FACULTY SENATE
MEETING #610 AGENDA
CHAN Auditorium
THURSDAY, December 10, 2020
12:50 PM to 2:20 PM

Call to Order

1. Approve Faculty Senate Meeting #609 Minutes from November 19, 2020
2. Accept Special FSEC Report from December 3, 2020
3. Administrative Reports
4. Officer and Committee Reports
   - President Tim Newman
   - President-Elect Carmen Scholz
   - Past-President Laird Burns
   - Parliamentarian Mike Banish
   - Ombudsperson Officer Carolyn Sanders
   - Governance and Operations Committee Chair Kader Frendi
   - Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair:
     - Azita Amiri 8/20;10/20;12/20;2/21;4/21;6/21;8/21
     - Paul Whitehead 9/20;11/20;1/21;3/21;5/21;7/21
   - Finance and Resources Committee Chair Jeff Weimer
   - Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair Emil Jovanov
   - Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair Kwaku Gyasi
   - Personnel Committee Chair Mike Banish
5. University Committee Reports
6. Senate Bill 442 Shared Governance Sharing – VP Search Process
7. Senate Bill 443 Faculty Handbook Chapter 5 Revision

Adjourn

Proxies for Senate meetings must be a Senate-eligible individual from the same academic unit. No individual may carry more than one proxy.
PLEASE SEND PROXIES TO LAUREN BAKER: facsen@uah.edu
Faculty Senate Bill 443: 
Faculty Handbook Chapter 5 Revision

History: From Senate Research Policy Negotiating Team (T. Newman, C. Scholz) following negotiated agreement of Jan. 7, 2020 with Provost Curtis and V.P.-R.E.D. Lindquist
At FSEC Feb. 13, 2020 for First Reading; Passed First Reading that day
At Faculty Senate Nov. 19, 2020, for Second Reading

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate has received a rejection of its proposed Faculty Handbook Chapter 5 language from the Administration, and

WHEREAS, at a negotiation session on Jan. 7, 2020, attended by Senate President Laird Burns, Provost Christine Curtis, Vice President for Research and Economic Development Robert Lindquist, and the proposers of this Senate Action, the two items causing Administration rejection were bridged by the attendees, and

WHEREAS, a new revision to Chapter 5 that includes the Jan. 7 session-agreed items has been prepared,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Chapter 5 text that follows be considered approved by the UAH Faculty Senate as the new Chapter 5 of the UAH Faculty Handbook, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That upon final Senate approval and notice from the Administration of its concurring approval of this resolution, that the Chapter 5 text that follows be adopted as the new Chapter 5 of the UAH Faculty Handbook, and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That the Senate officers shall update the Faculty Senate web page with the revised Chapter 5 that follows, provided both final Senate approval and Administration notice of concurring approval of this resolution have been received.

[N.B.: The text of Chapter 5 which follows was supplied by the Office of the Provost. The change bars in it are changes from the prior Senate action on Chapter 5, not changes from the currently in-force version of Chapter 5.]
5. Research Organization

5.1. Introduction

Scholarly endeavors, research, intellectual property development within a discipline, and creative activities (henceforth, called “research”) are basic missions of the University. The University expects faculty members to conduct research and produce scholarly work, as broadly defined within the faculty member’s discipline. Peer-reviewed research and scholarship play an important role for faculty in questions of promotion, tenure, and compensation review. It is the responsibility of the Office of the Vice-President of Research and Economic Development working with the Provost and Executive Vice-President of Academic Affairs to assist faculty in identifying and seeking external and internal funding, when such funding is available.

The content and conduct of research and scholarship are primarily the responsibility of the faculty and research staff. The guidance of students, at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, in research and scholarly endeavors, is considered an important part of faculty responsibilities.

The senior administration of the University will facilitate the success of faculty-led efforts by encouraging, assisting, recognizing, and rewarding research-related endeavors. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development (VPR ED) is charged with providing leadership and support of research and economic development throughout the University. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development also fosters the development of working relationships with local, state, and federal governments, as well as with business and industry.

5.2. Research Council

The Research Council provides a forum for the interchange of information on research activities of broad interest, advises on long-term collaborative research venture developments, and reviews recommendations by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development for the creation, continuation and discontinuance of research units. The Research Council annually reviews the Research Centers for sound management and performance, in addition to advising on the performance of research administration units and research-support operations. The Research Council is comprised of representatives of the research units appointed by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the deans of schools and colleges, and two
faculty representatives elected by the Faculty Senate. The Research Council is chaired by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (or an Associate Vice President in the Vice President’s absence), who provides, at a minimum, a written Annual Report on the University’s research performance to the University community. The Research Council will meet at least twice a semester during the academic year and at least once during the summer semester.

5.3. Organized Research Administration

The administration of research contracts and grants is carried out under the direction of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and the Associate Vice President for Contracts and Grants. Several offices, institutes, centers, consortia, and laboratories report to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development. An organizational chart is available from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

5.3.1. Sponsored Programs Support Offices

The Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development provides pre-award and contractual post-award services in support of sponsored research programs primarily through three offices; The Office of Proposal Development (OPD), The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP), and Contracts and Grants Accounting (C&G). The Office of Proposal Development is—required responsible for—to aiding UAH faculty in academic departments and staff in research centers to identify research opportunities, assist with large-scale proposals involving significant effort and multiple collaborators, manage the limited submission proposals process, and conduct proposal development training for faculty and staff. The Office of Proposal Development will assist every faculty member and research center staff member who request assistance to the extent possible within the constraints of available resources.

