
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
December 9, 2017
12:50 P.M. in SSB 201

Present: Chris Allport, Laird Burns, Kevin Bao, David Stewart, David Harwell, Joe Conway, David Johnson, Andrei Gandila, Carolyn Sanders, Jeremy Fischer, Anne Marie Choup, Dianhan Zheng, Kyle Knight, Fat Ho, Earl Wells, James Swain, Kader Frendi, Gang Wang, Christina Carmen, Fran Wessling, Ann Bianchi, Monica Beck, Lori Lioce, Qingyuan Han, Roy Magnuson, Jeff Weimer, Harry Delugach, Tim Newman, Shangbing Ai, Lingze Duan, Vladimir Florinski, Monica Dillihunt, Shannon Mathis, Ron Schwertfeger

Absent with Proxy: Milton Shen, Ryan Weber, Yu Lei, Angela Hollingsworth, Amy Hunter, Shanhu Lee, Carmen Scholz

Absent without Proxy: Sophia Marinova, Tingting Wu, Yuri Shtessel, Sharon Spencer,

Ex-Officio: Provost Christine Curtis

Guest: President Bob Altenkirch, Katherine Quinnell, Ron Leonard

- Faculty Senate President-Elect/Past President Mike Banish called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm.
- **Meeting Review:**
 - **Bill 393 passes third reading.**
 - **Bill 417 was discussed and never voted on.**
- **Approval of Faculty Senate Meeting minutes.** Change Carmen called meeting to order instead of Mike. Ayes carry.
- **Accept FSEC report.** Change on page 2, that in 2017 reserve funds were \$94M to 2007. Ayes carry.
- **Administrative Report:**
 - President Bob Altenkirch
 - There will be a holiday party today at the Lowe House from 4-7 pm. Over 300 have RSVP.
 - Board Rule 108 was approved by the board. It talks about policy development and review. We are supposed to seek consistency within the policies among the other campuses. It must be consistent with bylaws and rules. We have to have a campus designee who assures the system they are consistent. The campus designee has to do that before anything is finalized. I took the policy on policies and edited it. The diagram describes the current policy we have. I included the campus designee into the diagram. Consistency is now in there three times and the designee twice. There is a meeting next week with the Chancellor and President. If it looks okay, we will put into place as an interim. The campus designee has to go back through existing policies.

- Earl – Is there any feedback from sister institutions? How do things get added into this system? Does it have to be done at all institutions?
- President- Not necessarily, just what is practical. It is new. We will have to see how it will go. When developing policies, we do look at Tuscaloosa. Sometimes we lift what they have done. I expect that to be vice versa. One of the policies we developed, I read Tuscaloosa then UAB, and they are all the same. A central group will review the policies.
- Earl – Let’s say the designee knows something we don’t know like good ideas. How do we know about the ideas? Is it an open loop?
- President – The designee will be familiar with the policies on other campuses.
- Earl – Per the chart, how does it get in there?
- President – The designee cannot be an attorney or myself. The Director of Compliance is an attorney but no legal obligation to UAH.
- We had a child protection policy. That is in the process of being revised from a risk management point. The risk management people along with compliance have been going through the risk of having minors on campus. Soon background checks with anyone who works with a minor will be done.
 - Member – Who is considered a minor?
 - Provost – Anyone 18 and under or not enrolled.
 - Laird – If we have already had a check will it count?
 - Provost – The UA policy states every year.
 - President – Tuscaloosa says everyone who works with children has to have a background check. They also have to complete training.
 - Member – In Nursing, we have to complete the training and we certify we have completed it through banner.
 - Roy – What if we find out someone is a registered sex offender?
 - President – We will handle that.
- The SGA passed a resolution regarding Veteran’s Day. It isn’t a university holiday. One reason is it occurs on a particular date, not the same day every year. It makes it difficult as far as scheduling is concerned. There is a section in the student handbook that list activities that students are excused for. They are proposing to add veteran’s who participate in veteran activities. The FSEC discussed it and all agreed it was ok. We will approve that and add it to the list of excused absences.
- David S. – In 2017, our unallocated funds were 42% of all of our expendable funds? The number now is zero. Should I be concerned of that?
 - President – No. Under Frank Franz, money left over 50% stayed in the unit allocated and 50% came back unallocated. Williams changed that to 100% stays and 0% comes back. Over time as people come wanting projects done, the money gets expended. The reason it says zero is in the building of the residence hall, we took the money out of the reserve and paid cash. While it is being built, we don’t earn revenue. You make money on the back end. That was the other reason, along with the mandate of the board, to put depreciation on the front end, not back end. Our reserve is around \$100M. The bond rating agencies do not care if it is allocated or not, but internally you do.

