

Faculty Senate Agenda - Meeting # 534

February 14, 2013 12:45-2:15 pm, BAB 123

Agenda Items

- 1.** Call to Order
- 2.** Approval of Minutes, Senate Meeting # 533
- 3.** Administration Reports
 - Dr. Robert Altenkirch, University President
 - Dr. Brent Wren, Associate Provost
 - Dr. Regina Hyatt, Dean of Students
 - Dee Childs, Associate Provost & Chief Information Officer
- 4.** Internal (Senate) Reports & Discussion
 - Acceptance of 10 February 2013 Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes
 - Senate Officer Reports
 - Senate Committee Reports
 - University Committee Reports
- 5.** Ongoing Senate Business
 - Vote on Acceptance of Faculty Handbook Revision
 - Senate Bill 365: Back to Committee
 - Senate Bill 368: Notification of Senators of Regular Senate Business (2nd reading)
 - Senate Bill 369: Restoration of UAH GER Integrity Rule (2nd reading)
 - Senate Bill 370: Definition of Faculty Representation (2nd reading)
 - Senate Bill 371: Transparency of Tenure & Promotion Process (2nd reading)
 - Senate Bill 372: Sent to Committee
- 6.** New Business
 - Strategic Planning
 - Faculty Highlights
- 7.** Adjournment

Proxies for Senate meetings must be a Senate-eligible individual from the same academic unit. No individual may carry more than one proxy.

PLEASE SEND PROXIES TO PEGGY BOWER: bowerp@uah.edu



SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 31, 2013

12:45 P.M. in SKH 369

Present: Richard Miller, Mitch Berbrier, David Neff, Timothy Newman, Wai Mok, Phillip Bitzer, Deborah Heikes, Ramon Cerro, Ina Warboys, Vistasp Karbhari

Guests: Robert Altenkirch

- **President Altenkirch**—reported we have gotten in the WCHA starting in fall. Today there is a conference call to the ADs to finalize everything.
- Joel Lonergan explained the work on the Logo. A Branding company out of Birmingham talked to various groups
Dr. Richard Miller stated there was some concern about the way it looked and some concern for the approach of informing the faculty and not gathering input. Dr. Altenkirch stated he believed the faculty participated at the same level as others. It is not possible to have everyone participate at all levels. They worked with the Branding Firm and went through several iterations. Now they are working with Keith Jones. One of the goals was to come up with something that fits on app on a phone. We will have a website and a mobile site.
- The Board will be meeting February 7 and 8. We will have the Nursing Building and the SWIRL Building on the agenda. Student Center bond issues are for \$35M. Board members toured campus yesterday and looked at the buildings. The Bond is split. The Board Meeting will be here on April 11 and 12
- VROP deadline is February 1 which is tomorrow. We are approaching what we anticipated.
- Strategic plan leadership proposals due February 4. Focus areas using this approach to complete.
- Two bullets intersect. As it is known who plans to retire—each college should develop hiring plans against delivering curriculum and future plans.
- VPR candidates finish this week. Want to have someone in place by fall.

- Dr. Altenkirch showed some PowerPoint Slides regarding reporting research data—sponsored program data—some projects we have are not research—could be construction or other projects. Maybe we should report it as research and sponsored programs—some feel research is what we should do so we need that word. Dashboard we have been seeing is proposals submitted, awards and expenditures, \$88+M on the expended. Presented by those who manage it. We need to show by who is doing the work. If columns are expanded it tells who is doing the work. If a dean would like to know who is doing work and if faculty like to know what others are doing. Showed website and what you see Research credit distribution button. Have all units and managing money shows who manages money and who is doing the work. Show awards to date for 2012. If you click on the buttons it will show who is doing work and who is responsible. See if department has no management responsibility then it is through a research center. Work done outside center but managed by the center. Center gets more overhead because there are needs for meeting obligations. Distribution is not as it should be. Center provides infrastructure for doing research. If the Research center is faculty focused and research centered then the opposite is true. Like a balance with the base of operation and then pull expertise from various places and support the base. Best way to leverage assets. If it is too far one way or the other then we are not leveraging assets. Public display right now by who is managing the money. What do we want to present publicly and what to manage internally? Goes back to intranet portal. Link on website—called Charger Net when you log in you see a dashboard and then certain people see certain things. If we use this then it is not public and if nothing in law that prevents and someone requests we show. Think about what we share publicly. Is there a downside or upside to have it all public per Richard Miller. Dr. Altenkirch stated you are bordering on personnel matters. With exception of tweaking language data is there. OSP now collecting data on the front end. Before they just divided the project by 3 instead of who was actually doing the work. Dr. Altenkirch reported it is helpful for planning, managerial, etc. Would put on Intranet. Dr. Tim Newman—requested that they keep the information a bit more private. Provides some encouragement to work back and forth. Plan on moving forward on what goes outside and inside per Ina Warboys. Dr. Altenkirch stated he just happened to be involved in what OSP put together. Because of having trouble understanding what was going on and why it was like that. Everything that is posted not involved in. Who will make the calls. To answer question have to answer question what do you want public to see and what do you want others to see. If you go to website Banner and Charger Net link eventually Banner will go away. All Banner stuff will be in ChargerNet.
- Ramon Cerro—article about providing information. Dr. Altenkirch explained article—spun by plaintiff attorneys—federal law requires when there is a suit and there will be discovery we must protect anything discoverable by the opposing side and we cannot have it in our possession. The University had to pick up 64 computers and pay someone to be the custodian and when they want to see them then we need to see the money to pay for that. UAH is following the law. Dr. Ramon Cerro stated that Dr. Adriel Johnson was running the pre-professional program. He was a very visible person in the African American Community and in the medical community. Can we afford the public relation problem this causes. Dr. Altenkirch

