

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING #549**

**August 28, 2014**

**12:45 P.M. in BAB 114**

**Present:** *Charles Hickman, Jack Schnell, Tim Landry, Eric Fong, Xiatong Li, Pavica Sheldon, Derrick Smith, Joe Conway, Joe Taylor, Linda Maier, John Kvach, Carolyn Sanders, Deborah Heikes, Anne Marie Choup, Kyle Knight, R. Michael Banish, B. Earl Wells, Kader Frendi, Babak Shotorban, Ken Zuo, Ellise Adams, Azita Amiri, Marlena Primeau, Cheryl Emich, Lenora Smith, Larry Carey, Luciano Matzkin, Debra Moriarity, Peter Slater, Letha Etzkorn, Lingze Duan, Seyed Sadeghi, Nikolai Pogorelov*

**Absent with proxy:** *Nick Jones, James Swain, Mark Lin, Carmen Scholz, Jeff Weimer*

**Absent without proxy:** *Wai Mok, Jill Johnson, Eric Seemann, Mitch Berbrier, Ying-Cheng Lin, Richard Fork, Junpeng Guo, Kristen Herrin, Monica Beck, Udaysankar Nair, Mark Pekker*

**Guests:** *President Robert Altenkirch, Provost Christine Curtis, Honors College Dean William Wilkerson, Peggy Bower*

- Faculty Senate President-Elect Kader Frendi called the meeting to order at 12:45.
- Deb Moriarity motions to suspend the rules to change the order of the agenda—bypass approval of the minutes and move to the second item on the agenda. Marlena Primeau seconds. Ayes carried the motion  
No oppositions  
*Motion to change the order of the agenda passes*
- Recognition of Peggy Bower  
Kader Frendi: For the Faculty Senate, Peggy has been an amazing person who has helped all of the presidents and all of the senators and everyone involved. She has spent 34 years at UAH. Of those 34 years, 20 years have been in the Provost's office and working for this body. When I was Faculty Senate President for the first time, I learned a lot of things from her, and I'm still learning a lot of things from her. She's always there to help you. Her input in this Faculty Senate has been tremendous. A year ago, we hired a Faculty Senate staff assistant, but Peggy is still a huge asset, and she still works behind the scenes, even though she is not directly involved in our meetings. With that said, Peggy deserves recognition by this Faculty Senate for all of the service she has done for us.  
[Kader Frendi presents Peggy with a plaque]
  - Peggy: I'm very touched and very grateful for this. I'm very humbled. Many of you have been here for a very long and know that I love you and that my passion is for the students and the faculty. I enjoy working with faculty and with the students. I've always enjoyed working with Faculty Senate, and I've missed it this last year. Thank you very much.

- Sense of the Senate Resolution
 

Deb Moriarity: I would like to introduce a Sense of the Senate Resolution, which was submitted to President Wai Mok and President-Elect Kader Frendi.  
 [Deb Moriarity reads Sense of the Senate Resolution for Peggy J. Bower]  
 Deborah Heikes motions to accept the Sense of the Senate Resolution for Peggy J. Bower.  
 Seconded by Jim Baird.  
 Ayes carried the motion  
 No oppositions  
*Motion to accept Sense of the Senate Resolution for Peggy J. Bower passes unanimously*
- Administration Reports
  - ❖ President Altenkirch
 

Good opening of the Fall semester. There have been no complaints on parking. On the Agenda today: Talk about Education and the RISE School; Policy on Policies; Board Agenda; we are moving forward in adding men's and women's lacrosse. The main purpose is for enrollment growth. There are a lot of lacrosse players across Alabama. The entire conference is looking at adding it. I will give details at the next meeting.

