

Faculty Senate Agenda - Meeting # 536

April 2, 2013 12:45-2:15 pm, BAB 123

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes, Senate Meeting # 535
3. Administration Reports
 - Dr. Robert Altenkirch, University President
 - Dr. Vistasp Karbhari, Provost
4. Internal (Senate) Reports & Discussion
 - Acceptance of 21 March 2013 Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes
 - Senate Officer Reports
 - Senate Committee Reports
 - Senate Elections Update
 - Ad Hoc Research Committee Report
 - University Committee Reports
 - Library Director Search Status
5. Ongoing Senate Business
 - Senate Bill 369: Restoration of UAH GER Integrity Rule (3rd reading)
 - Senate Bill 370: Definition of Faculty Representation (3rd reading)
 - Senate Bill 371: Transparency of Tenure & Promotion Process (2nd reading)
 - Senate Bill 372: Reinstatement of JFDR Program (2nd reading)
6. New Business
 - Strategic Planning
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



Faculty Senate Meeting 535
March 7, 2013
12:45 p.m. in BAB 123

Present: Wai Mok, Chris Allport, Charles Hickman, Jeet Gupta, Keith Jones, Eletra Gilchrist, Derrick Smith, Chad Thomas, David Neff, Kwaku Gyasi, Christine Sears, Carolyn Sanders, Deborah Heikes, Anne Marie Choup, Bhavani Sitaraman, Eric Seemann, Mitch Berbrier, Ramon Cerro, Junpeng Guo, Jeffrey Kulick, David Pan, Sherri Messimer, Kader Frendi, James Blackmon, Faye Anderson, Ina Warboys, Anna Benton, Marlena Primeau, Peggy Hays, Phillip Bitzer, Carmen Scholz, Debra Moriarity, Leonard Choup, Richard Miller, Jakobus le Roux, Nikolai Pogorelov, Vistasp Karbhari

Absent Without Proxy: Jeff Evans, Luciano Matzkin, Mohamed Ashour, James Baird, Tim Newman, Peter Slater, Claudio Morales

Guests: Dr. Altenkirch, Dr. Wren

- Called to order by Dr. Richard Miller at 12:43 p.m.
- Approval of minutes for Senate Meeting 534 moved by Dr Mitch Berbrier and seconded by Dr. Jeet Gupta
- **President Altenkirch Report:** Capital Projects Update

- Greenway spring 2013 completion. Done in days to weeks—thinking about a ribbon cutting at the April Board meeting. Charger Union Fall 13 completion date.

Nursing on track and

SWIRLL and OBK Technology Hall on track

Now looking at functions in Madison Hall and UC and Shelby Center and Engineering and what is there. Enrollment in Engineering—looking at moving around and get the right functions together and this is predicated on building a new Madison hall. Do have bonding capacity to float bonds for a new Madison Hall—it would be the focal point for visitors and recruiting, etc. Tearing it down and building a new building is more economical.

- Hockey—there are 38 games—we are allowed to play 34 games. The games in Alaska do not count. We have 16 home games with only one outside the Conference. We got a better ticket split at the VBC—we got a 50/50 split.
- Strategic Planning Proposals reviewed by the Deans twice, the VPs and the Steering Committee Task Force, Aerospace, aerospace systems, biotech, cyber security and big data, earth, atmospheric and space science, gaming and electronic, arts + general education—good proposals and will initiate the process. There was a question of whether there would be any formal presentation to the campus at large? Dr. Altenkirch stated it is all on the web.
- Enrollment—collecting college enrollment plans, collecting perceptions of policies that negatively impact enrollment.
- Budget for 2014-- +2% of base appropriations. Up to \$1 M for Nursing \$200,000 for State Climatologist.
- Dr. Richard Miller asked How do we the Senate help get some of our items to the priority on the budget list? Is there some process to make sure things we agree on are a high priority for implementation. Dr. Altenkirch responded to make sure they are on the funding request list. Right now we are balancing the budget. Enrollment decline this spring is affecting balancing the budget. Put requests together and they would be discussed.
- 4 year UAH price and cost @15 hours/semester—some things had to do with community college and competition. UAH price is \$35,000 over 4 years. If a student gets the minimal scholarship \$22,000 over time. If they get more scholarship the cost is \$19,000. Two year and transfer cost is \$26,000. It is not necessarily less expensive to transfer from a community college. There were 668 students with some transfer. Considering the GPA and ACT score—

the majority would have benefited from coming here. Need to promote that it is not less expensive to go to a community college and transfer. Fold into recruitment material. We do not want to anger friends. Part of the job of the enrollment task force is to disseminate information. Also talk about GER and courses that are not equivalent. Good co-op program could help as well. We have initiated conversations on a co-op program. We need a formal program. Mississippi has a large program and they have to pick up and go somewhere for the jobs and that is not true here, we can walk across the street. There were a lot of informal agreements with students working constantly and continuously and we were not capturing those students in a formal program. Someone mentioned that we had an excellent program that worked great and we had many students that were successful and won awards and the program was accredited when Suzanne Norris was in charge and then it fell apart when the SSC took over. It was stated that students do not identify themselves in the underground co-op. We will begin to pull information together.