stated that unfortunately the plaintiff attorneys try things in the press and they decided to try to get this tried in the press and pressure UAH to make a settlement to keep it out of the press. Generally we do not settle because then we would get many more suits. They are doing their job. Have seen documentation and explanation on what it costs and unfortunately it is right. Are they ever able to get information by paying or would they ever get it. They are required to pay for it. Volume of stuff and cannot be in custody. Dr. Ramon Cerro stated it is passed the point of reasonable and logical--especially in the African American community. Also what is it they are asking for—everything? The Attorney's job is to work with the plaintiff and use whatever we can—hard to counter that—have to counter with logical answers and it is hard to counter—it is an emotional thing. Dr. Altenkirch stated he will do quiet intelligence gathering to find out.

- **Provost Karbhari**—reported we have seen that we have past the 11th day and we got the numbers in credit hours and enrollment—we are down in credit hours from last year. Credit Hours per student are up 10.8. The Credit Hours have been going up over the last 10 years on average. Enrollment Management Committee Meeting soon to get strategies and ideas linked to the strategic plan. The Deans and Richard Miller have the numbers.
- Dr. Karbhari stated there was a January 24 webinars email—people who are finding it hard to attend link to the website we have on recordings and video and they are available for one year. Look it up on the website. There are 12 this semester 1 yesterday and 11 more to go. If you have ideas on topics let me know. Choose on input and what is of interest. Request that Academic Affairs send an email out that webinars are available for one year.
- Call went out yesterday for people to volunteer for coordinator for the teaching excellence center. February 18 is the deadline date. The Committee was named partially from the Senate and Dr. Wren and Dr. Karbhari and I am requesting that you all consider who should be in that position.
- We sent three faculty to the ACE Leadership Conference--William Wilkerson, Debra Moriarity and Pam O'Neal—they will hold a seminar for the rest of the faculty to share what they learned.
- Dr. Altenkirch stated that with regard to enrollment—he has been going to some of events and Dr. Karbhari took a tour—we are going to be taking these events and tours to the next level. Dr. Altenkirch stated that we have to teach and train those who work these events and give the tours. We need to find Faculty willing to participate and give students an idea of who they will see in the classroom. We have used students or very recent graduates to do the tours and work the events. Ina Warboys asked if we push dual enrollment and whether we have thought about making it easier to access and apply for dual enrollment. Dr. Karbhari stated there are very few who enroll at UAHuntsville in dual enrollment. They move on to other schools. We do need to change the way we handle it but we get low yield.