- David S. – A reserve is something that we need. It can't be at zero, right? We don't have them now, right?
 - President- We will. We used it as a kick start and we will pay ourselves back. We will dump in about \$20M.
 - Tim – You have expressed that it is a challenge to budget for all the depreciation. When Frank Franz came 15 years ago, budgeting for this building would be a challenge. When the incubator and charger village come online, won't our depreciation be higher? Won't that make the challenge harder?
 - President – The depreciation has been handled by over budgeting some areas. The reason there are reserves out there is because of unspent money. That is how depreciation has been handled in the past, budgeted on the back end. It is unlikely that we could budget all the depreciation up front. From the audit view, we have revenue that offsets. We build up the reserve on the front end.
 - Laird – The incubator is collaboration, will we pay for it?
 - President –All the construction money was pulled and some leftover to operate for a little while. We own the building.
 - Kader – Some units put money on the back end on purpose to by large pieces of equipment. If you do this the money goes back into the central.
 - Roy – Under the prior budget model, surely maintenance wasn't budgeted on the units. Where were they budgeted?
 - President – Centrally.
 - Roy – If the roofs need to be replaced, and we have to go to a college, I don't understand.
 - President- For years now, there hasn't been money flowing back.
 - Roy – There is no money going into the central?
 - President – Very little to none.
 - Roy – Where does the tuition go?
 - President – Salaries, scholarships, academic affairs. It is doing the same thing except on the front.
 - Roy – Taxing the units isn't doing the same thing. It's totally different. This is the "you're on your own speech."
 - President – Times are different. Central is still going to be open.
- Provost Christine Curtis
 - Monday the SACSCOC region conference voted on a whole new group of standards. Some were the same, some were edited, and ten were eliminated. We will be getting a notification of the new revised standards. They will also tell us what the changes are. I can let you know some things, but it would be easier to wait on SACSCOC. The vote was overwhelming, but unanimous. The QEP did not come up this time, but there is a movement from some institutions to remove it as a requirement. It doesn't affect anything we are doing. We do have a five year report due in a couple of years, we have now the list of standards.
 - The Chancellor asked the three Provost and Charles Nash to work together with the libraries. We now have a University Council of Libraries. At this point, they have submitted a vision and mission statement. They are also charged to go through inventory and see how we can collaborate. The end game is how we can

collaborate, cut cost. I will be updating you regularly. This will be a process. A lot of the license agreement state that they cannot be shared.

- The Dean search for the College of AHSS is underway.

➤ **Officer/Committee Reports**

- Finance and Resources Committee Chair, Laird Burns
 - The finance committee has had student applications coming in but not enough.
- Parliamentarian, Tim Newman
 - Handbook committee has met. I have talked with President about some small changes. Hopefully it will be before you soon.
- Ombudsperson, Kader Frendi
 - No report.
- Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair, Monica Dillihunt
 - No report.
- Governance and Operations Committee Chair, Christina Carmen
 - No report.
- Personnel Committee Chair, David Stewart
 - No report.
- Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair, David Johnson
 - We will meet January 25th.
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair, Anne Marie Choup
 - The committee met and approved five and nine are outstanding.
- Bill 393:
 - Tim – Someone motioned to untable the bill. I would like to move to untable. What was passed out was not exactly what was untabled.
 - Kader – Seconds.
 - Mike – All in favor. Ayes carry.
 - Tim – It was properly amended before it was tabled. Where it says tenth week, it was twelfth or thirteenth week. Also, the 2/3 math isn't correct.
 - Mike – I think that you will notice that you received the faculty senate discussion.
 - Tim – This bill was introduced by Ramon Cerro. I want to share what was behind this. When we went to electronic SIE's, we had hiccups. Some of those are recounted here. We didn't close them at the end of the semesters. We noticed our response rate got a lot lower. A few concerns this addresses is when we evaluate our faculty members for tenure, we look at the SIE scores. If we have SIE scores where we only have 30-40% responding, it isn't valid to use those. Small number samples do not perform like large number samples. One thing this bill seeks to do is get consistency. Another thing is let's not only rely on SIE's. Let's make sure that there are some lesson plans, exercises. This is the reason for the bill.
 - Member – It isn't not only in the number of students. Usually the type of student who receive no score, leave bad comments. Good students don't care, they don't have time. You have to give some incentive.
 - Carolyn – I have been here a long time, I don't think because of the electronic SIE changes the response rate. I appreciate the spirit of the bill. For those having been here a long time, I support having students do them in class. We also need to remember the faculty were out of the room. Tim, we do some important comprehensive moments, I wonder why the point of SIE's was placed 2/3 in the semester, not further out.