- It was mentioned that Engineering had some plans to outsource some courses—as a chance to get our foot in the door and recruit. When we implement things we need to know the objective and track and determine if we should continue. Analyze and determine if we continue. Trial policy worked in perspective of capture rate. Numbers were small but the percentage was good. We could market it and get more on the front end. It takes a while for a network to build. Looks promising. Costs us nothing. Do we have data for Calhoun and Athens? Yes, Athens shows up less expensive. We have to make quality and campus life argument when going head to head on the same programs.
- VPR Search—Dr. Altenkirch reported we had 3 candidates we brought to campus, 2 dropped out and we did not want to select by default. We are making personal contacts—there will be a candidate coming to campus next Friday—he is the Associate VP at Mississippi State. Will post vita on Charger Net. Was head of Computer Science there—his area is cyber security. Status of Dean Smith—will he stay until we hire someone? Are you still accepting nominations? Yes, we still accept nominations. Dean Smith will stay as long as needed or until he wants to do something else.
- Beta Policy—It will be reviewed through the diagram and back to the President from the EMOG group and will go through and finish it and it will come here.
- **Provost Karbhari Report**: We will have 3 items at the April Board Meeting-- the Science, Technology and Society cognate, Music emphases—piano pedagogy, music business and church music and the Doctor of Business. The first 2 will be information items and the last is a NISP for the first stage in the process. We are talking about moving from the honors program to an honors college—we are

talking at the System level. A new unit requires a proposal to go to the Board and ACHE and there is concern for new units and the administrative cost but here there would be no administrative costs because we already have the unit, it would be a nomenclature change and we are trying to use this to recruit and enhance what we have. We will have to go through the process and we are trying to go through so there are no blocks. We hope this can be used to give us more opportunities to grow. It is a nomenclature change but it raises our status. It is much easier to market an honors college instead of an honors program. We are starting a search for a dean of the Graduate School—it will be a full time position, it will be an internal search, Dr. Karbhari stated he will talk to Rich about the committee membership.

- **Associate Provost Wren Report:** This year we were able to synchronize spring break and we have to decide if we want to have a unified spring break next year. The School Systems are talking about moving the date up a week and the downside for us is that leaves only 19 days from spring break to end of the semester. We would like your feedback. Send your feedback to Dr. Rich Miller.
- **Dr. Altenkirch** reported that Commencement in December was on December 14th but we have to move it to Sunday December 15th. The hockey association, the Mayor and the VBC are all involved. We have scheduling priority but this goes into the future—The VBC has contracts they cannot get out of, wrestling, globetrotters, rodeo—had to maneuver hockey schedule so we had to allow them to schedule 13th and 14th and the Conference said we needed it so we had to move Commencement. This is the only one that created an issue.
- The Executive Committee Minutes were accepted moved by Dr. Jeet Gupta and seconded by Dr. Charles Hickman.
- **Dr. Richard Miller Report:** New Compliance Officer—John Cates for UAH working with the System. We have a representative on the UAH Committee. It is Ina Warboys.
- Budget there is some increase but also some drop in enrollment—will this jeopardize faculty positions—no it will not impact faculty searches or filling positions.

- Dr. Richard Miller reported there is a background check policy going into effect —any new employee will get a background check before they are hired and also pertains to tenure and promotions to high level positions that would be high risk. It will include a criminal history and credit check. He stated he is in receipt of the policy and has some concerns but overall it is a good policy. It was sent to the Personnel Committee and hope to get it back soon. Local AAUP is looking at it and will send it to the national AAUP and see if they have the same response. Dr. Ramon Cerro urged the Personnel Committee members to attend the meeting he will schedule. Dr. Miller said he has the policy and he will share it if the Senate wants—it is a draft. The cost to the university is between \$30 and \$50 K. Less than an FBI check. Dr. Eric Seemann pointed out that there are multiple checks for records updates.
- Dr. Richard Miller reported there are classroom updates going on and discussions regarding recordings and ownership of content. He does not have an answer yet. He is trying to get information on a policy. One answer was that lectures could be used one other time. We need a policy.
- Dr. Richard Miller reported that there is a Research infrastructure of \$500,000 available but with a 50% cost share up to \$200,000. Not many departments could handle that kind of cost share. That would target centers, etc. The President will look into this and get back to Dr. Miller. Fifty percent is onerous. If it is internal why matching—it is to ensure colleges and departments have skin in the game. We have an issue with the magnitude of the cost share. There is no problem with some commitment.
- Dr. Ramon Cerro asked that Dr. Richard Miller keep all informed regarding the Beta Policy.
- **Governance and Operations**: Dr. Phillip Bitzer reported that most new Senate positions are completed. There are 3 departments and 4 senators that he has not heard from. There was some concern with the COB but that has been straightened out. Once this is done we will move on with Officers but we should be done by the next meeting.
- **Finance**: Dr. Wai Mok reported they have 25 proposals for the RCEU program. He will call a meeting and hope we can fund most. There are currently no proposals for Distinguished Speakers.
- **Director Academic Technology**: Dr. Richard Miller reported he has been giving input and Dee Childs will be making the decision.

