

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
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MINUTES OF MEETING #499, 3 SEPTEMBER, 2009
APPROVED 1 OCTOBER, 2009**

PRESENT:

BA: Gupta, Mok, Evans, Bao
LBAR: Stewart, Rountree, Kovacs, Bollinger, Neff, Goebel, Sanders, Reeves, Seemann, Sitaraman
ENG: Banish, Anderson, Gaede, Joiner, English, Milenkovic, Coe, Gholston, Cassibry, Wessling, Lin
LIB: Moore
NUR: Warboys, Showalter, Ferguson
SCI: Boyd, Bishop, Scholz, Etkorn, Newman, Ravindran, Slater, Miller, Takahashi

ABSENT WITH PROXY:

LBAR: Johnson, Heikes, Smith
LIB: Vaughan
SCI: Mecikalski, Edmondson, Wu, Zhang

ABSENT WITHOUT PROXY:

0. President Etkorn called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.
1. The Senate agreed to suspend the agenda and allow Delois Smith to present first. Delois distributed a flyer on the “Better Together Conference”. The University is very much a part of this. Rev Joffrion Spoke about the speakers at the conference and the students attending from A&M, Oakwood, and UAHuntsville. The students will interface with community leaders. Have your students register. Delois will come to your classroom. Van Strickland and Frank Broyles were also present. This is about effective communication and exposing disparity and things that are already in place.
2. Draft minutes of Meeting Number 497 and 498 were approved. Motion by Dr. English, seconded by Dr. Newman.
3. Senate Executive Committee Report approved as corrected—changing the date at the header. Motion by Dr. Rountree, seconded by Dr. Newman. Correction by Dr. Gupta and seconded by Dr. Boyd.
4. President Williams’ Report.
Dr. Williams reported the Governor took \$2M from the budget. Ray Pinner has handled this and no further cuts were required of Academic Affairs at this time. There was a visit to the Expanded Executive Committee by a Financial Advisors from the System Office and those to the Governor and the message for next year is we are looking at 6-10% proration. We met the budget this year. We made painful decisions. What we are expecting in

October is that 4.5M to be taken from next year's budget. We plan to meet the budget but we did not take into account another 6-10% proration. The immediate focus of the group is to determine ways to meet the cut. In addition to this the retirement and health care cost are going up. The message is the same. Taxes will not go up so the Education Trust Fund will not grow. We borrowed money this year so we owe money. There are 69 K-12 schools underwater. The pressure is on the Universities to take less. The Governor will not give out the Stimulus money until a deal is made on the PACT. This has taken us down to about \$35M from the State. The solution is to grow. Take heart in areas where we have control and where it looks good. Gifts are up. All the areas we control look good for next year. We are filling the hole that will appear on October 1. Academic Affairs covered continuing cuts with one time funding. In a couple of years will have to take it from somewhere else. Take what Rick has done and multiply it by 4. Grow by 4 times. We lose 23% of freshmen class. Millions of dollars disappear. We lose 23% of the freshmen class, 10% of the sophomores and juniors and 8-9% of the Juniors and Seniors. We lose money because students leave. We have the lowest retention rates in the State. The colleges should look at and preserve numbers as best they can. F&A is targeted for IT, maintenance and more research. Two areas this group has control over—recruiting and retention. Filling the hole of get 1. We are in good shape in comparison to others. We are financially sound. Ray Pinner did a good job. Not lost or closed any part of the University except University Relations. Hired 30 faculty over two years. Some students are academically challenged but not all. We need to go after those that are dropping out. We have raised our ACT average. We are increasing quality, quantity and diversity of students. We need to think about next year now. We will work under predictions we have been given. Focus on thing we have done well and thing we will do well.

Faculty Question: Will units be rewarded for doing well at retention.

Answer: President deferred to Dr. Karbhari. Dr. Karbhari is working with the Deans on this matter.

Faculty Statement: There are problems with the Research support system that make it difficult to accomplish tasks.

Response: President Williams stated he is aware of concerns of various areas. We will investigate inefficiencies in the University. We will find out if this is an OMB requirement or State law, etc.

Faculty Question: Are they talking to those in the trenches, the faculty?