- Dr. Karbhari reported that we are having Wes Colley take a look at analyzing the scholarship matrix and use his statistical matrix to do the analysis to see where we stand.
- Dr. Karbhari and Dr. Altenkirch left the meeting.
- **Committee reports—officer reports:**
- **Dr. Richard Miller**—reported the Provost committed to 50% funding to hire a staff for the Faculty Senate—We (Dr. Berbrier and I) need to write a job description. This individual will help with research and the website. This is partially due to Tim Newman’s efforts over the last year.
- Talked to the Provost about the Handbook—he knows it is coming. For the editing I may enlist Tim Newman. It is going to the Provost and will be reviewed simultaneously by Legal and Academic Affairs and then back to us. Dr. Richard Miller introduced Phillip Bitzer who was elected as Chair of Governance and Operations.
- Ramon Cerro—asked have we heard anything about BETA. Dr. Richard Miller—stated that some were not happy with it where it is and the policy has been reiterated and comments went back to Provost. Dr. Ramon Cerro reported that Dr. Wren took it and was supposed to circulate it and the request was to have the policy in order to inform the faculty. Dr. Richard Miller will follow up and see where it is and it should come back to the Senate and should be distributed to the faculty. Ramon Cerro is asking for a meeting or a way to share the information. The AAUP will have a meeting and give an opinion.
- Deborah Heikes commented on a student that walked at graduation and still needs 30 hours. Peggy explained how they handle students who show up on the day of Commencement and what that means.
- Wai Mok reported that the REU will be sent out.
- Ina Warboys asked where are we on Qualtrics—Dr. Richard Miller will follow up with Dee Childs.
- **Bill 371**—David Neff moved, seconded by Phillip Bitzer the bill to the floor—It was explained there is some inconsistency in the report for P&T—couple of cases. Ramon Cerro stated people are uncomfortable signing the overall report because of a minority report. Vote to put it on the agenda not on the merits of the bill. Unanimous to put it on the agenda.
- **Bill 372**—Ramon Cerro moved, seconded by David Neff the bill to the floor—Dr. Richard Miller stated he is supportive of the spirit of the bill. He stated he has changed his mind on something. After a discussion with administrators maybe it is better to have a talk with the administrators as opposed to having bills—would like to respectfully suggest that there be a

conversation with either the Interim VPR or the new VPR. It may be more effective if we hold off and speak with the new VPR next fall and ask for the program to be reinstated. The Faculty Senate President could speak with the new VPR on behalf of the faculty to request the program be reinstated. Since the Interim VPR nixed the program and it not going to change his mind on that and because there is now no money, there is no one in power that will reinstate it right now. Ramon Cerro stated it does not make sense—does not understand the rationale for nixing the program. It was a good program that was working. From the report from Carmen Scholz it appears there was strong pressure from Centers. Should try to pass this and develop a strong case that it was working and it should be back as soon as possible. Stronger argument than talking to him. Should it go on the agenda—Wai Mok might take it back and put all committee members' names on it. 3 for, 4 opposed. Sending it back to the originator.

- **New Business**—The ad hoc committee on research did good work —Dr. Richard Miller would like to get input on a Senate Student Enrollment/Recruitment ad hoc committee. The Committee the president put in place is more for implementation. We would like to put together a group that will provide faculty centered input to the President's Enrollment Management and Recruitment Committee. Ina Warboys stated we are already doing this in a lot of places. Mitch Berbrier stated it is a good idea but we might need to call it a study group.
- Dr. Richard Miller stated he still wants to do something about Faculty highlights and visibility of faculty achievements. He contacted WLRH for a 15 minute program for faculty to talk about the great things they are doing.



**Faculty Senate Meeting 533
January 24, 2013
12:45 p.m. in BAB 123**

Present: Chris Allport, Jeet Gupta, Charles Hickman, Jeet Gupta, Keith Jones, Eletra Gilchrist, Angela Balla, David Neff, Kwaku Gyasi, Christine Sears, Carolyn Sanders, Deborah Heikes, Eric Seemann, Bhavani Sitaraman, Mitch Berbrier, Ramon Cerro, Jeff Kulick, David Pan, Sherri Messimer, Kader Frendi, Jeff Evans, Faye Anderson, Ina Warboys, Anna Benton, Peggy Hays, Marlana Primeau, Phillip Bitzer, Carmen Scholz, Debra Moriarity, Tim Newman Leonard Choup, Richard Miller, Jakobus le Roux, Nikolai Pogorelov, Junpeng Guo

Absent with Proxy: Anne Marie Choup,

Absent without Proxy: Wai Mok, Derrick Smith, James Blackmon, Mohamed Ashour, Luciano Matzkin, James Baird, Peter Slater, Claudio Morales

- Meeting called to order 12:50 by Dr. Richard Miller.
- Christine Sears moved seconded by Charles Hickman to approve the Senate minutes.
- Dr. Ramon Cerro was not absent make that change. Debra Moriarity was absent with proxy.
- Dr. Bhavani Sitaraman moved to accept the Handbook as is following edits and forward to the administration. Dr. Deborah Heikes seconded.
- Dr. Jeet Gupta moved, seconded by Eric Seemann to accept the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Dr. Jeet Gupta moved seconded by Dr. Eric Seemann to change 2 c to 3 c.
- Dr. Richard Miller stated we have spent a year editing the Handbook after other groups looked at it. We need to move on it. Jeet Gupta wanted to go on record stating we are voting without seeing the full document. Any bill was reviewed and edited and the changes are known. Dr. Nick Pogorelov stated the final document will come to us and then we can approve. If we approve without seeing. Send us a copy the same day it is sent to the Administration. Dr. Richard Miller—you can vote down the motion if there is strong enough opinion here. And send copy to senators when it is sent to administration added per Sitaraman Hickman seconded.

