for non-tenure track lecturers. This is an issue which made it all the way to the floor of the Senate as a resolution last year, so maybe there is continuing interest in the subject which might necessitate bringing it up for discussion again this year.
- iii. Dr. Shelton expressed the Senate's appreciation to Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Roach for inviting him to speak at the Faculty/Staff Convocation on 6 August.

3. The approval of the June minutes, having been neglected and forgotten, was brought up at this time. Dr. Allard suggested that references to Dr. Roach's position be recorded as "Executive Vice-Chancellor/Provost" rather than "Executive Vice-Chancellor and Provost" in order to avoid giving the impression that this was two separate people. Dr. Olliff pointed out a typo. Dr. Kolasa pointed out that in his campus report, the minutes stated that the parking garage had been rebuilt, when in fact it was only repainted.

The June minutes were approved as amended.

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, as well as to discuss the ongoing projects of standing committees, and to discuss faculty issues in general.

B. Committee on Committees—Dr. Allard reported the Graduate Council meets regularly but had no substantive results to report from the first meeting of year. Mr. Davis reported that at the August meeting of the Athletic Advisory Committee, during a discussion of the new Trojan Way behavior initiative, Athletic Director Steve Dennis stated that he wants faculty to report to him the names of student athletes who violate the guidelines of the Trojan Way.

C. Elections Committee—Mr. Davis had nothing to report.

D. Academic Affairs Committee—Dr. Olliff reported that in the matter of the plus/minus grades study, our letter is still in the hands of the Chancellor, and we are awaiting a response.

E. Faculty Welfare Committee—Dr. Kolasa reported that he is studying the notes on the Lecturer Study, and will have a full report in September.

F. Campus Reports

i. Dothan Campus—Dr. Olliff reported that the Dothan campus has the presence of a new college, now that Health and Human Services has set up shop in Dothan with both Nursing and Social Work. There is also a coordination with a college that has no presence in Dothan, CCFA. The Dothan Campus library is participating in the CCFA reading initiative by showing three Frankenstein movies. The library will also host a festival of six French-language films between 21 September and 26 October. There is a media release on the campus website.

A search has begun for the Associate Dean position for the Sorrell College of Business, for which the current interim Dean will not stand as a candidate. The College of Arts and Sciences has just lost its Associate Dean and there is no Dean in place, which combined with other unfilled positions may cause problems soon.

Concerns have been expressed to Dr. Olliff about the nature of the invocation at the Dothan commencement. As the University seeks to expand its worldwide presence, as we begin video-streaming of commencements, Dothan's “highly Protestant” and “in-your-face” invocation may soon start damaging the University's image worldwide. Several faculty members have expressed “concern and discomfort.” Furthermore, it could expose Troy to legal difficulties if it is challenged as being outside of the guidelines of the 1971 Lemon decision of the Supreme Court. This issue was brought up in November 2007 in the then-Faculty Council, and left with the understanding that we would continue monitoring the point, and this appears to be a case where the Senate needs to be monitoring. Finally, what is the progress on the SACS reports? Dr. Shelton reported that Dr. Dew will be at the September meeting to provide an update of SACS progress and to discuss the 2015 Plan.

ii. Global Campus—Dr. Esteves reported that she is working with QEP in hopes of getting some reading groups started. It is hoped to have these groups up and running by next month.

iii. Montgomery Campus—Dr. Kolasa reported that the History and Social Sciences department is working with the English department to bring one or two speakers to campus this semester. The New York Times distribution has begun. Dean Beatty is coordinating the effort, encouraging everyone to incorporate it into their syllabi. There has been a “surprisingly positive attitude” to the Trojan Way initiative, perhaps because of their high percentage of older, non-traditional students. Lastly, there are often bicycles chained to the rails of the handicapped access ramps, which has the effect of blocking

access to the ramps. Can this problem be addressed? Dr. Shelton said that the individuals who need to be apprised of this problem are in the room and heard the complaint.

iv. Phenix City Campus—Dr. Hollingsworth reported that enrollment is doing well.

v. Troy Campus—Dr. Allard reported that there is much construction underway on the Troy campus, including a new basketball arena and new dining hall, making travel around campus difficult and time-consuming, and causing parking problems here at the start of the semester. The College of Communication and Fine Arts kicked off its Frankenstein film festival the previous night with Dr. Allard introducing the 1931 Boris Karloff/James Whale film, and it drew a capacity crowd.