### **RISE School**

(Rural Infant Stimulating Environment. Evolved from Tuscaloosa)  
 It's a preschool for 18 months to 6-years old developmentally challenged kids. Some are also physically challenged. The concept is integration. They are integrated with typical children in a 50:50 match. The idea is that the developmentally challenged kids become mainstreamed. When they leave the RISE School, they become typical children as far as public school is concerned. This lowers the cost for the school district. There are 100-120 kids. It gets money from the school district and donors. Also raises private money. Opened in Huntsville January 2013. Non-Profit Corporation. It started in Trinity Methodist Church on Airport Road. Needed more space, so RISE asked if UAH had anything available. We couldn't identify any space on our campus. It's acceptable to put the school in portable classrooms, so we did. They are using 4 portable buildings with a playground. They operated last year in that location as a separate corporation. We only provided the land to them. Raising money as a separate corporation is a challenge. They asked if they could fold in to UAH. We discussed with the Board of Trustees, and they were favorable. We are in the process of assimilating them. The Board of Directors will dissolve on October 30. On December 1 all the assets of the RISE School will pass to UAH. The idea is to grow our population. There is tuition revenue from the RISE School. Huntsville City Schools will be providing financial support at some point in time. There are 2 other school districts in the area that might do the same thing. It's a special education type activity. It becomes part of our efforts to grow enrollment in Education.

### **EDUCATION**

Other institutions have a lot more enrollment than we do in Education. It's problematic from our point of view because we aren't visible to folks. On our website, you have to go through a lot of clicks to get to Education. Other places don't have many issues with it. North Alabama, over a 5-year period, went from 900 students to over 1,000 and stayed steady afterwards. Athens State doesn't have freshman or sophomore classes. In the HURON presentations, there are a huge number of students that migrate from Jackson County to Athens State in Limestone County (Madison County is in between). So they bypass us to go to another's Education. We don't capture them but we would like to.

#### Issues with Enrollment in Education:

The length of the degree, which 1 to 2 years ago was 5 years for a Bachelors of Science, which was a disciplinary degree plus a secondary certification. Many of these “5-year degrees” have been reduced in hours to transition to a 4-year degree (most of those have been in Liberal Arts disciplines).

One problem with length of degree is that the other programs are 4 years (at other institutions). The cost of those programs compared to ours, the students in their 5<sup>th</sup> year here are not working. Financial swing is \$16,000. We have proposed 4 year Bachelors of Science in Education degrees (secondary) with a disciplinary certification. So the student coming in can either go through a disciplinary track and get a secondary certification or go through an education track and get a disciplinary certification. Different students will choose different pathways. That’s on the ACHE agenda September 12.

#### Differentiation:

We don’t have a differentiator to make it attractive. RISE School will be our differentiator. It’s a special education endorsement. Bachelors of Arts in Early Childhood and Collaborative Education.

Tuscaloosa’s RISE School isn’t Degree in Education. It’s in Human Sciences.

Look at Education programs around the state—most have Physical Education attached. Our Physical Education is in Continuing and Professional Studies. It’s not a degree. It used to be in Liberal Arts. It was moved out as not being appropriate. We proposed Bachelors’ in Kinesiology. It’s on the Board agenda for September 19. This degree is more scientifically based. Programs in Education, about 25% of majors, are majoring in Physical Education. This pulls everything together to make us more competitive.

Education isn’t visible. Of the 12 institutions in state, we are the only one that doesn’t have the word “Education” in the college. We don’t have the visibility that all competitors have. Of the 68 public institutions in Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida, excluding Associates and excluding New College of FL, 43 have a College of Education, 12 have a College of Education plus one name, 6 have a College of Education plus one name and another name. We are looking for School or College of Education.

Met with Faculty Senate Executive Committee over the summer and we decided to move forward for September 14 Board meeting. It parallels with RISE School assimilation. We won’t lose a year of recruiting.

#### Structure

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Department of Kinesiology

Exercise Science

Physical Education

UAH Rise School: an outreach and service center

There will be a slight increase in administrative costs. Some folks in Continuing and Professional Studies will move over to College of Education. In order to offer Kinesiology, we do need one person on the faculty in each of the 2 areas, so we need 2 new people, and they will be paid out of the retirement pool. There will be some additional cost, but not much. There’s a pool of students out there that we should be able to capture.

- Earl Wells: Students are bypassing us and going to Athens State. What is the difference in tuition? Are we comparable?