- Tim – We did have some discussion about the timing. Ramon’s point isn’t a magic number; it just needs to be consistent among the classes. Say ten weeks, that is too early in 15 week classes. I think there needs to be a point of consistency. I am open to any other number.
- Fat – We should not give the SIE too early, maybe the last two weeks.
- Member – I had some colleagues that had some small classes and the new system says they don’t have enough responses. What is the percent?
- Mike – 30%.
- Harry – I think the most important part is there are other criteria than SIE. There are ways to get good SIE scores. The problem is it’s hard to do. SIE is just a number, even if they aren’t valid.
- Jeff – Given the comment that the faculty have to be out of the room, is that somewhere? This being pulled from the archives, saying starting 2016, can we amend to say fall 2018.
- Provost - You do remember we have courses that are seven weeks.
- Mike – That is why we have $\frac{3}{4}$. All in favor of fall 2018. Ayes carry.
- Tim – Motions to move amendments. Kader seconds.
- Mike – All in favor. Ayes carry. 2 opposed.
- Roy – Does this specify paper or not? It specifies in class.
- Tim – This bill does not talk about paper at all. I favored paper. We had better responses. You can do the SIE any way you want; this just makes the time done consistent. I think what we have most faculty will view as good.
- Roy – Who compiles if people are making their own forms?
- Member – It will be the same format.
- Christine – SIE’s conducted outside of class hours, will they be honored?
- Mike – All this is saying is we will devote some class time for these to be done.
- David – Are we changing that to say starting fall 2018?
- Mike – All in favor of the bill with amendments. Ayes carry. 2 opposed.
- Member – It still doesn’t look fair to me.
- Mike – We are just saying here is time for you to do an evaluation.
- Jeff – I might suggest that is puts an obligation on the faculty to remind the students they have an evaluation to do. It is often the case I come up at the end that I remember I didn’t remind the students.
- Member – Paper evaluation isn’t the issue. If it is electronic, they can still do it anywhere.
- Mike – It is just me offering time to the student time to complete it. All in favor. Ayes carry. 2 opposed. Motion for third reading. Tim moves. Ayes carry. All those in favor of this bill on third reading. Ayes carry. 1 opposed. 2 abstain.
- Bill 417:
 - Mike – This was put forward by a College of Science Colleague. At one time, many of the percentage rates for F&A were set to cover specific costs. Things have changed since then. The author is this is requesting we go back and relook those numbers.
 - Kader moves to introduce this bill. Jim seconds.
 - Vladimir – My department has a number of objections. From the very beginning, the purpose is to enable the research. This is extra funding from the agency to enable the research. I read this bill to imply that the purpose is to balance academic and research activity. That is not the case, it is to support research.

- Mike – Its how the university chooses to use it. They are asking for a review.
- Provost – The way the indirect cost is calculated is the agencies assigned to the universities ask us to determine the direct cost of research. The agency then looks at the total cost and cuts it.
- Vladimir – That is the point I was making, to support research. The bill states other.
- Mike – If you have a NSF grant that is part of the grant.
- Tim – Calls for the orders of today.
- Guest Speakers Ron Leonard and Katherine Quinnell present on OER. This link provides the slideshow that was presented by the guest speakers. <https://goo.gl/FpfVhw>
- Meeting adjourns at 2:19 pm.