
FACULTY SENATE MEETING

January 28, 2021

12:50 P.M.

Chan Auditorium

- ***Present: Dilcu Barnes, Kwaku Gyasi, Andrei Gandila, Christina Steidl, Mike Banish, Emil Jovanov, George Nelson, Kader Frendi, Susan Alexander, Elizabeth Barnby, Azita Amiri, Donna Guerra, Mark Reynolds, Huaming Zhang, Andrea Word, Ron Schwertfeger, Tim Newman, Carmen Scholz, Carolyn Sanders, Laird Burns***
- ***Present via Zoom: Tobias Mendelson, Kristin Weger, Fat Ho, Bryan Mesmer, Gang Li, Paul Whitehead***
- ***Absent: Sophia Marinova, Kevin Bao, David Allen, Jose Betancourt, Joey Taylor, Jeremy Fischer, Abdul Salman, Seong-Moo Yoo, Leiqui Hu, John Mecikalski, Jerome Baudry, Jeff Weimer, Sivaguru Ravindran***
- ***Absent with Proxy: Candice Lanius, Christina Carmen, Amy Hunter, Darlene Showalter, Melissa Foster, Harry Delugach, Sarah Roller***
- ***Guest: President Darren Dawson***
- **Faculty Senate President Tim Newman called the meeting to order at 12:58 pm.**
- **Meeting Review:**
 - **Policy on Policies passes.**
 - **Bill 444 passes second reading unanimously.**
 - **Bill 449 passes second reading unanimously.**
 - **Bill 453 passed to send to G&O Committee.**
- **Approve FS Meeting Minutes 611. Mike Banish moves. Carmen Scholz seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry.**
- **Accept Special FSEC Report from January 22. Mike Banish moves. Kwaku Gyasi seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry.**
- **Administrative Reports:**
 - **President Dawson**
 - **We thought we would be able to do a communication on the vaccine early this week. We prepared a draft communication and FAQ's. We will send that to the communicable disease committee for their review. We do not know when we will receive those doses.**
 - **Carmen – I have a question regarding the vaccines. Are the graduate teaching assistants on the roster? They are on the forefront in the labs working with the students. The GTA's weren't asked to teach online.**
 - **President – Not on 1A, but we will look at that when we get to 1B and 1C. I don't think we should spend too much time on this until we know what will happen. There is a possibility that everything will change after communicating with the system office. It is obvious that Alabama is far behind as a state. I feel they will start distributing to pharmacies and let people line up to receive them by age.**
- **Officer/Committee Reports**
 - **Tim Newman, President**

- The President-Elect, Parliamentarian and myself met with the Provost earlier this week. We asked questions about the vaccine. UAH is not expected to get our vaccine until ADPH reaches level 1C. If we don't use all the doses, we won't receive more. Today is data privacy day. We asked questions in regard to health check. I have additional information related to that. The health check data you provide is sent encrypted to a server. With grant funding all data will be held until satisfactory with the state. In the FSEC minutes, you saw we received updates to the BETA Policy. Questions have been routed back to the originator.
 - Carmen Scholz, President - Elect
 - No report.
 - Carolyn Sanders, Ombudsperson
 - No report.
 - Kader Frendi, Governance and Operations Committee Chair
 - No report.
 - Tim – We are getting close to needing department representative votes.
 - Azita Amiri, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
 - No report.
 - Paul – If you submitted forms for 21-22 catalog, we have those. The Provost extended our deadline to February 5th.
 - Tim – Anyone that wants to make a catalog change, they are due the 5th?
 - Paul – No, if you submitted a form, the deadline is next week.
 - Emil Jovanov, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
 - No report.
 - Kwaku Gyasi, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
 - No report.
 - Mike Banish, Personnel Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Policy on Policies
 - Kader moves to bring to floor. Mike seconds.
 - Tim – This is the framework that governs the submission of policies. There was one change. The policy tracking form will need to be attached to the policy.
 - Mike – We did ask and the President agreed that on the tracking form you list a requisite policy number.
 - Tim – All in favor of policy. Ayes carry.
- Bill 444
 - Tim – Motion to approve on second reading. Kader moves. Carolyn seconds.
 - Mike – I will add, with input from the personnel committee, it was with unanimous consent. The point was due to research council. We felt there need to be a separate break out group that would look at these issues.
 - Carmen – Do you have any information if the research council is meeting and has faculty representation?
 - Mike – I do not.
 - Tim – Emil is on the committee. There have been two meetings?
 - Emil – Only once.
 - Carmen – Can we get a report on those meetings?
 - Emil – I can try to summarize it from my notes.
 - Tim – Please email that to me or Lauren and we will send it out. All in favor. Ayes carry. Bill 444 passes second reading unanimously.