The Office of Sponsored Programs assists faculty and research staff in the submission of proposals and the management of awards. The Office of Sponsored Programs will have contracts and grants specialists to assist the UAH colleges and research centers. Pre-award assistance may include the identification of potential sponsors and the preparation of the non-technical portions of proposals (e.g., budget preparation and the business/management aspects). The Office of Sponsored Programs staff assists principal investigators in complying with the policies and procedures of the University and the external sponsor. It is the responsibility of this office to review all proposals, as well as to negotiate changes in the terms and conditions of existing research programs. The technical content of proposals for contracts and grants is the prerogative and responsibility of the faculty and appropriate research staff.

After a contract or grant is awarded, the Offices of Sponsored Programs and Contracts and Grants Accounting staff provide post-award contract administration services, in accordance with sponsor policies and procedures, and assist the principal investigator
in resolving administrative problems related to the project. The Offices of Sponsored Programs and Contracts and Grants Accounting work closely with the Associate Vice President for Contracts and Grants to ensure that contract and grant work is accomplished in accordance with the rules and regulations of the sponsor.

For post award contract and grant administration, the Office of Contracts and Grants Accounting, in a collaborate effort with the Office of Sponsored Programs and Contracts, will support principal investigators in realigning the awarded proposal budget into a working budget for the duration of the proposal or contract. The working budget will account for changes in personnel salary and benefit distributions, and for revised scientific approaches. The Office of Contracts and Grants Accounting will provide periodic updates, depending on the contract or grant length, to the principal investigator of the working budget. The Office of Contracts and Grants Accounting will provide Budget Analyst support for departments and colleges that do not have a specific Budget Analyst for contract and grants. The Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development assists faculty and staff by providing training, templates and tools on preparing proposal budgets, developing working budgets from proposal budgets, analyzing and updating budgets, and monitoring and closing out budgets.

5.3.2. Technology Commercialization and Intellectual Property - Office of Technology Commercialization

UAH encourages the commercial development of intellectual property, including patents, copyrights, and trademarks, that will benefit the public as well as the faculty and staff of the University. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development, acting through the Office of Technology Commercialization, has general responsibility for the evaluation of inventions in which the University has an interest. Rule 509, Patent Policy, of The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama and established UAH policies set forth the procedures to be followed when an employee or student develops inventions or copyrightable material, as well as the guidelines for distributing the revenue from such intellectual property to the employee and the University. (Appendices G and H contain details on the Patent Policy and the Copyright Policy)

In accordance with Board Rule 509 (or similar Board Rule passed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama), “any invention or discovery (1) which is the result of research carried out by or under the direction of an employee of a campus of the University and/or having the costs thereof paid from funds provided by, under the control of or administered by a campus of the University, or (2) which is made by an employee of a campus of the University and which relates to the employee’s field of work, or (3) which has been developed in whole or in part by the utilization of resources or facilities belonging to a campus of the University, shall be the property of the applicable campus of the University. The applicability of the above stated criteria to any invention or discovery will be determined at the sole discretion of the President of the respective campus of the University or his/her designee.”
Board Rule 509 further states that “as a condition of their employment or continued employment by or enrollment at a campus of the University, each faculty member, employee and student agrees that he/she is contractually bound by this patent policy as implemented by the respective campuses of the University and shall report to” the officer designated for that purpose by the President of the campus “any invention or discovery which such faculty member, employee or student has conceived, discovered, developed and/or reduced to practice by them or under their direction at any time following their initial appointment by, employment by, or enrollment with that campus of the University.”

5.3.3. Security - Office of Research Security

The Office of Research Security reports to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and is responsible for overseeing the protection of research-related classified projects and artifacts, export control enforcement, training for UAH faculty and staff related to research security and export control laws enforced by the Department of State through its International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and by the Department of Commerce through its Export Administration Regulations (EAR), advising faculty and staff on matters of research security, and maintenance of security clearances of UAH employees and students. The Office of Research Security serves as the liaison between UAH and external government organizations with respect to security and export control related concerns.

5.3.5 Environmental Health and Safety - Office of Environmental Health and Safety

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety is a professional advisory and service-oriented office that promotes occupational and facilities safety and environmental stewardship in support of the University mission. This office reports to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and is responsible for safety training, hazardous/regulated waste pickup, laboratory inspections, and chemical disposal.

5.4. Internal Support

The Vice President for Research and Economic Development provides a variety of internal grant programs for advancement of faculty research capabilities in all academic disciplines including a program that focuses on junior faculty research and creative activities. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development announces, University-wide, such opportunities to all faculty and staff and is responsible for evaluating responses and making awards.

Awards in internal grant programs offered by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development are made by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OVPRED) based on a review process established by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development. One of the programs focuses on junior faculty research and creative activity. The Vice President for Research and
Economic Development makes award decisions based on recommendations from a review committee that in general includes one senior faculty member from each of the colleges or schools that has tenured faculty members as well as representatives from the research centers and faculty senate. The faculty committee member for a college or school is appointed by the college or school's dean. Guidelines on eligibility, content and format of the proposal submissions will be published by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

5.5. Research Units (Institutes, Laboratories, Centers and Consortia)

Research units may be formed within colleges or as separate entities with University resources beyond and above those available to chairs and deans. A consortium will typically have strong industrial participation in its operation as well as in allocation of resources. Research units report either through a dean or directly to a Vice President. The reporting route will be established at the initiation of a research unit.

