



SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

NOVEMBER 11, 2010

12:45 P.M. in SKH 369

Present: Bhavani Sitaraman, Jeet Gupta, Carmen Schultz, Letha Etkorn, Laurie Joiner, Tim Newman, John Severn, Clarke Rountree, Vistasp Karbhari, Dave Williams, Ina Warboys

- ✚ Meeting called to order 12:47 p.m.
- ✚ Associate Provost John Severn is working on the 2011-12 calendar. One version looks exactly like this year, one starts on Wednesday instead of Monday and pushes graduation forward another week. Which one looks better?
 - Faculty would like to have one class period with them after thanksgiving . Can have one class and then you're done. If start midweek could do it.
- ✚ Jennifer English sent out packet with administration's report this morning.
- ✚ **Dave Williams report**– General Campbell honored Cheryl Wooten and Jeff Wright. Got a medal from the general for putting their lives on the line at the time of the shooting.
 - Yesterday grand opening Robotics Tech Park and the Governor and newly elected Representatives were there. Phillip Farrington worked closely on this committee. Dr. Vistasp Karbhari is working closely with Calhoun also to make sure their students can transfer to UAHuntsville.
 - Tennessee Valley Corridor meeting will be held on the campus on Nov. 22. They are an economic and political development group.
 - This week the Diversity conference was held on campus with a great turnout. Germans from Rostock also visited a few weeks back.
 - This afternoon first of two Vision Committee Forums will meet. They will help the Committee put together thoughts for a statement that summarizes our aspirations. Chance for more open discussion today and tomorrow.
 - The alumni has just put out our first alumni directory. This is the first comprehensive contact listing that we could find. Trying to get copies for deans and department chairs. Fine pictures from earlier times at UAH.

- Try to go to hockey this Friday or Saturday. Hockey parents' weekend and most drove from Quebec, Michigan, elsewhere. Their commitment is to be acknowledged.
- Men's cross country team won Gulf South Conference. Men's basketball beat Alabama and came close to Vanderbilt. Coaches are trying to raise the quality of competition that our student athletes are exposed to. Students learn from this experience.

Vistasp Karbhari report:

- You have my report. The BFA was approved at the Board Meeting and has gone to ACHE. Hope to have in place by fall. I have an appointment with an ACHE person next week to help speed along.
- We now have an Assistant Provost for Enrollment Services - Ingrid Hayes starting January 3. On campus interviews for DOS position have been conducted. We hope to be making a decision after our meeting with the committee tomorrow.
- Jennifer English asked will there be a subset of candidates coming back or no? Provost Karbhari responded we don't know. Depends on the committee. Will let you know after committee meeting.
- There have been people walking around buildings checking wireless network to find out what we have and what we don't have and come up with a program.
- Will be sponsoring faculty going to faculty teaching workshop next year.

✚ John Severn asked the faculty to please attend graduation. Finals are still on when graduation is taking place. Thursday night there has been a dinner for top undergraduate students. This year we will include Ph.D. students at dinner too.

- Dave Williams stated the speaker for commencement is very good. Was a guest on a comedyshow....Big Bang Theory. Bhavani Sitaraman has seen him on CSPAN.

✚ Jennifer English report:

- You have my report - vision statement forum today and tomorrow. BOT – meeting on 4th and 5th. Dr. Malcolm Portera emailed and said don't come. Short meeting – 45 min. Nothing was pertinent.
- Faculty Success Center – want to identify structure and resources to deal with faculty development. There are many offices at other universities. Have contacted some directors to come and talk to us.
- Research and Creative Achievement Committee- met with Provost. He wanted to know why the Research Council doesn't work for faculty. They will meet again next week to talk to Provost and maybe VPR.

- Had a meeting to deal with anniversary of February 12 shooting. Dr. Moriarity is the chief biology faculty invested. They have decided to just have it be the second Friday of every February rather than Feb. 12. No permanent memorial set yet. May be part of greenway. Biology dept given lead and families of fallen faculty also involved.
- Attended employee benefits committee meeting – has report of changes being made.
- Clarke Rountree stated UAH puts away money to use to pay claims. BCBS just administers it. We pay the claims.
- Jennifer English stated if we turn it over to BCBS, they keep the money that is left. We've been self insured on health care for many years and it's worked great. Last year was a big loss from what happened on campus. Had money in reserve to deal with it, so we are ok.
- Our insurance is going up to \$30 co pay, \$30 prescription drugs. Premium is going up. This is all over the country. We are cheaper than Auburn and Alabama. Only one that affects us is non reimbursement for non prescribed over the counter drugs.
- Eligible dependents will change – many can be added to the contracts.
- Push the fact that with the anniversary of shooting, the EAP is still available. Faculty and Staff have 5 free calendar visits per year.