Ayes have it. 1 abstains. Goes to administration will be reviewed by the Provost Office and Legal and will come back with comments and suggestions and we will have to deal with it then. Once it gets to the level of the Administration and the Senate agrees it goes to the Board and is accepted and approved there and it becomes a working document. This is the process. Jeet Gupta thanks those who worked on over the years and Richard Miller will forward the names. Mitch Berbrier seconded it. The Ayes have it.

- Dr. Miller announced that the President and Provost are not here.
- Joel Lonergan—UAHuntsville Branding Presentation. Reconstituting the old University Relations Office and we will be able to provide photography, graphic design, research writer, recruiting and writer. We will be called Marketing and Communications instead of University Relations. June of last year we started efforts to see where we are and to look into the ongoing dissatisfaction with the logo. We decided the best thing was to hire a company out of Birmingham—they are a branding company and they gave us the option of what to do. Interviewed faculty and students. Took pictures. Came back with 3 or 4 designs and got down to one and going in that direction. Attraction, recruiting, retention. UAHuntsville without H -H stood for Hospital. Getting input. Weird block UH forming A that cannot be seen. Added delta. Suggests line through each side of the A. Eric Seemann sees this a lot. Marketing and psychologist major in perception. David Harwell and David Berkowitz, Ingrid Hayes involved. Test outside Alabama. Charles Hickman recommended bounce off just the logo and see how it tests. Eric Seemann stated he is hearing frustration from this body that they want you to think about but the decision is already made. Logo does not immediately tell you what is but associated with. Maybe doesn't need to stand alone—Carolyn Sanders—and Keith Jones—takes a while for a logo to become recognized. Peggy Hays—stated the colors are confusing. Joel stated we have to have something in color or no color for affordability. Want blocks with delta pop. Tim Newman—experiment with variations in color. Joel Lonergan tried variations of blue. Tim Newman looks like UH and do something with colors to make the A distinct. Ina Warboys—where are we—Joel Lonergan stated we would like to be finished and put on material but will continue to look at it. Charles Hickman—Have looked at and do not get UAH out of it. Faye Anderson likes it.
- Alan Constant—distributed information—Summary of discussions had about SSC. Created out of last SACS process as the University Quality Enhancement Plan to assist students and has functioned nicely and a year and a half ago there was a change in leadership and after 14 months I came and we have a solid group of staff dedicated and supportive to students and provides experiential learning. Have tutoring program have academic coaches and the PASS program. Most interventions are peer and we are going to be expanding. Career side basic things going on like help with resumes, mock interviews and the career fair. Experiential learning is undergoing structuring. What passed out is a result of the thinking of staff and thought about the mission, goals, programing and where we would like to go in the next 3 years.

What we do well and what we are passionate about. Here to listen to you and offer an opportunity to partner with us. Top 6 initiatives planning. All go into place before fall semester. Early alert not early enough, data demonstrates know in 3 weeks whether students fail a course. Cannot wait until 10th week to intervene. Feedback, listening points. Reach students. Intervention powerful but need earlier. Revise website. Too static. Add features like videos. Peer academic coaching. 10 peer academic coaches. Already added career online assessment program. Leaders to create coop and intern program. How work with you. Like your best students. Partner with us to identify student. Make it easy to use early alert system. As we grow reach resource limitations. Explore cost share models. Last 3 bullets accountability and assessment—have someone on staff for assessment. Budgets, metrics. Communication group SSC evident and prominent to all—promise. Got great staff and need collaboration. Cerro—Coop program—good. Constant went to University of Cincinnati and did study. Asking Provost to change some policy. Coop program needs control from beginning to end. Prepare students for experience. Educating employers to ensure these are valuable learning experiences. Not cheap sense of labor. Debra Moriarity—coop working well and director forced out and had contacts. Contact former director. Kader Frendi—appreciates your work. Students use the SSC a lot. Cost sharing with departments. Budgets shrinking. No way able to have cost share. Carolyn Sanders—mention Ted talks—Do on Tuesdays—motivation, positive psychology. Will continue. Student helping identify topics—next 4 lined up. Making connections. Make place where want to come. Email ideas or meet and talk about ideas.