At the end of each fiscal year, research units will provide to the responsible administrator information on research achievements, publications, interaction with faculty and students, teaching provided by center personnel, sponsored research funding, cooperation and interaction between colleges and research units, and short-term as well as long-term goals. These reports will be available University wide.

5.6. Establishment, Review, and Discontinuance of Research Units

Proposals for new research units are submitted through the appropriate chairs and deans, or directors, to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development or to the appropriate vice president prior to submission to any approving authority and/or potential sponsors. Proposals must include the following: a mission statement for the proposed research unit; a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of establishing the unit, including the potential impact on the University's academic and research programs; and a detailed five-year plan outlining the space, equipment, and budgetary resources required together with existing and potential funding sources. All proposals for establishment or discontinuance must conform to the Board of Trustees Board Rule 503 Academic, Research, Service, and Administrative Units.

Proposals for new research units are reviewed by an ad hoc committee appointed by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development or the vice president to which the research center will report and consisting of faculty of the relevant college(s) involved as well as members representing the existing research units. The recommendations of this review committee are presented to the Research Council for its consideration and recommendations. The recommendations of the ad hoc review committee along with the recommendations of the Research Council are submitted to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, who will approve or disapprove the proposal after consultation and agreement with the Provost and the President.

A new research unit may require approval by The Board of Trustees of The University of
Alabama according to Board Rule 503 (or similar Board Rule passed by The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama), Academic, Research, Service, and Administrative Units:

A. The establishment of new academic, research, service, and administrative units, including but not limited to, departments, divisions, schools, colleges, centers, and institutes, must be submitted for review and approval to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees.

B. The institutions of The University of Alabama System are required to submit requests for new academic, research, service, and administrative units to the Chancellor for review and approval. Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor, the new academic, research, service, and administrative units request will be submitted to The Board of Trustees for final approval.

C. The institution must notify the Board, as an approval item, of any internal changes that are reasonable extensions or alterations of existing academic, research, service, and administrative units including organizational changes.

Existing centers and institutes are reviewed annually for fiscally sound management and performance. The performance and relevance of each research unit are also comprehensively reviewed at least every five years, following a procedure developed by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and approved by the President. Findings and recommendations are submitted to the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, who decides on continuation or discontinuance after consultation and agreement with the Provost and the President. In accordance with Board Rule 503 (IV), when a decision to discontinue a center or institute is made, the President notifies the Chancellor who recommends the center’s or institute’s closure to The Board of Trustees for its approval. A report of the findings is made accessible campus-wide.

5.7. Research Unit Personnel

Directors of research units are appointed by the Vice President for Research and Economic Development with the concurrence of the Provost and the President. Directors must have demonstrated national research leadership, as appropriate to the research unit mission, and have the appropriate terminal degree or equivalent experience. In the interest of an optimal interaction with faculty, it is desirable that research unit directors have academic experience. Except in the most unusual of circumstances, center directors will have experience commensurate with someone meriting appointment as an associate (or full) professor. Research Center Directors may, but do not need to have, an academic appointment. The academic appointment process is outlined in Chapter 7. Research Center Directors will be reviewed annually. In the interest of promoting cooperation and interaction between colleges and research units, a large percentage of the senior research staff employed by research units should
be eligible for faculty appointments. Research staff may also be appointed as research faculty within a department. Details on the research faculty appointment process are in Chapter 7.
Faculty Senate Bill 442:  
Shared Governance Requires Sharing - VP Search Process

History: At FSEC February 13, 2020 for First Reading; Passed First Reading that Day 
On Senate Agenda for Second Reading, Nov. 19, 2020

WHEREAS, shared governance is a fundamental tenet of university life, and

WHEREAS, the UAH Faculty Senate had one representative on the recent VP for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (“VP-DEI”) search, and

WHEREAS, too little effort was made by the search Chair to make the on-campus candidates available to the Faculty, and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the said search sent forward a committee report on the finalist visits to the University President without consulting all members of said committee, and

WHEREAS, the Senate representative on said committee was NOT one who was consulted, and

WHEREAS, Senators have expressed prior concern that VP searches have concluded without the consideration of input from Senate members about the finalists’ on-campus visits, and

WHEREAS, a permanent VP-DEI has now been named with the result thus a search that concluded without any Faculty Senate input about the finalists’ on-campus visits

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The UAH Faculty Senate states its objection to the oversight of said search process, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED
That upon UAH Faculty Senate passage of this Resolution, that the UAH Faculty Senate directs the Faculty Senate President to communicate its objections to the UAH President, and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED
That upon Senate passage of this Resolution, that the Faculty Senate President and the President-Elect publish this resolution upon the official records of the UAH Faculty Senate.
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE MEETING  
December 3, 2020  
12:50 P.M. to 2:20 P.M. OKT N142

Present: Emil Jovanov, Tim Newman, Gwaku Gyasi, Mike Banish, Kader Frendi, Laird Burns, Carmen Scholz, Carolyn Sanders, Aziti Amiri, Jeff Weimer

Zoom Remote Participants: Ex-Officio: Provost Christine Curtis; Guest: President Darren Dawson

