

Administrative Brief for Faculty Senate for November 2021

Prepared by Dr. Robert Lindquist

11/11/2021

Academic Affairs

- **Faculty Senate Bill Number 467**
 - “The Faculty Senate requests that the administration must always refrain from and proactively police themselves against undertaking any actions that can be perceived as directly or indirectly attempting to influence in any way how any Faculty Senator will speak or vote during a meeting of the Faculty Senate.”
 - Discuss at Dean’s Council on November 3, 2021

- **Faculty Senate Bill Number 464**
 - “Be it resolved that the UAH Faculty Senate Restates its’ support for Faculty Senate Resolutions 16/17-02, 16/17-05, and 17/18-01,”
 - “Be it further resolved that the UAH Administration update the Faculty Senate and the Faculty on their actions in response to Faculty Senate Resolutions 16/17-02, 16/17-05, and 17/18-01.”
 - Faculty Senate Resolutions 17/18-01
 - MOU was drafted and VP for Advancement indicated that the scholarship was created.
 - Faculty Senate Resolutions 16/17-05
 - “Cover a Charger”
 - Sent to VP for Advancement.
 - Update in Feb.
 - Faculty Senate Resolutions 16/17-02
 - “Development Giving Directly to Departments”
 - Confusion as to what specifically is being asked
 - Alumni can give directly to department
 - Asking to bypass Advancement?

- **Faculty Senate Bill Number 466**
 - “Fiscal Analysis of UAH Program Documents Submitted to UA-System Chancellor.”
 - No attention as the Bill is intended for Chancellor

- **Faculty Senate Bill Number 468**
 - “Obligations for Deans to Meet with Faculty in Review Processes Involving Department Chairs”
 - Whereas don’t seem to support the request for changes to the handbook of the external and internal search process.
 - Whereas do seem to support consideration of changes to department chair review.
 - Discuss at Dean’s Council on November 3, 2021
 - Considerable variation from College to College
 - Update in Feb.

- **Faculty Senate Resolution 20/21-04: Faculty Senate Bylaws Update**
 - Poked Sid Trant at this past BOT meeting
 - Should be released soon.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING
UAH FACULTY SENATE SCHOLARSHIP**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama, an educational and constitutional instrumentality of the State of Alabama, incorporated by statute, for and on behalf of The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH or University), the UAH Faculty Senate and the University of Alabama Huntsville Foundation (the Foundation) (collectively, the parties) memorializes the parties' understanding regarding the UAH Faculty Senate Scholarship to benefit first-time freshman at UAH who are required to take coursework that is requisite but that may not count as credit toward their degrees.

RECITALS

The parties acknowledge that the University's departments and programs have a responsibility and right to evaluate students for proper course level placement. They further acknowledge that students may be required by departmental academic standards to complete coursework that may not count toward their major degree requirements. Students who must enroll for credit hours greater than that indicated by a normal program-of-study schedule may be more at-risk to fail classes, fall further behind, or withdraw from the University. The parties desire to help increase the likelihood that students enrolled in such courses remain at the University and complete their degrees.

Accordingly, this MOU memorializes the understanding of the parties regarding the University's and Foundation's acceptance of donations from the Faculty Senate, and others, to be used for the establishment of a scholarship fund for admitted first-time, full-time students who are required to take course work that may not count as credit toward their major degree. Acceptance of such donations is subject to the provisions of this MOU, the law as it exists now or may hereafter be amended (including applicable Internal Revenue Code sections), and University policy as it exists now or may hereafter be amended.

Specifically, the Foundation will establish and account for gifts to the scholarship, which will be processed through the Foundation and transferred to UAH for award as scholarships as

follows:

1. All contributions made in support of the scholarship fund must be made out to the University or Foundation and evidence the donor's or contributor's intent that the donation be designated for such fund.
2. All contributions made in support of the scholarship fund must be given to University Advancement or the Foundation for deposit and appropriate classification of gifts.
3. The Foundation will keep an accounting of all gifts contributed for the establishment of the scholarship fund.
4. It is anticipated that members of the Faculty Senate and faculty members in the colleges will provide periodic contributions to this scholarship fund. No minimum amount is required to establish this scholarship, and annual distributions will be based on the judgment and discretion of the Scholarship Committee, below. If at such time as the scholarship funds meet or exceed the amount required under University policies to establish an endowed scholarship, the parties may enter into an endowed fund gift agreement.
5. The Faculty Senate and its donors understand and agree that such gifts shall be gifts to the University, who will have full authority and discretion over all amounts contributed and who will accept gifts indicating the intent to fund the subject scholarship only with the understanding that such designation will not restrict or limit the University's full ownership rights in the donated funds.
6. The scholarship and account shall be terminated if and when the account balance remains at or below the amount of \$2000 for a period of 5 years, at which time all remaining funds shall be disbursed to student(s) pursuant to this agreement and the account closed.
7. UAH Advancement and Financial Aid will identify this scholarship in their listings, along with other scholarship opportunities, and faculty should recommend that students consider this scholarship. The scholarship will be accessible through the giving button on the main UAH Advancement website page. The President and the Vice President for Advancement and their staff will mention this scholarship opportunity, along with other scholarship opportunities, to civic groups and other individuals and groups who are interested in giving to student scholarships.
8. Students will apply for the scholarship. Faculty may send UAH Advancement and Financial Aid names of students to potentially contact about the opportunity.
9. Scholarship recipients shall be selected by the duly constituted University Scholarship Committee, with recommendations from a faculty selection committee, to be set up as a University committee and to include at least one member of the Faculty Senate, for the purpose of reviewing applicants and selecting qualified recipients. The amount of available funding for the scholarship will be communicated to the selection committee, who may either make a full award, a partial award, or wait until funds for a full or partial award become available.

10. Scholarship recipients shall be students who enter the University as first-time, full-time freshmen (not as transfer students), and who are required to take coursework that is requisite for but may not count toward their major degrees.

11. Eligible students shall maintain a grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, or greater, and have no grades in any UAH course below a "B."

12. The scholarship fund will pay the tuition for scholarship recipients for up to three courses that are required for the major, to be taken in the summer semester for the purpose of catching up to a normal program-of-study schedule. A scholarship recipient could take three courses in one summer, two courses one summer and one course another summer, or a student could take less than three courses.

13. The parties recognize that the Faculty Senate is part of UAH and not a separate and distinct legal entity and that nothing in this MOU should be construed to indicate otherwise. The parties are executing this MOU as an indication that they intend to endeavor in good faith to support Faculty Senate Resolution 17/18-01.

14. The parties also acknowledge that, in the event that at some future time, due to a change in circumstances and in the sole judgment of the University, the achievement of the purpose(s) for which this fund is established is no longer possible or practical, or a limitation, restriction, or criteria made applicable herein to the use of the fund becomes obsolete, inappropriate, inadvisable, contrary to law or University policy, or not reasonably susceptible of being carried out, the University may use the fund for a purpose or purposes deemed by it to be consistent with the original intent of the Faculty Senate and that serves the educational mission of the University.

15. The parties acknowledge that this MOU and the scholarship are subject to the rules, policies, procedures, and practices of the University (including those of the Board of Trustees and UAH), and any revisions thereto, and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Alabama.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Memorandum of Understanding on the dates indicated below.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
for and on behalf of THE UNIVERSITY
OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE**

By: _____
Robert A. Altenkirch, President

Date: _____

By: _____
Christine W. Curtis, Provost and
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Date: _____

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
HUNTSVILLE FOUNDATION**

By: _____
S. Dagnal Rowe, Chairman

Date: _____