Dr. Allard introduced Dr. Blum, who proposed the establishment of a formal liaison from the Senate to the SGA. This would allow the Senate to maintain a better understanding of what the students are doing, and perhaps to help the SGA with certain issues.

Dean Reeves presented a report on the state of the parking issue on the Troy campus. The new parking lot north of the Trojan Center should be opened by Monday morning 30 August, providing 250 new student spaces, and the faculty/staff lot with 42 spaces adjacent to Malone Hall should also reopen. When all parking lot construction is finished, the campus will have about 200 more spaces than last fall.

The rationale behind the new zoning of lots to specific types—commuter, resident, etc.—was to encourage students to drive to campus and park, and then walk or take the shuttle to different parts of campus. Shuttle use has increased to 800 riders per day.

Dr. Blum asked about the reopening of the Faculty/Staff lot by Malone. Dean Reeves said that the 42 vehicles that normally would park there have been forced to find Faculty/Staff spaces elsewhere, causing problems for other Faculty/Staff. That problem will end on Monday.

Dean Cochran suggesting that some type of campaign be launched to teach everyone how to use the new roundabout at the north entrance of the new parking lot north of the Trojan Center. Dean Reeves said the instruction and yield signs were being installed today, as well as arrows being painted on the street this weekend, which should alleviate the problem.

Dr. Kolasa said that all week there have been literally no faculty spaces available by the time he arrives on campus around 9:00 am, and he has had to park in a commuter lot. He asked, “What is a faculty member to do? What is the official policy?” Dean Reeves answered that the official policy is that anyone who parks in an incorrect lot will receive a ticket, and that faculty are being ticketed in such cases. Dr. Kolasa replied that it seems bizarre that a faculty member must receive a ticket in order to do his or her job; the official policy seems to be in contradiction with common sense. Dean Reeves replied that there is open parking available at the tennis courts, and the shuttle stops there every ten minutes. The same open parking situation is available at the National Guard armory.

Dr. Alberich asked if there is an appeals process for parking tickets. Dean Reeves said that during this initial period, as Dr. Federinko suggested, one should contact Dean Reeves. Once this period is over, there is an appeals process.

Dr. Allard praised the shuttle system and suggested that the shuttle routes be published in the Troy campus Schedule of Classes booklet. Dean Reeves said that he would consider this, and that there is a website for transportation that does include the shuttle routes.

Everyone was very appreciative of Dean Reeves’s talk with the Senate.

Dr. Shelton asked Dean Cochran about new construction at the band room. Mr.

Agboatwala said that there was a contract let for expanding the band locker room, the choral room, and the dance studio.

vi. Library—Mr. Webb had nothing to report.

G. Constitution Review—Dr. Allard reported that the Constitution Review Committee has been formed. There are five members, representing all campuses, and they are ready to begin work.

6. Old Business

A. Quality Enhancement Institute—Dr. Saltiel reported that Dr. Vardaman is working on New Faculty Orientation and will be reporting on it next month.

In announcing her leaving Troy University for another job, Dr. Saltiel was very complimentary of all the Quality Enhancement work being done at all levels and at all locations. She said that Dr. Dew, Dr. Folmar, and Dr. Barron will be focusing their attention on restructuring and strengthening QEI once they have completed their work on the SACS reports.

Dr. Shelton thanked Dr. Saltiel for her tireless work on the QEI on behalf of the Faculty Senate. He also announced that she has been named the recipient of the Wallace D. Malone Award, which is a true measure of her contributions to the University.

B. Admission Standards Study Update—Dr. Shelton announced that the Admissions Standards Study Committee will no longer be on the agenda, as the board has acted and approved the new standards.

C. Plus/Minus Grading Study—Dr. Shelton said the matter is still in the hands of the Chancellor, and so will remain a continuing process on future agendas.