➢ Faculty Senate President Tim Newman called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.
➢ Meeting Review:
  o Summer School Operations Policy moved to Special FSEC meeting 12/17/20.
➢ Administrative Reports
  o President Dawson
    ▪ Facility report hasn’t changed from the last one.
    ▪ We had the in state tuition pilot program approved at the BOT meeting. We will go back through applications and let those know from Tennessee the changes. We will update the website.
    ▪ When they did the bond for the state, they also had a premium on the bond. They did several projects. They funded the forensic laboratory and medical facility. That will be constructed on the campus.
  o Provost Christine Curtis
    ▪ Classes end tomorrow. Finals start on the 7th. On the 14th, we will have our virtual commencement. We will start at 2 PM. The virtual commencement will be available to the students at the time and for a year. They will also stream through all the names. Some names will have a statement made by the student with a picture. That was optional to the students. They can search their name without having to go through all 2,000 names.
    ▪ We are asking all faculty, advisors, deans, and associate deans to encourage everyone to register for spring. We are 5.3% lower for undergraduate. We are up on graduate students. School starts on the 13th of January. The university is open on the 4th.
    ▪ If you want plexi glass next semester, please contact facilities.
    ▪ We are sending out a letter to faculty tomorrow with important updates. There will be the pass/withdraw option.
    ▪ The ETL is encouraging that the faculty include a way for the student to contact them in case of the need of emergency contact. This would include any shut downs. This is just a contingency plan. There are several suggestions given on their website.
    ▪ We don’t really know what will happen between now and January 13th. If we are back on campus and working well in regards to COVID, it will be important for us to have hybrid classes in class. We need hybrid to be truly hybrid. The students need to be able to come to class and see their professors. I have listed the safety rules for
spring semester. There will be no re-entry testing for faculty and students. Residence students and athletes will have to be tested. We all will still have to do our health check and wear face coverings. All surfaces have to be disinfected before and after each use. Of course personal hygiene still remains important. If you are called upon for a sentinel testing, please participate.

- The contingency plans for spring semester are the following:
  - On January 6th, we will let you know if we are 100% online or will open as normal. We don’t know at this point what the decision will be. It will be for a two week period, then it will be reassessed. On January 20th, we will notify if we will stop online or it will be another two weeks. It will continue every two weeks on the Wednesday.
  - I know it has been extremely frustrating this week for many including students, faculty, and staff. Advanced warning would have been helpful if we thought about it. I take full responsibility on that oversight. I don’t know what they could have done differently. We were notified of CARES funds very late in September. By law, all work had to be completed by December 30th. Large portions had to go out for bid. The first part of November bids starting coming in, then requisitions had to be put in. As equipment came in, we only have two people in academic technologies, we were in a situation we paid for the $1.336M that we spent or we could put out a call to campus. I chose to ask our people to respond. We had 15 people step up to help install the equipment. They started the week of Thanksgiving. I realize it is unacceptable but it is also unacceptable to lose $1.336M. People gave up their Thanksgiving week and some will their Christmas holiday. I apologize for the inconvenience.

- Kader – Regarding the plexi glass, we still don’t know the rooms we will be in for the spring. Should we just do the big classrooms? Regarding hybrid, we have to be in the classroom, some start in the class and they migrate to online. You may end up with two in class. Do we have to force this or can they migrate?

- Provost – I would encourage you to set up the classroom that makes them want to be there. We can’t control everything they do. We don’t know their reasons for migrating. As far as plexi glass, we surveyed faculty. Many didn’t want the plexi glass. That is why we didn’t do it in the summer. At this point, when you learn what class you will be in then put in the work order. I will notify Greg that there may be late request. The Provost office has a number of face shields and mask still available. We will distribute those to the colleges the first of January.

- Jeff – I recognize the daunting task you have had to confront with the conversion and updates for the programs. One thought if there is an opportunity to tap into the student body to see if they want to do this part time and pick up some additional funds. I don’t know if you have engaged the students.

- Provost – The academic technology usually have students they employ. They did have some this semester. Most of them have disappeared due to finals. Hopefully some will come back but some
may have gone home. We have used the students and their capabilities.

- Mike – I would like to ask what the faculty input was for only having re-entry testing for resident students and athletes.
- Provost – The same as our input. We didn’t have much input, there isn’t funding for it. The system had to make the decision. Basically, there is no funding. The CARES Act Fund money ends December 30th. What choice do we have? The decision was to continue with sentinel testing. It identifies hot spots. Re-entry testing is a snapshot. UAB is the experts. They felt if we had to choose because of funding, the better choice was sentinel testing. UAB didn’t do re-entry testing in the fall, only sentinel testing. The system made the decision based on the experts.

- Mike – So we complain to the system?
- Provost – If you want to be tested, you can go to your medical provider. It is just a snapshot. That was the complaint of re-entry testing. It doesn’t mean that after my test, I won’t contract the disease. Sentinel monitors a weekly basis.

- Mike – President Dawson, my next comment is directed to you. Faculty here are fairly resilient and resourceful. It makes us look really bad as an institution to our students. We ask what the faculty input was and we know that was zero. I was a part of your search committee. I have been on many search committees. We always hear what you are going to do about stove piping. We hear a decision made on the third floor with no input from faculty and was an unmitigated failure. We know there was no communication and the faculty/staff are expected to pick up the pieces. You have been President for over a year and we need to stop the stove piping that goes on this campus.

- Carmen – I think it is an understatement to say the faculty have been stressed to the max these last two semesters. They have worked very hard. I spoke with someone who had 24 hours of zoom meetings the week before Thanksgiving. Many students work and request zoom meetings at 8-9PM. We have talked before in the budget committee and hear there is no way for a raise. I would like to employ you, President Dawson, for Christmas bonuses. I think they deserve that option.

- President – Thanks for the input. I will speak with the Chancellor tomorrow. That would have to be approved by the board and we would have to find the money.

- Carmen – If I understand, the conversation with Dr. Barre during the summer painted a promising picture of the institution financially. That is where I derived the thought from.