- President Altenkirch: For Athens, there is a big difference. For UNA, there's not.
- Deb Moriarity: I'm still concerned about the impact of Kinesiology. Right now our BYS has the relationship between our program and the one in HPE is murky about what will happen there. I still think it will pull people out of that program.
- President Altenkirch: There may be some short-term issues with it. Over time a relationship will develop. This is a program that many of our athletes have asked for. Our enrollment from 2009 to 2013 in Education went down, and UNA's went up.
- Deb Moriarity: Tuition changes were going up at that time, though.
- Jim Baird: With respect to the 5 year degree program, if you talk to Jim Miller, who does science education for physics, he pointed out that there are not enough teachers with Physics degrees that are qualified. One qualified Physics teacher per county in Alabama. So this is a real concern because of the effects of the new degree pathway.
- President Altenkirch: Physics isn't one of them.
- Jack Schnell: You said part of the cost will come out of the retirement pool. What does that mean?
- President Altenkirch: The Voluntary Retirement Option Plan. We are deploying the pool, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  already deployed, in one of 5 trust areas of the strategic plan or towards delivering a curriculum, and that's what this is. That's what the funds are intended for. Growing enrollment. It's not new money—it's already there. For the Voluntary Retirement Option Plan, you must be eligible to retire. There's an incentive: 125% of someone's salary divided by 3, making 3 payments for 3 years.
- Derrick Smith: Our department is very excited about this. There are a lot of moving parts to it. We just started a Master's program also. We are okay with the numbers. This will allow us to go out and become the Graduate school of Education in this area. Many people drive as far as Birmingham once a week to get degrees. We are hoping that we can grow Graduate programs also.

RISE School will move into University Place once it's vacated. RISE School closes at 2:30 pm during the day. Kids then move to the daycare center, so it can run until 5:30 or so and it will pump up the population of RISE School.

### **Policy on Policies**

The revised version was on timing. I've been asked, "What is the Faculty Handbook?" This will be applicable to University-wide policies. It changes how a policy is put in place, but as per the Board of Trustees, right now there is no developmental process. The way this came about was we started to accumulate all policies. We had to hunt for them. We thought that we should put them in a common format. Then in a repository so people could go to one place and find them. So in the process of doing that, discovered it was also good for SACSCOC. We are doing that and formatting them. It's moving along and we are reviewing them. Some are out of date and they will be thrown away; others will be revised.

### **Faculty Handbook:**

It states policy. Some policies could be university-wide. They could apply to everybody. If you look at the text, a policy could be embedded in it. So we are looking at it. But it's a little different because it has to be approved at the system level. There's pathway to insert things that aren't university level. There are 2 pathways for something to appear in it and needs to be approved at system level.

[Flow diagram] Someone initiates a policy. They give it to their supervisor. The supervisor takes it to the Vice President. The Vice President declines it or gives it to the Executives. If the latter, the policy is posted on myUAH. It goes back to the Vice President who might adjust it. If it's not a substantial change, it goes to the President, who signs it and it becomes Policy. If it's a substantial change, it goes through a 2<sup>nd</sup> review, which is like the 1<sup>st</sup> review.

There are 2 ways something gets into the Faculty Handbook. That's an initiation process that goes through the Faculty Senate. The university-wide policy that applies to more than faculty goes through this policy. If Faculty Senate sent something about parking to the Provost, that applies to everyone, it goes through this because it affects everyone.

- Michael Banish: If something goes through a second review, where were you envisioning it starting the second review process. At the beginning? Initiator?
- President Altenkirch: No, the Vice President and the Executives.

### **Welcome Center**

Rendering of the Welcome Center, which will replace Madison Hall.

Will house Student Services. Have a 75 seat auditorium, in a circular structure. Administrative offices.

Glass looks out onto the Greenway. "Conference center" contains a room, 5,300 sq. ft. sufficient to have Board of Trustees meetings (Bevill Center is too small). Could put Board of Trustees in University Center, but requires cosmetic upgrade. But Board of Trustees won't use this all of the time. Could divide up into 3 spaces for other meetings. Will be a warming kitchen for food. Can be isolated from rest of the building. Building is long, but not deep. Will sit next to Shelby Center, which is a massive building, so it needs to look big on the outside. There's a balcony arrangement on inside.