✚ **Finance Committee** – REU will continue as before. Due date Jan 14. Distinguished Speaker – got started late – due date is going to be April. Will be abbreviated in spring semester and full next year. Awards are \$1,500. 7 awards. Ray Pinner spoke about salary increase and budget.

- Really want to encourage faculty to use faculty and staff clinic. They have seen increase in traffic there and everyone is using.
- Comment was made it would be nice to be able to take dependents.
- Bhavani Sitaraman asked about the budget...what did they say about ongoing plans? Never mind...finance. What will the budget committee be doing?
- Jennifer English stated Louise is the faculty senate representative on that committee. She will announce and report at each Faculty Senate meeting.
- Tim Newman stated Ray Pinner said that regarding the proration of 2% in September. - they hadn't decided how to handle...he said they may use university reserves or either take fund balances from departments. He also thinks that there may be proration again this year.

✚ **Faculty and Student Development:** Jennifer English asked Ina Warboys– anything to add to your report? No. Thank you for doing so much work.

✚ Personnel =Jennifer English asked anything to add Bhavani Sitaraman? No. Still have a lot of chapters to go through and want to compare to online version. Cindy Gramm doesn't have a track changes version. It's a mess.

✚ Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs: Clarke Rountree report:

- We are exploring idea of adjunct majors and get accredited. Need to figure out policy on this. We also talked about an issue brought up by Rhonda about students on academic warning and being able to register.
- Bhavani Sitaraman= what are adjunct majors?
- Clarke Rountree - if you are in one college and want to do a major in another college, wouldn't have to do the same GER's if adjunct. Kind of like a souped-up minor.
- Jeet – what is the difference in GER's for each college?
- Can be up to 21 hours. CLA has a lot of humanities, etc., but engineering or science would have more science and math GER's. Can still get dual degree, but encouraging students to get double major.
- Be nice to have a way to be interdisciplinary.
- Jennifer English– we asked Clarke's committee to look at students who are employees of university – specifically SMAP Lab – alternative to co-op – compete with co-op because they don't have to pay tuition- they are UAH employees. So they take classes and don't try to pass because they can take them again. Would like to see mechanism put in place where if don't pass, they can't take it again.
- There is a pattern of abuse. Gary Maddox is in charge, but he brings in a ton of money.
- Clarke Rountree – this should be addressed by benefits...only way to put a stop to it.
- Who is going to know the most about it? Needs to come out of committee. Can go through Executive Committee, but better to come from a standing committee. Is it being abused by anyone other than SMAP? See more from SMAP because they employ mostly undergraduate students.
- Jennifer English will draft something and give to Bhavani Sitaraman's Committee.

✚ Undergraduate Curriculum – no comments.

✚ Building Committee – no comments

✚ Research Committee - what was the major concern?

- Overlap and why Research Council isn't representing faculty? What mechanisms need to be put in place to give faculty a stronger voice. Faculty is not represented in Research

Council. Provost wants to meet one more time. Provost wanted to talk to the Committee first to understand what they wanted before bringing VPR in.

- Jeet Gupta– we should decide ourselves.
 - Jennifer English - don't think the Provost wants to stop from happening. He wants to fix problems first. Committee won't solve those problems.
 - Carmen Scholz– Research Council – topic shift to astrophysics and aeronautical. Several centers don't show up ever to council. Lots of discussion.
- ✚ Resolutions submitted to provost - said he needs to do work on his end and then will meet with Tim Newman and Jennifer English for his response.
- ✚ **Bill 340-Department Chair Eligibility**– from Rich Miller - Dept chair eligibility tabled at last Senate meeting. Modified in Personnel Committee.
- ✚ **Bill 343-Research Spending Transparency and 346-Internal Research Funding** languishing under new Research Committee Development. Will pull out in a few weeks.
- ✚ **Bill 349-Non-Senate Faculty to Serve on Senate Committees** – is it going to third reading? Don't know. Have to look at it. Don't think it was unanimous, Clarke Rountree thought it was. Thought there was some abstention. Decided it was unanimous and was passed.
- ✚ **Bill 340-Faculty Voting Eligibility** – two kinds of concerns – one is some people wanted to limit those not accountable to the chair. On the other hand, there are people like lecturers who they thought should have a say. Trying to increase some people's participation and decrease others. Those that answer to VPR shouldn't be able to vote.
- How does this affect clinical faculty in nursing...don't have Chairs. Jeet Gupta likes to give power to departments to decide who is eligible. Wants to change to make it effective immediately.
 - Tim Newman moved that this be put on agenda for next week, Bhavani seconded.
 - Jeet moved to amend line 29 to be “effective immediately”, Tim seconded. All in favor with one abstention.
- ✚ Dr. Cantor wanted to come and speak to Senate sometime. Maybe in January to address issues that faculty have related to anniversary and reminding about services. He wants to talk about student issues not faculty issues. Do we want to invite in November?
- No more than 10 minutes – Dr. Cantor will come and speak in November.
- ✚ Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.