
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
April 18, 2019
12:50 P.M. SST 103

Present: Kevin Bao, Sophia Marinova, Chris Allport, Milton Shen, Amy Guerin, David Johnson, Joe Conway, Andrei Gandila, Melody Ng, Deborah Heikes, Shuang Zhao, Christina Steidl, Mike Banish, Yu Lei, Seong-Moo Yoo, Gabe Xu, Gang Wang, Christina Carmen, Angela Hollingsworth, Ron Bolen, Lori Lioce, Carmen Scholz, Harry Delugach, Tim Newman, SS Ravindran, Seyed Sadeghi, Vladimir Florinski, Paul Whitehead, Ron Schwertfeger, Jeff Weimer, Laird Burns, Dilcu Barnes, Elizabeth Barnby, Katherine Morrison, Jennifer Palmer, Monica Dillihunt

Absent with Proxy: Holly Jones, Sherri Messimer, Francis Wessling, David Stewart, Fat Ho, Robert McFeeters

Absent without Proxy: Jeff Neuschatz, Kirolos Harleem, Earl Wells, Robert Griffin, Thomas Sever, Eric Mendenhall

Ex-Officio: Provost Christine Curtis

Guest: President Bob Altenkirch

- Faculty Senate President Mike Banish called the meeting to order at 12:52 pm.
- **Meeting Review:**
 - **Academic Misconduct Policy** voted to return to committee.
- **Approve FS meeting minutes from March.** Laird Burns moves. Monica Dillihunt seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry. 1 abstains.
- **Accept the special FSEC from April.** Monica Dillihunt moves. Carmen Scholz seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry.
- **Administrative Reports**
 - **President Bob Altenkirch**
 - I don't know how many attended the board meeting and saw the Executive Plaza master plan. It is the on the website. There is a bridge starting at Morton Hall coming across Sparkman. Most of these districts have a main street. There is a pedestrian spine along the main street. This is the planner's concept of the various facilities. Student housing will be in the middle sitting on top of retail. The multipurpose facility is part of the master plan but on the east side of the map. There are some university type office buildings, office buildings, housing facilities. The bridge comes in on the second floor. The multipurpose facility and fine arts facility is for university and community use. The idea is to provide amenities that don't exist right now. There isn't anything around us. The idea is to generate an environment that will draw people in. Most universities have something like this.
 - Mike – The events center, will it be large enough to hold graduations?

- President – You will have to have multiple graduations. This is to fit requirements of local event planners, hockey, and the fine arts building will hold the Huntsville Symphony.
- Carmen – How is the ownership organized? If the community can use it, who will pay whom rent?
- President – That has to be worked out in the agreement. A private developer builds it, and we use it. When we don't use it, the developer would bring events in to make money. They make a profit and pay off loans. Every joint venture is different.
- Member – When will the performing arts venue be available?
- President – These projects are usually a decade long venture. It happens in phases.
- Harry – Are these pictures artist renditions'? Or have they come from architectures?
- President – The drawings are by artist, but the footprint is by architects.
- Harry – The joint venture designers are free to pick their designs?
- President – No, they aren't free. UA had very tight control over design and placement. You don't want to turn it over.
- Harry – When we are looking at a 1-2% raise, we are concerned about the investment this consumes. It's hard to believe we won't invest and where is the money coming from?
- President – The student housing or residential housing may come from university money but it's in and out. That could be the housing approach. The rest has to come from private money. I told the planners we aren't putting money into that. As Huntsville grows, they will see opportunity to make money. There isn't anything around us and we have a captive audience with nowhere to go. Analysis will show if it is a go or not. The campus master plan shows a footprint plan of the multipurpose facility.
- Laird – As the facility size changed with the move? How many graduations would have to be planned?
- President – We would probably have to have four graduations to accommodate.
- Tim – What is your plan for the development of a park and the roadways? Will that be our money?
- President – We have discussed all this with the city. They have discussed it with the planning team. They are willing to put resources in. This generates tax dollars. They get revenue from it. I would think we would want them to put in the bridge and the two parks. Then possibly make an annual payment to us to use for any cost. They get that money back in taxes.
- Tim – Would this be eligible for it to be a TIF?
- President – Yes, it is possible.
- Mike asked me to say something about the legislation in regards to funding. ACHE put together a set of peers for each state institution. We didn't get to put any input in. They collected a lot of data and didn't use all of it. They calculated state dollars for FTE. If you were more than 90% away from the average, you received some increase in funding besides 5%. Everyone started at a 5% increase. When I look at the listing top to bottom, I would turn it upside down. We are working to get some

adjustments to it. Our percentage is 5.4%. Institutions with the most economic impact are at the bottom. If you look at the set of peers, one statistic is research expenditures to instructional expenditures. Our average is 1.1. The way you fix that is to reduce research expenditures or increase instructional expenditures. Their analysis is somewhat off to me.