Parking impact:

Will be built against the Greenway, on Shelby Center parking lot.

Recently, a new parking lot is being constructed as an extension of Charger parking lot, along 3<sup>rd</sup> base fence of baseball field. It started a few days ago. It should finish November 15. Shelby Center parking lot closes on November 15. Construction starts November 17. Building should be finished Spring semester of 2016. Charger Park parking adds 207 spaces. Shelby Center/Madison Hall parking loses 335. Welcome Center adds 205 spaces. That's an increase of 57 total number of spots.

Shelby Center and new building are connected by a patio arrangement, which is still under design.

- Letha Etkorn: The parking garage allows for off campus parking.
- President Altenkirch: People adjust so they figure out their new parking pattern. Their business model is to bring people in from outside. According to the ratio of parking spots to decals, there is a lot of available parking. It may not be convenient, but there is plenty of parking.
- Peter Slater: Aware of current situation of handicap parking in front of Shelby? It gets filled on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- President Altenkirch: We have to abide by a code.
- Peter Slater: No matter the availability, students will do the shortest path. Need to consider students in Tech Hall and time in between classes. Will we go to 20 minutes between?

❖ Provost Curtis

**New Director of Institutional Research and Assessment**, Susan Simpson. She comes from Delta State in Mississippi. She tells me that her love is data and working with faculty. She just finished SACS COC. She will be working with that as well. She told me that in working in the registrar's office, she learned a lot about students and what their needs are. Excited about her coming. Hope to bring her to one of your meetings soon.

**Vice President of Student Affairs**

Airport interviews on week of 8 and 9 of September, dates of 9th and 10th. Several candidates are coming in each day. One candidate has already taken another position.

**SACS COC Reaffirmation**

Yesterday brought all committees together for the kickoff meeting. Committees will start working independently. Sandra Carpenter is the faculty lead.

Preparing: work with the academic deans and directors on policies. Deans made more progress than the directors. Some eliminated, some combined, some found to be not fair. Finish ones revising. Will send out late September. There will be a stack, between 25 and 30. We ask that you review them. They directly affect students and you.

Later in the fall, directors work through their policies. We appreciate any and all thoughts you have for improving policies, or changing wording.

**Director of Financial Aid** has announced retirement. John Madison, in charge of Enrollment Services. Looking frantically for an interim replacement. Probably won't fill until VPSA is on board.

- President Altenkirch: Block tuition is having an effect. Undergraduate and Graduate enrollment. Hours of enrollment per student has gone up. Suspect it will be more in the next couple of years.
- Peter Slater: I would like to point out that students have figured out that they can register for more classes for free with the intention of dropping one later in the semester. Also, on the new website, it's not easy to find Banner.
- President Altenkirch: That's the concept and convenience of myUAH.

➤ Guest, Dean Bill Wilkerson, Honors College

Priority Registration. Test pilot this Spring. Students with 96 hours register first. Other groups can register first, student athletes, honors college students, and students with disabilities. Working with the Registrar's Office. It's fairly easy to do. In banner, there's a registration code. We bring Honors college students and athletes to campus and offer them certain benefits. We offer a special program, but we don't allow them to register first and work with them. All other universities I've looked at offer priority registration. We want to see how it works and see how many use it. We also want to see if there are any problems.

➤ Approval of Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 547 (April 24, 2014) and 548 (April 25, 2014)

Michael Banish motions to accept Minutes 547 and 548. Marlana Primeau seconds.

Ayes carried motion

No oppositions

*Motion to accept Faculty Senate Minutes 547 and 548 passes*



- Reports
  - ❖ No Senate Officer Reports
  - ❖ No Senate Committee Reports
  
- Discussion of Policy on Policies
  - Deadline pushed to end of September.
    - Michael Banish: I have a complaint: it's less clear that Faculty Senate can put forth a policy and it be outside the purview of the Faculty Handbook. The flow chart goes up strictly through departments. There's no place for Faculty Senate or Staff Senate except through departments. It needs to be clear that a policy can originate through Senates.
    - Deb Moriarity: The initiator doesn't mean an individual.
    - Michael Banish: I asked today, though.
    - Deb Moriarity: I think he misunderstood your question.
  