- Richard Miller—gotten permanent access for Visiting Professors to fitness center. Academic Affairs offered funds to hire staff person for Senate at 50%. More relevant for next year. Staff person when available for work in Senate. Mitch Berbrier and Richard Miller work on hiring process. May be internal or outside. Any ideas welcome. Memo for center for teaching excellence. Search for interim director for center—internal person to serve minimum of year half time to get center off ground and running right. Ultimate goal at end of one or two years do formal search for director of center. After the interim director is selected another memo will go out to search for faculty fellows to help develop the program and this will come with compensation. Still working on issues need to address relating to past bills and been accepted by administration ombudsperson and funding for doctoral students. If agree and acknowledged should be priorities getting into budget and have not. May need to work on corporately. May need friendly pressure in getting those to higher priority. Budget process—all departments come together and 5 or 10 things want and not everything makes it into the final budget. Campaign for and then final decision made. Administration agrees should get very high priority. Do we need to talk to Deans about that? Any friendly pressure would help. Questions to Provost and P Resident could be helpful. Chair of Governance and Operations is Phillip Bitzer. DL learning classrooms available for scheduling. Try best to highlight big achievements of colleagues. Lingze Duan awarded NSF Career Grant. 5 year grant and nontrivial. Idea for remembrance for colleagues lost a few years ago. Debra Moriarity stated there is a Garden being developed and the Garden is a permanent Memory Garden. Sculpture in center. Design contest. Ongoing.

- Ina Warboys—Faculty and Student Development—presented to Executive and Provost and to the CIO Qualtrics and ran through all colleges. The CIO had multiple requests from multiple departments. Demo of Qualtrics next Tuesday and will send something out.
- Bill 363—Jeet Gupta moved seconded by David Neff to bring the bill to the floor for discussion—Study being done in Administration. Jeet Gupta asking to complete analysis. Sherri Messimer—asked for clarification is a junior paying at the junior level for EH 101—this is a concept not details—just look at the concept and then Administration propose the details. Tim Newman—Board Determines tuition but there are alternatives we can do. Fundamental question of whether it is feasible to consider. Jeet Gupta called the question. Ayes --unanimous. Passed at 3rd reading.
- Bill 361—second reading—Jeet Gupta moved seconded by Phillip Bitzer—the bill to the floor. Communicable disease policy and concern the policy is too broad. Request the University to take a second look. Ramon Cerro—policy was set without our knowledge—it was pointed out that Louise O’Keefe was on the Committee and raised the issues. Debra Moriarity—the Committee was put together to deal with a potential problem from the H1N1 response. Faculty were on the Committee. Ramon Cerro stated maybe this will remind them of the shared governance. Carmen Scholz—Why was the Dean of Students in charge. Ayes have it unanimous—automatically passed at 3rd reading.
- Bill 365—Jeet Gupta moved seconded by Kader Frendi the bill to the floor for discussion. Debra Moriarity asked about those who wish to Audit classes—some take for their own edification. Sherri Messimer took Spanish that way. This does not cover. Jeff Kulick stated the last paragraph addresses this. Charles Hickman—policy for degree seeking students might suffice. Deborah Heikes stated this is not a problem. There is provision for those not meeting standards—superfluous and do we want to prevent students from redeeming themselves. Jeff Kulick—about 5% of students get a D or F. Those taking for remission. More get W and are not included. We should have the same standards as the government uses. To audit no waiver. Can vote against or for and can send back to committee. Jeet Gupta called the question. 1 aye -- does not pass. Ramon Cerro moved to send it back to the Committee. Phillip Bitzer seconded. Jeet Gupta does not think we should have this. Ramon Cerro does. Mitch Berbrier—Jeff Kulick has points to make and should have the option to make them. To Undergraduate Curriculum. 1 opposed --goes to committee.
- Bill 367—Jeet Gupta wishes to withdraw the bill—Debra Moriarity seconded --Withdrawn.
- VPR Open Forum at 3 in Chan—encouraged to go. Next Senate should set direction for where the University goes.
- Jeet Gupta moved to adjourn.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
FACULTY SENATE**