- President – On a scale 1 to 10, we aren’t at either end of the spectrum. We are somewhere in the middle. Our enrollment did not go up this year. We have had a lot of additional expenses. We haven't had tuition increases and the state increase was minimal.
Our revenues aren’t going up. We can look at it, but I wouldn’t hold my breath.

- Carolyn – Provost, I am curious about enrollment for next semester. Do you know where we are on that in comparison to last semester at this time?
- Provost – Yes, we are down 5.35% undergraduate and up in graduate.

**Officer/Committee Report**

- Tim Newman, President
  - A couple of issues that need to be resolved this meeting, is the mode of our meeting next week. It is my decision to make, but there is a standard we have to reach. If we aren’t going to meet in person, we have to have a doable agenda. We can’t put 10-12 items on the agenda. The advice is not to go online. The other piece is to keep the meeting limited to a small number of voting members. Thirdly, I was advised to keep the agenda small and non-controversial. I looked up COVID numbers today, relatively speaking Madison County is a fairly low incident county. The lethality rate has been better than other counties. Six cases per every thousand is a lot. We have to make the decision on the meeting.

- Carmen Scholz, President-Elect
  - No report.

- Laird Burns, Past President
  - No report. I have one question – while you were talking about online/in person meeting, you cut out. Could you repeat your decision?
  - Tim – I haven’t decided.

- Mike Banish, Parliamentarian
  - No report.

- Carolyn Sanders, Ombudsperson
  - No report.

- Kader Frendi, Governance and Operations Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Azita Amiri, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Jeff Weimer, Finance and Resource Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Emil Jovanov, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Gwaku Gyasi, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
  - We looked at Summer School Operations most members disliked the prorated salary. It needs to be balanced by department. Small classes must be necessary and justified as contributing to graduation requirements. Bill 457, the concern is too narrow and limited in scope. The case is still in federal court. Whatever we say won’t change what the court decides. We felt that we couldn’t ask for a new contract for the person because it will depend on the court decision. We also felt that the physics may or may not need a new instructor at this time.
  - Laird – Summer School Operations, I know we had to come up with a dollar number. The Provost mentioned it could get rich if we didn’t come up with a number. We came up with $17,500 as the cap. There is more than
enough revenue to cover that cost and put money into the Provost academic account and college account.

- Carolyn – The number was $17,500?
- Carmen – If you teach in the summer with 15 students or 5 students, the amount work is almost identical. The exams to grade is smaller but preparing the material is still the same amount of work. There are still a small number of students that need these classes. Two reasons are the work is the same and shouldn’t be used to guide professors who can’t say no to the assignment.
- Tim – I have a comment from someone. If someone is grading writing paper, one paper is one hour work. There could be up to 8 papers from semester. There is a differential amount of work among disciplines. On 457, does your committee think this group should modify the bill to address your committees concern?
- Gwaku – No, we feel this bill isn’t relevant at this time.
- Mike - One question from a committee member about Summer School Operations was what numbers are we talking about? How many courses? What is typical numbers of how we have been operating? I don’t know classes taught below the minimum. What are we talking about here? Could you request that information?
- Gwaku – I believe the number is 15.
- Tim – Is there a benchmark in other colleges?
- Laird – I would advocate not postponing and advocate making max $17,500. I prefer to move to senate so we can get it to administration.
- Carolyn – The main point I would make is that in our college we have colleagues that makes less than $75,000. My greatest concern is class enrollment dictating what we will get paid. Laird concerns is raising the max.
- Tim – The grading is not the same. There is a huge difference in the number of students.
- Carmen – We want to maintain quality standards in our summer school and someone not do it on the prorated side.
- Tim – I am hearing a lot of objections on the proration. We may want to think about language you want to use. The senators think we should not do our budgeting for summer on a single class basis but on a broader basis.
- Jeff – The differences each college takes, it seems we are letting the college set the enrollment. We have a consistent policy or we allow the colleges to make the policies in terms of enrollment and pay scale.
Mike – We can’t do that. The faculty handbook specifies. This requires a change in the faculty handbook. This specifies what the rate of pay is for the course. This could be guidance if the course is a go or not. The pay part needs to come out of here and the guidance on the class. Why would we have a small class? It would be for a core group of students who need to graduate. The pay part is going against the faculty handbook. That just needs to come out altogether.

Jeff – I am understanding the recommendation is to strike the financial side on this policy?

Laird – Where is it handled? $7,500 is prorated. We produce the most cash flow in the university.

Mike – That doesn’t matter as far as the handbook goes.

Tim – The question with this is do you think we can get language that is comfortable with our remaining time? Send to senate?

Mike – This needs to be delayed. We want the data of what the number of courses are. We do need time to go through it and edit it.

Carolyn – Summer School decisions are in the process of being made now. This will impact the decision of my college on whether they teach or not. I agree we need more data, but it will get complicated if it gets pushed to spring.

Tim – We could call a special senate meeting on December 17th to tackle only this.

Jeff – Do you feel faculty are really going to pay attention to this over their break or when they come back in January?

Carolyn – I don’t know exactly. I don’t know when Chairs are asked to submit summer schedules. If it gets pushed further, that’s a problem.

Carmen – I like the idea of a special meeting. We need time to think. Ideally, we would come with a proposal of new language.

Jeff – I can support that also.

Carolyn – What is the likelihood of quorum?

Tim – I have no idea? We could have an FSEC meeting on the 17th the presented to full senate in January. Can I have a motion to defer on January 17th? Jeff seconds. Ayes carry.

Jeff – Do we need to ask for an extension?