- Jeff – Is this available for our viewing?
- President – Is it on the ACHE website?
- Provost – I honestly don't know.
- Laird – They value teaching skills more than research?
- President – It appears that way.
- Carmen – The schools on the bottom, are they addressing ACHE?
- President- They have given us an after the fact to recommend a new peer group. Impacting ACHE's calculations and recommendations to the Governor is done.

- Commencement is May 2nd at 10:00 and 2:30.

○ **Provost Christine Curtis**

- There will be receptions after both graduations. Mayor Tommy Battle is the morning speaker. Adele Strong is the afternoon speaker. Engineering and business are in the morning. The other colleges are in the afternoon.
- Registration – Remember our students tend to not register after the semester is over. Please encourage them to register. We have several that haven't registered for fall. Let them know you want to see them again.
- We have completed all the workshops on retention and persistence. The committee that has been working on this has compiled a list of suggestions. They have sent this to the Deans and will send out to you. Please look to see if there is anything that you can incorporate in your classes. I think it gives a new opportunity to expand our interaction with students.
- At the board meeting, we had three resolutions before the board for distinguished professors. We have received nominations for the professors. The board approved all three.
- On April 15th we had the faculty and staff awards.
- We have our College of Science Dean has chosen to return to the faculty to teach and research. I am convinced that is his first love. This will take place on May 31st. Dr. Jon Christy will be the interim Dean.
 - Tim – I know, Provost, leave issues have been priority for you. Chapter 9 in handbook addresses leave. Can you give us a timeline for when we will get this back?
 - Provost – Tomorrow. Chapter 9 has benefit after benefit. I have to do a shout out to HR. They have done an outstanding job looking over it to make sure that it is currently correct.
- Mike – As you all know, this is Bob's last time with us. Bob is retiring. We do want to wish him the best.

➤ **Officer/Committee Reports**

- Mike Banish, President
 - Board of Trustees took place. They are going to hold tuition increases for instate students.
 - Tim – Are fees frozen?

- Mike – They didn't mention that.
- Provost – Prior to the board meeting, they have an educational session. I don't attend. The three universities present what they expect to be in the budget. The President presented what his revenues would be. They included the fees. The President asked me last year to create a five year plan. Four of our colleges are in the \$20 range. We asked for increases to get everyone to \$22. Engineering and nursing is in the \$40 range. We got them at the same range. This is has to do with laboratories and demand on the college. For some historic reason, college of science was sitting at \$28. We increased fees about 3-4 years. Science kept struggling. The thought was to get them up to engineering and nursing. The five year plan was to increase the college of science \$4/credit hour each year. The President presented this and an increase to the facility fee. There is no questions and no discussion. We heard this week that they are asking UAB to shift from differential tuition to tuition and fees. Maybe our structure will remain and we can continue with our five year plan.
- Laird – Mike and I met with the President and Provost this morning. I think we had a lively discussion concerning the handbook and policies. I think we were candid with one another. In August we will have revisions to present to the whole group. We have some work to do. We need to work together to help with the collaboration to move with the handbook.
- Carmen Scholz, Past President
 - No report.
- Christina Carmen, Ombudsperson
 - No report.
- Tim Newman, Parliamentarian
 - There are a couple of memos that were issued to the President and President-Elect. I think we need to work to correct them and reissue those.
- Lori Lioce, Governance and Operations Committee Chair
 - Everyone should have received the election results. Big thanks to Ron for helping look those over this morning. The governance committee will be looking at the bylaws.
- David Johnson, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
 - The survey for retention and persistence closed Friday. We are moving to the next step.
 - Carmen – Did you receive from all the Chairs?
 - David – I think we got all but three departments.
- Monica Dillihunt, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Jeff Weimer, Finance and Resource Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Gang Wang, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
 - We are working on the 12 new forms. They will be done by next week. I think we are over 100 right now total.
- Vladimir Florinski, Personnel Committee Chair
 - We have one bill in the committee. We will send you something soon.
- **Academic Misconduct Policy**
 - Tim – Mike asked me to make a flow chart.