7. New Business

A. 2011-2012 Common Calendar—Vice-Chancellor Ray White gave a brief presentation on the demands from so many different locations and types of sessions that influence the common calendar. There are many absolute demands. First, all Troy campuses worldwide must have a common datatel start date. Secondly, Fall and Spring 16-week semesters, A sessions, and terms T1 and T3 must have the same Drop, Add and Withdrawal dates. Third, these same sessions must have the same census deadlines. These census dates determine how much, or even whether, federal financial aid is distributed to students. Because Troy hands out almost a quarter-billion dollars in financial aid, this date is very important. Next, Fall and Spring sessions for Dothan, Montgomery, and Phenix City and terms T2 and T4 will have the same dates for Add, Drop, Withdrawal, Datatel start, and Census.

The major challenge is that of the 52 weeks in a year, 45 are taken up by terms; the 16-week sessions must be squeezed into this frame. Fall break takes up one week, the holiday break takes up two weeks, and Spring break takes one. This leaves three weeks to be split between the Spring-Summer break and the Summer-Fall break. Spring break must fall between A and B sessions and between T1 and T2, so there is no flexibility. The public school systems are notified of Troy's Spring break date in case they have any flexibility in setting their Spring break.

Due to "calendar creep," the start dates for Fall semester move closer to July every year. If no adjustment is made, 2011 Fall semester begins on 8 August. Fall break has been scheduled as the week of Thanksgiving because many students and faculty don't come back for the two days before Thanksgiving anyway, and having a separate week for fall break earlier in the semester would wipe out two weekends in terms of support for athletic events those weekends. In addition, the semester would end a week later. This year, the two weeks for holiday break fall all in December. Also, if no change is made, Spring semester 2012 would begin (datatel start date) on Monday January 2, the New Year's holiday, and the Fall 2012 semester would begin on August 6.

In version 2, the one Mr. White prefers and will be recommending, Fall semester 2011 starts on August 15. The later start pushes the holiday break a week closer to Christmas; Troy campus would end classes on December 14, with commencement on the 16th. Administrative Break would begin on the 21st or 22nd. Spring semester would begin on January 9, and finish on May 20, with Summer session beginning on May 29, which is after most secondary

schools are finished for the year, solving the problem of hurting admissions for Summer session.

B. Resolution on Faculty Senate Appointments to the University Committees—Dr. Shelton explained that this is an internal adjustment in how the Senate handles appointments to University Standing committees of members who are appointed to represent the Senate. In the past, it has occurred that members representing the Senate on standing committees have gone off of the Senate, but have remained on the standing committees as representatives of the Senate. This resolution states that all such Senate appointments to standing committees will be one-year appointments, for a maximum of three years. This allows for greater turnover. In answer to a question, Dr. Shelton said that representatives currently on standing committees will be grandfathered in. The resolution was approved.

Dr. Shelton announced that he is accepting candidates to be appointed to the University Review Committee and the Personnel Advisory Committee. Candidates for the URC must be tenured and Associate Professor or higher.

C. Senate Communications with Faculty—Dr. Shelton urged Senators to communicate the Senate's actions to members of their faculty. The minutes are posted online, but that involves a one-month lag time before the minutes are approved and made available. Dr. Allard, Dr. Kolasa, and Dr. Olliff currently send regular communications to the faculty of their campuses.

D. Campus-to-Campus Shuttle—Dr. Blum suggested that perhaps the University shuttle system could be used as a sort of park-and-ride daily shuttle from Montgomery or possibly Dothan, so that faculty and students who live in those cities could pay a fee to ride on a shuttle to and from those cities each day. Mr. Agboatwala suggested that the proposal be presented to Dean Reeves.

E. Dr. Shelton asked for a motion to send a letter of appreciation to the Chancellor and Mrs. Hawkins for the luncheon today. The motion passed by acclamation.

F. Chancellor Hawkins has confirmed that he will address the Senate at the March 30, 2011 meeting.

G. Each college will be recognized at on home football game this Fall, starting with the Sorrell College of Business. At each game, the faculty from a college will be invited to the game. In addition, at the first home game on September 4 will be announced the Manuel Johnson Center. Dean Judson Edwards announced that at 2:15 pm on September 4 there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of Bibb Graves to announce the Manuel H. Johnson Center for the Study of Political Economy. It is funded by gifts of about \$4 million dollars.

H. Bill Heisler got the award for coming the farthest to attend today's meeting, driving from Norfolk, VA.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 pm.