    - Eric Fong: This is a policy on all policies, or on university-wide policies?
    - Derrick Smith: University-wide.
    - Eric Fong: I think that's where there is confusion here. Because if it's a policy on faculty within the Senate, then it does not have to go through this procedure.
    - Michael Banish: But what if Faculty Senate wants to put through a policy on parking? So it depends on where you want to limit yourself.
    - Deborah Heikes: That's not what this says, though.
    - Michael Banish: It's not clear to me what this says. A university-wide policy on what? Can we put forth stuff unrelated to faculty senate?
    - Deborah Heikes: Yes.
    - Michael Banish: That's not what he said today. He said if it applied to the Faculty Handbook.
    - Joseph Taylor: It's ambiguous. If we want to make a policy strictly for the faculty, then that would go through one channel, but if we want to submit something university-wide, then it goes through that particular flow chart.
    - Michael Banish: If it's a policy that originates in the Faculty Senate, does it have to go back through the other chains?
    - Joseph Taylor: If it's university-wide.
    - Michael Banish: So then we would go back to our department.
    - Deborah Heikes: No, then it would go back to the Dean or Vice President.
    - Michael Banish: I would just like it to be made clearer that Faculty Senate can have university-wide policies come out of Faculty Senate to be reviewed. And make that option available to Staff Senate and SGA.
    - Charles Hickman: Our supervisor is the Vice President for Academic Affairs. So I would assume our Bills, once they are passed, go to the Provost and then the system. So this is a benefit.
    - Michael Banish: What Altenkirch may take as something agreeable, the next President might not. So I think it needs to be clearly delineated that Faculty Senate can be the originator of non-faculty policies throughout the university.
    - Deborah Heikes: It seems to me like this opens things up. We don't even need a bill now. We can just go through this, and we won't need 3 readings of a bill.
    - Kader Frendi: If it's something that only affects faculty, we are in charge. If it affects the university, this is the policy.
  
    - Derrick Smith: What about point 7.
    - Deborah Heikes: It's a typo. It needs to be fixed.

- Kader Frendi: Do we want to be involved in every and all, or have a mechanism to streamline? Faculty Senate Executive Committee can't make an executive decision for this body.
- Deborah Heikes: We are losing quorum so can we discuss this via email?
- Kader Frendi: We will continue the discussion by email.
- Peter Slater: Number 7, instead of "no" change to "a lack."

➤ Marlena Primeau motions to adjourn. Deb Moriarity seconds the motion.

Faculty Senate Meeting #549 adjourned  
August 28, 2014, 2:10 P.M.



### **Sense of the Senate Resolution**

**WHEREAS** Peggy J. Bower, Executive Assistant to the Provost at the University of Alabama in Huntsville has for thirty-four years worked tirelessly to support our collective efforts to build and strengthen UAH,

and **WHEREAS** for twenty of those years Peggy Bower served as the Provost's staff representative to the Faculty Senate,

and **WHEREAS** in that role Peggy Bower became the person most familiar with the Senate, its history, its purpose, and its members,

and **WHEREAS** Peggy Bower has been unwavering in her kindness and support to the Faculty Senates, its Executive Committees, and its Presidents,

and **WHEREAS** in 2013 the role of Faculty Senate Staff assistant became a separate paid position,

and **WHEREAS** since then Peggy Bower has steadfastly continued to support and assist the Faculty Senate whenever so requested, and with both efficiency and grace,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that in recognition of all of her service, the 2013-14 and 2014-15 Faculty Senates of the University of Alabama in Huntsville express our profound gratitude and appreciation to Peggy J. Bower

and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be included in the minutes of this body, that a copy be sent to Peggy J. Bower, and that a separate copy included in perpetuity on the website of the UAH Faculty Senate.