- Mike – I have never been through the whole misconduct process.
- Member – My opinion is that you should have gotten through the whole process at one point.
- Tim – I want to walk us through the process and current procedures. Chapter 8.32 starts discussing the process. There is a long list in the handbook of what constitutes as misconduct. Right now if you have a student with an issue, it refers us to the student code of conduct. Under the old process, we are supposed to have a conference with the student and allow them to respond. After that, you could impose a sanction or the process could end. This would be a within the class sanction. If the student isn't satisfied, the student can appeal. You also have an option to follow the student discipline process. This is the student code of conduct. This is the process that happens for this. The sanctions could be from expulsion to a warning. Student Affairs keep up with these offenses and they decide on the sanction.
 - Mike – I would like to introduce the policy for discussion. Jeff seconds.
 - Tim – I have issues with this policy. I think the ones that crafted this should be able to discuss the policy.
 - Laird - Do we have a database to track these issues? I know that we didn't use to.
 - Mike – If they go through this process, it is recorded. It is recorded in the Dean of Students.
 - Harry – My understanding is that it is paper files.
 - Member – When we had Tony, we didn't worry about it much.
 - Monica – When we look at the policy, we had representation from the student body. We wanted plagiarism to be a part of it but not the only thing. We may impose a lighter sanction in our cases, we felt it should be documented somewhere. We looked at other universities to see how they document these. I think the policy was to put something in place quickly to address larger issues. When we put it together, we didn't want everything going to Student Affairs Office.
 - Provost – The Student Affairs is no longer involved in student discipline with academic issues.
 - Mike – UA actually has an officer that it gets reported to. Why didn't we go down that path?
 - Monica – We didn't feel that we had enough infractions to go that far. As we grow, that may be something we look into.
 - Mike – I think that is a smarter way to go. Does Auburn do that?
 - Provost – I don't remember.
 - Mike – I think UA and UAB have a designee does it.
 - Monica – After you dealt with it in the college, the Dean had a place to keep that record.
 - Mike – It is strange because we are in the department and then we jump.
 - Provost – The Provost Office will keep a record of all academic misconduct.
 - Laird – Is there a reason for us to have an awareness if there are academic misconduct and other issues?
 - Tim – I would like to resume where I left off. The proposal here would take away that lateral move. You would have a conference, if the student is in agreement you can impose a sanction. Apparently, if the student doesn't agree, you can't impose the sanction. Was that the intention? I think there is another issue in the same section. I think this is a rather serious issue. I like the student discipline option that is there. As a matter of practice, the Judiciary Officer is contacted when applying for

jobs. I think there is an advantage for our businesses. I think we want to think carefully about that. Do we really want to take away certain sanctions?

- Laird – When it was Tony Morgan she knew the sanctions for certain issues. Does someone have that knowledge now that she has retired? We should have consistency in sanctions.
 - Tim – In some sense the addition of timelines is welcome.
 - Monica – Are you saying the wording “in accordance with the student” is the issue? This is just an editorial issue.
 - Tim – The timelines are welcome. The time is limited for the instructor to respond.
 - Monica – We were just trying to get the process moving and not it linger over semesters
 - Member – The instructor will meet with the student? The student doesn’t respond. I like the abbreviated timeline, I am concerned we may lose the ability to pursue these matters. At what point does the timeline start?
 - Ron – It could be over a break.
 - Monica – We did work to consider that.
 - Laird – Legally, email is the consistent thing for contact.
 - Member – When does the calendar start?
 - Provost – When the email is sent.
 - Member - Then the sanction is imposed?
 - Monica – That is what is intended.
 - Member - I think that language needs to be added.
 - Sophia – Is the Department Chair required in this process?
 - Monica – Yes, the chair is in the loop.
 - Mike – What does the chair do with it?
 - Provost – Send it to the Dean and Academic Affairs.
 - Jeff – The statement we are saying is if we send an email and don’t receive a reply, I can impose a sanction. To what extent does that put a requirement on us to make sure the student knows these policies?
 - Monica – The Chair and Dean have the obligation to let them know as well.
 - Mike – Students sign that they have received the student handbook. On the student side, it is clear that they had to do that.
 - Lori – Will this go in the student handbook once it is approved?
 - Mike – No, it will be online.
 - Monica – I think it needs to be in line with the student handbook.
 - Jeff – I think I would ask that the student handbook say that a policy is established at UAH to handle academic misconduct. By signing this, you agree that you are aware and have read it.
 - Laird – We have to keep timeframe in mind.
 - Monica – We have to keep business days in mind.
 - Tim – I would like to move that this policy be referred back to the committee that created this policy for revisions consistent with senate discussion.
 - Mike – Please those individuals that have engaged in this discussion please send your comments to Monica.
 - Provost – We need this in place for fall.
 - Mike – All in favor of Tim’s motion. Ayes carry.
- Mike – This is the last meeting of this year. Our bylaws say that we are supposed to elect committee chairs. I am going to ask committee chairs to establish your new committee and elect a chair.

➤ Meeting adjourned at 2:14.