Tim – I will do that regardless. I strongly agree with Carolyn. We have to get this wrapped up soon.

Proposed Master Degrees:

Tim – The main question are is there anything that needs to be added to list and second, anything that needs to be removed.

Carolyn – How were these decisions made?

Tim – A call went out to Deans to canvas their units for possible candidates. I don’t know if this is all of them.

Provost – There is one that is not on there. GIS Certification in the College of Science, that is additional. I didn’t take anything off. These were suggested by the Deans of the Colleges. Many said they talked with their Chairs. I only added the one about education.

Carmen – Is it a necessity that they have to be online?

Provost – Nearly entirely online. The nursing one is due to clinicals. You have to think who the audience is. People taking them are increasing their knowledge or a career betterment. They can’t really leave their site to come to class. They need the opportunity to continue their class regardless of location.

Tim – I have received a number of concerns from faculty on delivering these with limited resources. I want to highlight one in particular. I think we have an enormous opportunity in technical writing. They are placing 80% of their students in Research Park. We lost a faculty
member to a company. The number of applications are growing. 2014 English lost nine people, two have been hired. I have expressed continuously they are in need of help. Laird, I see Supply Chain on there.

- Carmen – I don’t see how we can add or delete from list if they have come from departments.
- Tim – There may be some programs that you may have some insight in. If you are hearing that we need a degree in “X”.
- Laird – Business school is fine with that list.
- Tim – I think we are setting the faculty up for failure with the three in AHSS by increasing the load on a few faculty. Is there a motion to delegate someone to write a FSEC report?
- Carolyn – I would like to know what the process was. It would be nice to know from the departments what the process was and how they were involved in the decision making.
- Tim – Azita moved to delegate.
- Jeff – I motion that Tim, our President, put together a report with the concerns. Carolyn seconds.
- Tim – All in favor. Ayes carry.

➤ Tim – We need to vote on the agenda for faculty senate meeting. Can I have motion on deferring Bill 457 to Personnel? Carolyn moves. Carmen seconds. Ayes carry. Should we go in person or online for the meeting next week?

- Jeff – Could we motion to have a poll to see who would show up in person?
- Tim – I hear that some will go if they absolutely have too, some are nervous due to numbers, some are quarantining due to travel. Which of these are we going to consider if we are online? We don’t need anything controversial either. If anybody’s connection goes down, I am supposed to pause things. If everyone’s camera is on, and you disappear, I will be able to see that. I am supposed to stop the debate if there is a lag in audio. That is why I don’t want something that will cause a large debate. I think we need to set three items.
- Jeff – 442 was at the FSEC almost a year ago. I can’t recall if there was controversy. I would say that it needs to get done.
- Tim – Chapter 5 needs to get done and didn’t have controversy.
- Jeff – 442?
- Carmen – I think the topic is so out dated, it is almost meaningless. There shouldn’t be controversy.
- Jeff – I would suggest 442 and 443. We could add 444.
- Tim – I would agree if we were in person.
- Jeff motions to extend five minutes. Gwaku seconds. Ayes carry.
- Tim – My guess is there may some controversy on Bill 446. Gwaku has moved that agenda be 442, 443, and 446. All in favor. Ayes carry.
- Motion to adjourn Kader, Jeff seconds. Ayes carry.

➤ Meeting adjourned at 2:49PM
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 19, 2020
12:50 P.M.
Chan Auditorium


Absent with Proxy: Sophia Marinova, Melissa Foster, Andrea Word, Azita Amiri

Absent without Proxy: David Allen, Jeremy Fischer, Abdul Salman, Seong-Moo Yoo, Emil Jovanov, John Mecikalski, Carolyn Sanders


➢ Faculty Senate President Tim Newman called the meeting to order at 12:49 pm.
➢ Meeting Review:
  o NCSARA passed.
  o Bill 440 passed third reading.
  o Electronic Signatures passed second reading.
  o Bill 448 passed second reading.
  o Communicable Disease Policy passes.
  o Bill 456 passes second reading.
  o Bill 441 passes second reading.
➢ Approve Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 608. Mike Banish moves. Jerome Baudry seconds. Ayes carry.
➢ Administrative Reports
  o President Darren Dawson
    ▪ We are working out a few things with Morton. Spragins is scheduled to end on February 2021. Beville Cooling Tower project will be done by December 21, 2020. Shelby Center Exterior will start around March. The Greenway is still moving forward. We received approval from the board. Campus IT Data Center is continuing on schedule. The Cyber Security Lab is still moving forward and complete summer 2021.
    ▪ We have meetings planned for the Budget and Planning Advisory Council, Campus Planning, and Financial Aid Committee.
      • Candice – I did sentinel testing earlier this week. I heard there would be re-entry testing for everyone for spring. Is that true?
• President – There will be some re-entry. Right now it is planned only for clinical faculty in nursing and residence hall student. Athletes are tested once a week and will still continue to be tested.