➤ Bill 449

- Tim – Motion to approve on second reading. Mike moves. Kader seconds.
- Mike – We are all college teachers. Who actually knows what the budget book is? It is online. It lists all the income. In this case, this book goes back to the 07-08 year and goes to 2021. There are two spreadsheets here. Over Christmas, I updated some data I ran years ago. In columns AC and AD, you see 2020-2021 years. It has been explained to me that AC is the 2019-2020 FY. I have this broken down into income. This represents 15 years of data. In the 15 years, there are about ten corrections. The point is no one ever corrects this book. I went through each department and salaries. There aren't any names. These are gross department wages. I went through to see what you get for operating. I consider this the academic income of the university here at the bottom. It comes into the general fund. There are no research dollars or legislature money. The bottom number is the total minus scholarship minus wages from faculty/staff minus fringe benefits. You will see that in 2007 our discretionary spending was \$53M. That says that it went up by \$60M.
- Kader – Are we broke?
- Carmen – What is the SHW and SW?
- Mike – SW – salary and wages.
- Laird – Where is overspending or underspending noted?
- Mike – I have no idea.
- Carmen – While you were scrolling, I had no time to look at it in detail. Do you think it is correct?
- Tim – These are projections, not actuals. That is the purpose of the bill, to get actuals.
- Mike – You will see things go up and down.
- Andrei – Is AB projection and AC actual? Numbers move the same. How is this possible?
- Tim – The bill ask for actual so that we can see those numbers.
- Ron – I know that the spreadsheet on the screen is illustrative of the issue of what the bill is about. Can this be sent out to faculty?
- Mike – Sure. If you look at it and you add data to it, please rename it. This is my set of data with my initials on it.
- Tim – All in favor. Ayes carry. Bill passes second reading unanimously.

➤ Bill 453

- Tim – Motion to introduce on second reading. Mike moves. Huaming seconds.
- Christina – I would like to argue that the senate doesn't have capacity to engage in investigation on this bill. We are asked to condemn wrong doing on the administration and don't have the evidence to do that. I think the bill would set a horrible precedent to the university. It would undermine our legitimacy as a shared governance body. I think the one important thing is the title of this bill. I hope this bill reminds us to reflect upon our own conduct. We are not the body to debate if this is true.
- Laird – A friendly amendment has written to make it a policy approach. There is a bunch of clarifications. If you look at it from a policy point, I would be happy to look at that. The question is if we say the administration should follow policies from state law. There are a number of examples that aren't in here. It talks about the university should follow state law. They have violated state law multiple times. They may say they didn't know, they have lawyers. They have to follow state law and stick to it. They won't use policies that didn't exist at the time. It also says not to use old/expired policies. When you hire an independent investigator and find findings, the university should use those. I agree that the example is a bright issue. It needs the senate to not violate state law and follow your own policies. I

have had multiple faculty come to me and say that could've been me. Violating state law and own policies and due process is inappropriate.

- Tim – You have a list of amendments. Are you wishing at this moment they be placed into motion now?
 - Laird – I wish they would be placed.
 - Tim – If this is to be placed upon us, another member has to introduce. Mike moves.
 - Christina – Are the amendments the blue text on the screen? Is that what we are moving to amend?
 - Tim – Yes. I have one written copy printed out if someone wants to look at it.
 - Tim – Is there a second. Kader seconds. Shall the bill be amended?
 - Christina – I have concerns with the amendments. If we only look at the therefore be it resolved, the language in the first two are in particular to the faculty in question. This isn't the senate's job. As a body we should discuss the extent we want to pass the bill related to faculty.
 - Andrea – I have a question. Obviously this is an important procedure. Is there a pathway for revision to condense it and less judiciary oriented?
 - Tim – This is a parliamentary question. You can move to committee. You can move to defer to next meeting.
 - Mike – We are discussing if we are accepting amendments. Further discussion on the motion to amend.
 - George – The first version was introduced as an emergency bill. I don't believe this version was in the packet. It is hard to vote on these amendments in this format. There is a rush aspect to this. I move to refer to committee.
 - Tim – You want me to select committee?
 - George – I don't know governance or personnel.
 - Tim – Motion to refer to G&O with these amendments. Is there a second? Beth seconds. All in favor to sending to committee. Ayes carry. The original bill and amendments will go to committee.
- Meeting adjourned 1:52 PM.