Response: President Williams asked that the faculty send an email with details. John Horack is in charge now. Send the email to Dave Williams, John Horack or Bill Killingsworth. We are attempting to correct problems. Dr. Karbhari commented that we now have Post Doc categories in place. We have corrected some of the problems with travel and we have a new policy approval for travel of 7 days or less. The authorization stops at the Dean level. We are moving ahead in some areas to minimize blockages.

Faculty Question: What has Bill Killingsworth found could save money, improve processes, classroom utilization, five year budget plans and scenarios.

Where are fees for parking for part-timers?

Dr. Williams believes the responsibility lies with the person responsible within the areas as to whether the area should be closed. Bill Killingsworth is part-time in this position.

If we do something different for part-timers it would be a change in the way we do things. If we do it for one group what about another. What does it take to implement a multilevel parking policy? The issue of what part time faculty are paid is a college decision. The college decides who they hire and what they pay.

Faculty Question: Is there a category of people that are an exception based on the booklet from Public Safety?

Response: Dr. Williams is unaware of a special category.

Faculty Statement: Shouldn't the process be changed to solve the problem not the other way around. Shouldn't it be a fair system? What about fairness, justice, and the ripple affect.

Response: The responsibility of adjunct/part time faculty lies with the college and the dean. It is the choice of the college to hire part-time versus full time faculty.

Faculty Statement: a discount or sliding scale solves the immediate problem and it is something we can do vs. what we cannot do.

Faculty Statement: It should be a perk of part time faculty to park free. We should not pay police as part of the parking fees.

Faculty Request: Think about a parking fee model that is different. Those who use less pay less. A model that is fair and equitable.

Response: We will ask Ray to look at it. Right now it fills a hole in the budget.

Question: What would happen if only full time faculty teach?

Response: It would change the curriculum. The numbers would go up and teaching load would change.

Comment: We cannot access an org chart now. Response: We will check on that. Comment: Could we have names attached.

5. Dr. Karbhari's Report – Dr. Karbhari welcomed everyone back and thanked them for everything they had done. The numbers are up. Headcount is up 3.4%. Credit Hours are up 5.2%. We are not at the end of the add/drop period. The numbers are close to 250-300 new students from fall 2008. Thank you for the work you did with Rick.

We are looking at the G-Mail system and will be implementing it in a phased manner. Diane is talking to the Deans and is ready to transfer over and will be phasing it based on those that are ready. Thanksgiving would be the earliest we could make this happen. Certain groups need to move faster than others. It will be done on an opt out basis. Certain ones can opt out until concerns are addressed for that area. Servers and the network are inadequate.

Question: Will GTA Stipends increase? Response: the rates are set by the colleges. The stipends are low. We are talking to the Deans about what the rates should be and increase the numbers within the budgets.

6. A motion was made by Eric Seemann and seconded by Clarke Rountree to suspend the Committee Reports and move to the emergency resolutions.

7. Clarke Rountree brought an emergency resolution to the floor and talked about his role as Chair and the department and part timers. He talked about the effect on the quality of instruction. This is not a college problem. This was a decision made unilaterally that has caused the problem. The resolution regarding ‘Parking Fees for Part-Time Faculty’ was moved to the floor by Michael Banish and seconded by Eric Seemann. Tim Newman called the question.
 Vote: 1 opposed
 36 in favor -- passed at first reading
 Tim Newman move, seconded by Andree Reeves, to second reading
 Vote: 36 in favor
 1 opposed
 Michael Banish moved, seconded by Andree Reeves, to third reading
 Jennifer English called the question
 Vote: 36 in favor
 1 opposed.

8. Eric Seemann moved, seconded by David Neff to bring the second emergency resolution to the floor. This resolution “Input and Report on Parking” is asking the Administration to, in the future, seek input from the affected parties before making a decision. Clarke Rountree moved, seconded by Rolf Goebel to first reading. Dr. Bollinger called the question.
 Vote: 35 in favor
 2 opposed
 Jeet Gupta moved, seconded by Clarke Rountree, to move to second reading
 Vote: 34 in favor
 3 opposed

9. Andree Reeves moved, seconded by Clarke Rountree, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.