- **Senate Bill 368**—Dr. Ramon Cerro moved, seconded by Dr. Jeet Gupta the bill to the floor for discussion. Dr. Richard Miller stated he has tried to give information in a timely manner. This bill was submitted to make sure officers get information in a timely manner. Dr. Jett Gupta, seconded by Dr. Eric Seemann called the question. The bill failed. Dr. Jeet Gupta moved, seconded by Dr. Debra Moriarity to send the bill to Governance and Operations to include in the changes to the Bylaws, this passed. The bill will be sent to Governance and Operations.
- **Senate Bill 369**—Dr. Jeet Gupta moved, seconded by Dr. Kader Frendi to consider the bill. Dr. Richard Miller showed the Senate supplementary information—graphs. There are drops in credit hours. There is about an 8000 credit hour drop in Liberal Arts and Science has a drop but not as big, Business is slightly less. The trend is that it is down. From a public relations standpoint it may hit as the housing policy did. If it becomes policy there will have to be arguments made to support it. Data will be needed. Dr. Bhavani Sitaraman did research and gathered data on reverse transfer and losing students totally. Would not necessarily apply to current students because they can continue under the catalog they started under. Dr. Mitch Berbrier stated we can provide a better education and it is better for the students. Is this ok with AGSC and with ACHE? The bill goes to Academic Affairs and they make the decision and would have to finesse the publicity, etc.
- Discussion of allowing students transferring back and forth. Be careful how you market it and get information out to students that it is in their best interest to be here. Concern that students will stay away longer and not come until they have 64 hours. Having them start was better than what we were doing before and them waiting to come. See correlation of data with tuition and the economic state. Options: vote to send this to committee. Dr. Kader Frendi stated students leave to take a course because of the cost but we need to show as the President did that the cost is the same. We need to do a good job on selling. The Ayes have it—the bill passed.
- **Senate Bill 370:** Committees, search committees, etc. Senate represents the faculty—representation of the faculty. Carmen Scholz asked to correct the grammar in the last paragraph “or faculty member”. Accepted as a friendly amendment. Discussion that faculty represent faculty and do not have to be on the Senate. The Senate is not the only body representing the faculty. Dr. Pogorelov stated that faculty should represent themselves. Drs. Miller and

Berbrier reminded the body that Senators have a role in shared governance that specifically requires Senators to represent more than their own interests —not a Senator’s job to represent self. Dr. Pogorelov proposed an amendment to say Faculty Senate representatives only represent themselves as individuals —no second. Dr. Mitch Berbrier stated faculty on a committee should be representing faculty so we need Faculty Senate representation. Shared governance –the Senate represents faculty. Can they delete a permanent body? Call the question moved by Ina Warboys and seconded by Phillip Bitzer. The bill passed.

- Move to Adjourn by Dr. Ramon Cerro and seconded by Dr. Charles Hickman.



SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 21, 2013

12:45 P.M. in SKH 369

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

Absent: Ina Warboys

Guests: Brent Wren, Joel Lonergan

President Altenkirch was not present. He was in Montgomery.

- Provost Karbhari Report: We will have the Board meeting here in April. We will have 3 items, the Doctor of Business Administration NISP, this is Joint UAH and Grenoble, this is the first with the University and a University in Europe—it requires a little bit of explaining—have to explain to ACHE as well. Grenoble approached us and looked for technological background university and this happened at the same time as talking about a DBA here. Hope to get through NISP easily and go to a proposal. There is a proposal for the Science, Technology and Society cognate, this will probably be an administrative item—ACHE has option of putting it as an action item but we spoke to Ellen Haulman and it will probably go as information. Emphasis in music—information item. To ACHE as an information item. Hope to be on the ACHE agenda at the June meeting of ACHE.
- Seeking the help of Senate in trying to review and see what to do about SIEs—Dr. Karbhari distributed a package of information—the way we use SIEs and questions on SIEs. We have had these forms a long time—there have been discussions these may not have been giving us information we need and for faculty to know how to change things. I would like the Senate to help suggest modifications to the forms—modifications in the process—a combination of the two or anything else that allows us to get the appropriate input from students and helps us do the assessment.
- Dr. Richard Miller—how are they used in evaluations—are they taken seriously—how are they factored in? What happens with the information? There are a variety of things done across the country—there is a book published and students can buy or download it. Others edit comments—general perception of thought--% thought good instructor, etc. Others provide rating but not comments. Here some make scores available and some do not. When scores are published they are taken seriously—faculty have gotten phone calls or meeting request, etc. Degree of seriousness depends on the department or college. Would be good to consider what to do on a uniform basis.