  • Provost Christine Curtis
    ▪ We are continuing with our Dean search for the College of Science. When we hire a faculty member at the rank of professor, we go through the tenure process. We hope to have this concluded early in December. If everything works out, the candidate will be with us early January. The committee got started on the fifth year review for Dean Greene in the College of Business.
    ▪ I understand you will look at a number of policies. I appreciate that.
    ▪ You saw in the notice yesterday, we will not have a live commencement. The numbers in Madison County are very concerning. The city officials are extremely concerned about Huntsville and Madison County. With due amount of caution, it seems more cautious to not have commencement. We were able to work with a company that works with us on live commencements. They do live commencements as well. We will have short welcomes, a presentation by the President, then the conferral of degrees. Each student will have their name, degree, and by choice a picture and comment. Those slides will be searchable for the students. They can zero in on theirs and send to family and friends. We plan to have commencement on December 14th. It will be scheduled at a time so that friends, family, and graduates can gather together. Those students that want to come back and have a live ceremony, when we can, they will be invited and welcomed to do so.
    ▪ Tomorrow is the last day for in person classes. The week of Thanksgiving, we don’t have classes.
    ▪ Classes will start on January 13th. There will be sentinel testing for the campus during the first two weeks. This will be heavy testing. There won’t be any requirement for re-entry testing at this time for faculty and staff.
    ▪ I mentioned to you in a memo that the facility division has offered to place plexiglass around lecterns. Submit a work order for your classroom.
    ▪ The ACT Test Optional Pilot is underway. It was accepted by the BOT.
    ▪ The other announcement I sent out to you was the Expectation and Enforcement Notice has been changed. We had very rigorous violations. This doesn’t relax our requirements of social distancing, mask, health check every three days. All these things are our personal responsibility to each other. If the violations are too occur they will be handled under the staff handbook and the faculty handbook. I was thankful to the system that they decided we follow our handbooks versus the process they imposed on us.
    ▪ Pass/Withdrawal for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. The instructions have been sent out to the students. If it is required for a prerequisite, their grade will be known. Faculty will be able to get those grades through their department office. The question was asked about withdrawals, do they count. Yes, they count. We are extending the withdrawal past the grades for fall and spring semester. It shows on the transcript. It has no other meaning than it was a withdrawal. If your college allows only a number of withdrawals, it counts. There was a question about an Argos report. There really won’t be any need for that.
    ▪ Dr. Dawson has been working with all of us to increase our effectiveness and abilities to serve our community. One thing that he has noticed is many other
universities are increasing their graduate enrollment. University of Alabama is bragging about their increased enrollment and diversity in graduate school. One of things we can do is a professional masters. We are going to take the opportunity to take the position of the Dean of the Graduate School and International Services into a new Associate Provost position. We are setting up a new office that will be an advocate office for undergraduate students. The associate provost will be responsible for academic quality and academic integrity of the graduate and international programs. Brent Wren will focus his efforts to get the office established and the program underway.

- Dr. Berkowitz will be retiring January 1. Dr. Sean Lane has agreed to serve as the Acting Associate Provost. We will start the search for associate provost soon. We are in the process of forming the committee. Dr. Lane will be setting up a working group. I am asking for faculty senate representation.

- There is a listing of proposed master degrees that the Deans have put together for enhanced marketing. I have asked the Graduate Council for their input and I am asking for yours. If you can think of any additional, please send them my way. I am wanting this by December 14th.

- I listed some summaries of the student and faculty surveys for your reading.
  - Harry – One question is for the virtual graduation, will we have videos for students to see and a commencement speaker?
  - Provost – There will not be a commencement speaker. We are keeping this simple and direct. I will be giving a few words of congratulations. We will name the top scholars and Dr. Dawson will say a few words. The company will put the name and degree of every graduate from spring, summer, and fall. The student can add in a photo and comment. The company can put that in a stream. We will have a video of the alma mater. It is going to be simple but plan for it be very meaningful. I think the conferral of the degrees is the most important we can do. We will ask the student to stand even amongst their family.
  - Harry – Is it free?
  - Provost – Yes.
  - Harry – For those doing hybrid classes, would we want a second screen? Was there a decision made?
  - Provost – At this point, we received $1.336M as cares money. It was designated for remote learning. We received information in late September, decisions were made in early October. ETL had started sending our bids and requisitions that equipment is starting to come in. It all has to be installed by December 30th. Those monitors would be in that batch. We have put a call out to the colleges, IT, library for volunteers to help install these monitors. We do have a contractor but they have limited people and they can’t get it done in time. We hope we receive everything in our order.
  - Harry – Thank you for that effort. A class I teach has offered to create a new survey to make it a little better. Can we receive the spreadsheet, info to create this?
  - Provost – That would be great.
  - George – I had a follow up question on graduate school reorganization. I was wondering what thoughts are being put into recruitment.
• Provost – I think that will be part of the working groups effort. Other institutions have put effort to bring in researchers. I am going to ask the acting provost to include that in the working group. I believe that we can do a better job than what we do now. I think it is to be answered. I have a model in mind, but I don’t know if it is the best for now.