Senate Bill 369: Restoration of UAH GER Integrity Rule

Bill History: 10/18/12 Before Fac Sen Executive Committee for initial consideration
 1/24/13 Before Fac Sen 2nd Reading; meeting adjourned before consideration
 2/14/13 Before Fac Sen 2nd Reading

WHEREAS, The Faculty respects the high quality of education provided in undergraduate General Education courses at UAH, and

WHEREAS, The Faculty realizes that for our strong four-year professional programs to realize their full potential, we need to be confident that our students are experiencing effective and rigorous General Education courses in their first years on campus, and

WHEREAS, The Faculty understands that its General Education courses are recruiting grounds for majors in the UAH colleges of Science and the Liberal Arts, and therefore GER courses are a key component of our efforts to retain that portion of students who will inevitably withdraw from our professional programs (given that approximately half of all undergraduates change their majors at some point) and

WHEREAS, The Faculty recognizes that campus General Education courses generate net revenue for the university, and

WHEREAS, The experiment of allowing open access to junior college GER classes (a policy identical to the only upper-level two-year

institution in the state) after enrollment at UAH appears to have had no positive impact, and any impact it has had has been in the direction of inhibiting the growth of UAH enrollment and credit hours generated, and

WHEREAS,

The current policy limits the potential for pursuing the UAH administration's declared goal of increasing enrollment in the liberal arts, and

WHEREAS,

The Faculty believes that the university and its junior and senior students benefit from maximizing the number of courses they take at UAH, and

WHEREAS,

The UAH Faculty believes that the current Undergraduate Handbook policy encourages students to minimize enrollment in UAH GER courses, and attend junior colleges in their junior and senior years,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Faculty Senate requests that the following statement be deleted from the UAH Undergraduate Catalog (under the section *Transfer Students from Alabama Junior/Community Colleges*):

"A maximum of 64 semester hours of credit from a junior, community or two-year college may be transferred to UAHuntsville and applied toward a degree program," and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That the Faculty Senate requests that the following statement be restored to the UAH Undergraduate Catalog (under the section *Transfer Students from Alabama Junior/Community Colleges*):

“A maximum of 64 semester hours of credit from a junior, community or two-year college may be transferred to UAH and applied toward a degree program. Once a student has enrolled at UAH and has accumulated a total of 64 semester hours of credit from all sources, no additional credit may be transferred to UAH from a two-year Institution. Exceptions to this policy must be approved prior to taking additional coursework. Requests for exceptions must be in writing and approved by the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled.”

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
FACULTY SENATE**

Senate Bill 370: Definition of Faculty Representation

Bill History: 10/18/12 Before Fac Sen Executive Committee for initial consideration
 1/24/13 Before Fac Sen 2nd Reading; meeting adjourned before consideration
 2/14/13 Before Fac Sen 2nd Reading

WHEREAS, The Faculty Senate is the permanent body representative body representing the faculty for the formulation of university policy and procedures in matters relating to institutional purpose, general academic considerations, curricular matters, university resources, and faculty personnel, and

WHEREAS, All issues of university governance affecting the faculty at large should go before the Senate before implementation, and

WHEREAS, The Faculty Senate will participate in the selection of academic administrators and in alterations of the academic administrative structure, and

WHEREAS, Faculty Senators are the voice of the faculty, and

WHEREAS, These and other foundations for faculty representation are enshrined in the Faculty Senate bylaws,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That “faculty representation” on university committees shall be defined as a sitting Faculty Senator or Senators, or a faculty members appointed by the Senate.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Bill History: 01/31/13 FS Exec. Comm. Placed on Senate Agenda (First Reading)
02/14/13 Before Faculty Senate at Second Reading

Senate Bill 371: Transparency of the tenure and promotion process with respect to signatures on majority and minority reports of tenure and promotion committees

WHEREAS open dialogue and diversity of opinions are important to ensuring the integrity of the tenure and promotion process, and

WHEREAS when votes on Departmental Committees, PTAC, and URB fail to yield unanimity, the Faculty Handbook allows for a “minority report” to be included in the record, and

WHEREAS the Handbook requires that all faculty sign all the reports as if they were a single unit and

WHEREAS the faculty responsible for writing a majority -or minority- report cannot thereby be identified and, as a consequence, the reports become anonymous, and

WHEREAS it is unfair to committee members that their signatures be associated with a report with which they disagree and

WHEREAS this approach also vitiates the transparency so important to this vital process,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That when promotion and tenure committees produce both Majority and Minority Reports, a separate set of signatures be associated with each report, and faculty must sign the report which most closely reflects their own views and votes.