

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE  
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MINUTES OF MEETING #504, 28 JANUARY, 2010  
APPROVED 4 MARCH, 2010**

**Present:** Gupta, Mok, Evans, Bao, Stewart, Rountree, Kovacs, Bollinger, Neff, Gyasi, Johnson, Sanders, Hawk, Seemann, Sitaraman, Cerro, Anderson, Gaede, English, Milenkovic, Coe, Gholston, Cassibry, Wessling, Lin, Vaughan, Warboys, Showalter, Ferguson, Mecikalski, Boyd, Davis, Scholz, Edmondson, Zhang, Etzkorn, Newman, Ravindran, Wu, Miller, Lieu

**Absent With Proxy:** Smith, Banish, O'Keefe

Dr. Etzkorn called the meeting to order at 12:45

- President Williams—The Provost was called away but I have his points. Budget status in Montgomery—Governor put budget forward. Interest in where some numbers come from. Present to Legislature and they do their own work. Still uncertainty. Still issues with resolutions to PACT part. Should treat all same on special considerations cannot treat some different. Will have to bring our budget to table before we know what legislature will give to us. Already beginning process within university. Deans meeting with Ray Pinner and the Provost and also involves Faculty Senate. Two representatives from the Senate in those negotiations. Make you aware through departments of constraints etc. Board Meeting—next week Birmingham. Initial settings for budget etc. plans for facilities, planned greenway on agenda for approval, walkway and etc. Wilson Hall—open take time to go and see. LBAR, NUR, CONT. Ed. Those who see will not recognize very different from before. Not much to outside due to restrictions in budget. Took couple million off plan and left outside as was. Invested soundly in quality of interior. Residence Hall—topped out, windows going in. progress impervious to weather. On schedule—expect to finish on time. Issues will be brought up at Board. Final approval MS and PHD Modeling and Simulation. Aerospace Engineering proposal. Organizational Psychology as part of the MS in Psychology. Gmail migration in progress. Engineering Dean search in final stages. 2 candidates this week. Thanked senate for 2 bills on senate today.
- Email Policy—question from Tim—deferred to Letha—met with Provost and took information from committee. Concerned about owning of data—English, Etzkorn, Provost, Cunningham, Woodward, Gaede met. Personal and honorariums, etc. Will consider all concerns. Not policing policy—rules if someone complains have policy to fall back on. Privacy issues—looked at other policies and universities. Email can for cause be examined. How long and who can retain email once retire, leave, etc. Will it come before full Senate before implementation? No, will give chance to respond. Can change policy later. Rush because of information act request. FERPA and proprietary information same category.

- Realignment: 9 months since first realignment resolution 8 months since other package. No comment to this body on this and no comment today. Administration must do better—policy should not languish. What is administration’s position on realignment? Dr. Williams’ response: Still with Counsel—will ask Counsel for speedy response and will be talking to Dr. Furgason this afternoon and will proceed once receive reaction to Dr. Furgason’s report this afternoon. Asked to make commitment not to push anything through until receive policy and response. Dr. Williams responded—until Counsel has given views on proposal would not be wise to commit to anything.
- Minutes—approved with correction of spelling of Dr. St. John’s name—33 in favor and 1 abstention
- Executive Committee Report—Dr. Gupta moved to accept – Question regarding limiting senator time—nothing done on this just considering. 2 abstentions
- Finance and Resources—reviewing REU proposals. Drs. Wessling and Stewart attended Budget meeting—Dr. Wessling reported—for many years no organized process for budgets. The Provost is trying to come up with methodology for making budgeting for all departments equitable—how many GTAs how many PhDs, all under consideration—15 page draft of algorithm—reviewed by all Deans—recognized this is start and will be other meetings to continue discussions. Summer school budget discussed—separately from other—eventually will know on continuous basis what for summer. Not trivial process—think people trying to be circumspect and trying to do good job and be fair to all parties. Decisions not pre-made—decisions brought up and vigorously discussed and will continue—baselines also part of it. Flexibility in budget—work in progress—conscientious effort. Open and frank discussion. Need process and mechanism. Question of whether budget presentation to Senate from Finance and Resources—yes will try. If know what questions want answered let David Stewart know and will see if mechanism to get answered.
- Personnel-no report
- Curriculum—approved one course for PSY
- Faculty and Student Development—discussion on email most of report—ANGEL site established
- Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs—met with Gail Seemann—wanted to get feedback on new policy—when conduct test for students—had used campus mail and slow and new policy scan and email. Disability services—32 hours only her—not adequate facilities-2% registered as disabled—more than half the national norm. Huntsville high in autism. Will feed information about scantron back. Discussing Honor codes, Janet Waller to meet with Committee on software.
- Governance and Operations—met and set up website to communicate on ANGEL—planning to meet in two weeks to talk about Bylaws—decided not possible to handle total Bylaws in one pass—first 3 sections now and some editorial matters. Elections—March and April will set everything up.

