

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday August 18,2022**

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) met at 12:50 pm on Thursday August 18, 2022 in SSB 212.

**Attendance:** Joseph Taylor, Carmen Scholz, Carolyn Sanders, Ron Schwertfeger, Tim Newman, Andrei Gandila, Laird Burns, Jeffrey Weimer, Dave Puleo (Provost), Rhonda Gaede (Vice-Provost), John Hakkila (Vice-Provost)

**Absent:** Andrea Word

**Guests:** Finis St. John (Chancellor UA System), Mark Foley (Secretary UA System)

**Administration Reports:** The Vice-Provost explained that Academic Affairs is transitioning to a new Curriculum Management System that would circulate necessary forms electronically and this would make processes of signatures, among other aspects, much more efficient and timely. The Past-President noted that some recent forms relative to this transition are not inclusive of all disciplines on campus yet. The Vice-Provost said she would work to improve these Kuali forms, one of which currently exists for Grade Change procedures. The Vice-Provost noted that other curricular policy forms and procedures would be routed through this process (using Workflow automation process) to improve efficiency. The Vice-Provost noted that Academic Affairs would offer sessions for information or training relative to this new process for the circulation of documents/forms.

The Graduate Dean noted that a revised Graduate student dismissal procedure and appeals process have been placed in the Graduate Catalog. The Dean noted that he still desires input and understands that this procedure is subject to revision. The Graduate School office now employs a records person who can monitor student progress. In the case that the dismissal procedure becomes policy, the FSEC reminded the Graduate School that any policies relative to student dismissal should, per the Policy on Policies, be submitted to the Faculty Senate for comment before adoption as a permanent policy. The Graduate Dean noted that the Graduate School will also use Workflow to clarify the process and render the submission of theses and dissertations more efficient for faculty, students, and Graduate School staff. The Graduate Dean noted, further, that new revised thesis/dissertation templates had been added to the Thesis and Dissertation Manual, currently under revision. These templates will be available to faculty and students soon.

The Chancellor of the University of Alabama System and the UA System Secretary met, explaining the Board of Trustees' interest in proceeding to remove the label of "interim" from Interim President of UAH Dr. Karr's title. The Chancellor expressed confidence in the positive situation in Huntsville and at UAH, that UAH and Huntsville are poised for significant success in the immediate future. The Chancellor asked that the FSEC reach out to the full Senate—and the full Senate to its constituents—to solicit feedback on this move. The Chancellor noted the

Board's concern with the expenses of another large search and the extensive resources investment of faculty and other parties in a search committee process (with so recent a search having been conducted only 3 years ago), but explained, as well, that the Board wanted assurances of campus community support for Dr. Karr's Presidency. The FSEC discussed with the Chancellor the many positive comments heard from faculty and the positive interactions observed between Dr. Karr with students and community members. The FSEC agreed to contact the Chancellor with feedback and recommendations concerning this discussion. The Ombudsperson inquired with the Chancellor concerning the System's commitment to UAH as a fully comprehensive university and the Chancellor responded affirmatively that only comprehensive institutions are truly "great universities." He reiterated the System's support for UAH's comprehensive character and noted his own Humanities background.

**Committee Reports:** No report from Past-President, Parliamentarian, Ombudsperson, Chair of Faculty and Student Development, and Chair of Governance and Operations.

The Chair of Finance and Resources noted that the committee continues to lobby for extensive raises for faculty. A previous number has been noted (4% raise pool) but the chair stated that they continued to ask administration for additional monies given a lack of previous raises and inflation. The Ombudsperson noted that most departments had already submitted merit raise recommendations to their respective deans.

The President explained that he and the Provost discussed the attendance by the Senate President and President-Elect at Deans' Council and Associate Deans' Council meetings in order to foster improved communication within Academic Affairs and between Faculty and Administration. The President inquired with the Provost about an expedited process for reviewing and approving the Faculty Handbook changes proposed by the Faculty Senate over the last several years. The President also discussed with the Provost the numerous Senate resolutions that remain unresponded to by the administration. The President noted to the Executive Committee that Faculty Senate notes would be summative rather than verbatim (as in previous practice). This might encourage more participation from senators whose names would no longer be part of the written record. The President noted that names would only be noted if the senator specifically asked or if the senator introduced a motion or a second to a motion.

**Business:** The FSEC voted unanimously to send to the full Senate comments offered by the Scholastic Affairs Committee on Policies 02.01.56 (Grade Forgiveness) and 02.01.19 (Graduation With Honors). The FSEC voted unanimously to send the following policies to committees listed below:

- Policy 02.01.20 Non-Honors Students in Honors Sections to the Scholastic Affairs Committee
- Policy 05.01.02 Non-Discrimination and Harrassment Complaint Resolution to the Personnel Committee
- Policy 01.02.03 Student Athlete Name, Image, and Likeness Compensation to Faculty and Student Development

The FSEC voted unanimously to approve the agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting on Thursday August 25, 2022 in Morton Hall 147. The meeting adjourned by vote at 2:25 pm.