Dr. Ramon Cerro stated in Tulsa the scores are in the Library. Individual comments are very personal. They are a way to get back at the teacher. Why so much emphasis on SIE scores? Some other institutions do peer review—a senior faculty sits in a class—provides feedback. Is that something faculty are comfortable with? Don't think it is a bad idea to have various ways to assess teaching instead of just one way. There is some bias in rating. Some classes are weeder classes and so the instructor gets low scores. Consider alternative ways to assess. Would welcome ideas from Senate in terms of how to go forward. Go down to department level. Feedback by the end of the semester.

- Dr. Mitch Berbrier—Center for Teaching Excellence—how is hiring a director going—would this be in their purview?

Dr. Karbhari responded that we have only one application and we are not comfortable with moving forward with just one application. This is broader than a director—we need Senate input.

Dr. Richard Miller stated we will talk with people we know and suggest they apply. We will mention this in Senate.

Dr. Timothy Newman brought up the “No bound thesis and dissertations to advisors and departments”—CS does not like it and faculty do not like it either. Dr. Karbhari indicated this is the first feedback he has received on this.

The Honors College will be brought up at the June meeting of the Board because of discussions. There is some concern for creating positions. In our case we are just changing the name but had to walk through and because of that the proposal was not submitted by the deadline. In June it will go forward.

- **Associate Provost Wren**—Honors Day is coming two weeks from today. It will take place at 9:00 a.m. in the UC Exhibit Hall. This is the university wide event and colleges will hold their events in the afternoon. We will check on wearing hats and get back to you.

Drops—Dr. Wren will draft a memo to clarify.

Beta Policy—where?

Dr. Richard Miller—Background Check Policy—will give feedback.

- **Joel Lonergan: Logo**—We have taken the Logo back to the SGA, staff, alumni and now back to you. Keith Jones had a lot to say and made suggestions—We made adjustments and Joel showed the group the results of the changes. We will maintain the UAHuntsville for signage and wording for letterhead. SGA really likes the UAHuntsville. Dr. Witt has seen this and is excited about the changes. There will be many options. This will go in the 2014 recruitment material.

- **Dr. Richard Miller**—no significant report—some things brought to my attention—smoking policy on campus—smokeless tobacco problems—no policy—something to address or not? Think we should let Regina know and put it in the Student Handbook. There is already a policy against disruptive behavior. Sanctity of the Promotion and Tenure process. Concerns regarding some of the violations of the policy in the process. Addition of material by a Chair. Deadlines in place for dealing with incomplete information. Don't want faculty to lose faith in the process. What do you think the Senate should do about it? Don't have all the details but it might be something for Dr. Mitch Berbrier and Dr. Rich Miller to talk to the President about. Willing to look at other alternatives. Statement strengthening what is in the Handbook. What would you like Mitch and me to do, if anything?

Dr. Mitch Berbrier—procedure or policy. We will investigate and see what happens.

- **Governance and Operations**—Phillip Bitzer reported nominations coming in. One or 2 for President and none for Ombudsperson. When can we let people know who is nominated? Nothing in bylaws so it is the call of the Governance and Operations Chair. Committee restructuring—not sure we will finish.
- **Personnel**—Ramon Cerro invited counsel to a meeting—they did not come—there are some written comments included in my report—Legal did not get it finished—they will respond in the future. There was discussion regarding where the Background Check Information should be housed and scope and use of the reports—need for reports.
- **Finance**—Dr. Wai Mok Reported the RCEU proposals are in—Met with Dean Smith—we would like the money at the beginning of the year instead of having to ask for the money every time. Academic Affairs budgets for it and the VPR contributes—this year it was not clear if the VPR was going to contribute –talked and Dr. Tom Koshut wanted a commitment to open it up to non- faculty—talked about and not fans. The Finance Committee decides. There was an easy resolution—we want faculty to be the primary mentors—faculty are mentors but non-faculty personnel could be secondary mentors. Dr. Kader Frendi made that suggestion. The Committee decides.
- Send SIE information to Faculty and Student Development for a first pass.
- Update on searches.
- Expertise list—Jim Steele—no university level list—try to help put together list. Raise profile of faculty here and community.
- Strategic planning—hear from President soon. Like Senate and faculty to be involved.