- Mention move of Commencement—moving to earlier, right after finals—students not get actual diploma—PhD would, others would not.
- Gordon Stone—Wish could bring better news—make more aware—Higher Education partnerships—communicate positives and refute negatives related to Higher Education.
- 3 things—budget-suffering through worldwide economic problem—more dramatic in Higher Education 31.5 % cut from Higher Education since 2008. Stimulus money helped last year. 2 year prop. Jobs bill—has money in it for this years budget to prop up—inflated—seen nothing from us because budget not real-being patient. No reason to stir anything up until we see what is real. Still too early to talk about and not too early to make point we are down in funding. Message we are important part of economic development for State. Huntsville dependent on what you do and different from other parts of Alabama. Message is treat us equitable—be fair. We don't argue K-12 needs funding and deserving but don't discriminate.
- 2—Posturing from State Board—change way fund education and use per student basis—advantageous to K-12. Make sure people setting policy understand difference. Things in universities different. We have to be cautious and let those in Montgomery know we are watching them so they do not take easy way out. 150,000 voters in Higher Education. Alums host local politicians. Higher Education day on March 4. Encouraged to allow if possible students to attend.
- PACT Issue—personal investor in PACT program—understand solving easy way or the right way. Not university's responsibility to be safety net when other program does not work. Proposal is to cap tuition for those students and go and AEA on board with that—struggle to limit that. Tution has nothing to do with problem—if look at what Board had established as increase was 7.2% and what we have increased is 7.2%. We are at regional average. Not out of proportion. Find a way that does not do damage.
- If want to have a luncheon for local delegates would assist. If want on list 1 dollar/month.
- Some discussion regarding enrollment being down and funding. Follow trends.
- Some discussion regarding community colleges and starting as political—payback for involvement—evolved now to more than what started. Some bleed over and competition with universities. Changed now –not political. Past aligned with AEA and contrasted what we do. Traditionally had salaries set by Board of Education. Not succeeded in removing community colleges from State Board. Not painting as anti Higher Education.
- Vaughan—going to institute swipe card system for better entry into Library—article in Exponent good explanation call Library with questions—still work in progress—bring charger card to get into Library—glad to go into more detail later but exponent has detail—protecting people and resources. If have comments or questions send to Letha before Monday. Not keeping people out but means of governing what happens and who comes in.

- Senate Bill 332—comment—agree with spirit but both bills passive—would like to see Senate and others take more active voice in requesting resources. Like to see Committee look at what need to do job and present that. Question and discussion of what bill asks. Chance stance –be proactive. Start with own Committee and go forward—
  - Vote—14 in favor, 16 against, 6 abstentions. Bill failed at second reading.
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- Senate Bill 333—change bill language—tighten language because could end up not being Faculty Committee. Say nonadministrative academic appointments. Why not make Senate Committee reporting to Senate instead of Provost’s Committee. Want to see come through Senate—follow Bylaws.
  - Discussion regarding Provost already changing and Department getting less. Handle by Finance Committee. And come back to Senate. Comment trying to take over too much of responsibility of Administration. Need input but not be ones doing policy. Need people who are research active. Finance and Resources would need to bring in others to work on. Would be willing to have Provost suggest others.
  - Dr. English called the question—26 in favor, 2 abstentions
  - Vote on bill—3 in favor, 21 opposed, 6 abstentions, bill failed at second reading.
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- Drs. Gupta and Rountree moved and seconded to adjourn.