➢ Officer/Committee Reports
  o Tim Newman, President
    ▪ There are ballots at the front. If you would hold onto those. The President-Elect would like to talk about the Governance and Senate Operations Committee. We vote on four and the VP for Research will select two names. I want to mention the Equal Opportunity Advisory Group. The President elects that person. We want to give the President an idea of who we would like to be considered. There are two other vacancies.
    ▪ I want to thank the Provost for lobbying and lessening the penalties.
    ▪ There are nine items on the agenda. That is not the complete the agenda. There are five other bills on deck from February/March. There are some on the FSEC report that aren’t before you today because of the backlog.
    ▪ The reorganization is an intriguing thing. I think we can re-examine and be better moving forward. I have provided a name for the search committee.
    ▪ You saw the list of professional master degrees. The Provost would like feedback by the December 14th. Option one is that we could debate and discuss on December 10th. Option two the bylaws say you can turn this over the FSEC and they act on behalf. The third option is establish an ad hoc committee and report back.
      • Mike – My request is move through the FSEC. Allow the committee chair to poll their committee and report back.
      • Jerome – If we operate that way, we should send out ideas to the FSEC, not the Provost?
      • Tim – Yes.
      • Laird – I wasn’t able to see the list. Can you send this out to us?
      • Tim – Send me a reminder and I will send it out.
      • Laird – Master Degree in Business Analytics isn’t on there.
      • Tim – Is the one Mike mentioned the option you want to go with?
      • Jeff – I will certainly agree with Mike. I wouldn’t want this to come back to the senate given the amount of the things we have to do.
      • Laird – Do we have a scope or statement of work for this effort?
      • Tim – I have a memo that has a little more in it. Is the sense of the senate to delegate to FSEC. Jerome Baudry moves. Kader Frendi seconds. All in favor of delegating to FSEC understanding you will receive a report back. Ayes carry.
    ▪ There is a working group that is chaired by Sean Lane. I will need a name. If you are interested, please send me an email.
    ▪ I want to let you know there is an ad hoc committee looking at Chapter 7. That committee will look at Chapter 7 after Personnel sends back ideas.
    ▪ I discussed Chapter 9 revisions with Provost. We are hopeful that something will be ready back from the administration soon.
I received a report on spring 2020 enrollment versus spring 2021. We are flat. College of Science was up, Nursing was down. Everything else maintained a straight line.

- Provost – I wanted to ask for everyone’s help. Our undergraduate enrollment is down, graduate is up 30%. Undergraduate is down 5%. Please encourage your undergraduates to register. They need to know we want them back. I know it’s difficult but we want them back.

I attended the BOT meeting virtually. Upgraded MRI machines at UAB and UA. Building rename consideration continued. There were three items of interest. The approval of lawn greenway extension. There was acknowledgement of hockey donation from a former student. Also the extension of in state tuition for Tennessee.

I talked with the President about budget and he planned a schedule.

- Carmen Scholz, President Elect
  - I don’t have a formal report. I would like to say a couple of words about our representation in the research council. I held that position several years ago. It is very important. Whoever becomes the representative your job is to fight for us who wants to do research but doesn’t have the support and advantages of research centers. As you know, tenure depends more and more on research dollars. At our campus, it seems to depend entirely on research dollars. We need to fight for our representation. This needs to be communicated, especially the implications for tenure. I was made aware of one not receiving tenure because they didn’t have the appropriate amount of dollars. I am not sure that this a fair assessment process. Whoever is elected is charged with a big task.

- Laird Burns, Past President
  - No report.

- Kader Frendi, Governance and Operations Committee Chair
  - I have to give these results tonight. I need volunteers to count the ballots.

- Paul Whitehead, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
  - Academic Affairs distributed their catalog timeline for you to take back to your departments. The deadline is January 15th. We have until the end of January to review those.

- Jeff Weimer, Finance and Resource Committee Chair
  - We have extended the deadline for RCEU until the Monday after Thanksgiving. Distinguished speakers deadline was extended until January.

- Emil Jovanov, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Kwaku Gyasi, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
  - No report.

- Mike Banish, Personnel
  - We have met once or twice since last meeting. We are continuing to go through the Chapter 7. I hope to plan to meet through December. I do want to remind everyone of what we have agreed too. Please get your input and pass it up. Things are seeming to get really bad. Think about Thanksgiving and Christmas, maybe pass a gift for yourself to a local charity. Scholarship Committee met yesterday. Our national merit finalist money comes out of the Nectar funds. This fund is underwater. It is controlled by the BOT. There will be some shifting of funds. We are going to try and keep them special. We have had a hard time passing out CARES
money. There is still $450K in that account. Students must not realize they have expenses.

- Tim – My understanding is that it has been limited to undergraduate, can it be shifted to graduate?
- Mike – I don’t think that is part of the law.
- Carmen – Mike, I have a comment on that. I have a faculty member that is trying to help a student with CARES Act money, but that student only gets the run around and no money.
- Mike – I can try to intervene personally. They have to qualify for some amount of federal aid.
- Carmen – Student was told the university picks the person and deadline was over.
- Mike – They had to be qualified for a FAFSA to begin with.

Electronic Signatures:
- Tim – This policy comes from us by the FSEC adding comment that the university provide the appropriate software to do so. What is in order is an order to approve this and send this forward. Is there a motion? Carmen moves. Mike seconds. The floor is open.
- Jeff – The statement at the very top says the FS acceptance contingent upon. Does this mean we are being asked to vote? Does someone have to tell us this is approved?
- Tim – I don’t think I can defend it as worded. I understand the intent of the FSEC to be is the concern of not having access to the appropriate technology to achieve that. This states that everyone needs access to that and supplied centrally.
- Laird – The University should provide this.
- Tim – The floor is open to amendments. We can add in other comments as well.
- Jeff – In order to help, I would ask that we would make that statement a formal amendment in the policy stating therefore the university will provide Acrobat to all faculty and staff as an example.
- Tim – Do you want to pass over this temporarily? I am asking for a motion. Mike moves. Christina Steidl seconds. Ayes carry.

NCSARA:
- Tim – I need a motion to accept. Mike moves. Kader seconds. I believe Sarah’s unit and college of education has stated they would benefit from this. All in favor to send this forward. Ayes carry.
- Pass over Electronic Signatures until next bill. Ayes carry.

Bill 440:
- Tim – Motion to approve. Mike moves. Kwaku seconds. There are three amendments.
  - Mike – There are three amendments. One of the points of discussion is this Chapter will live for six months to a year. One has to deal with how many members each college has. There is only one lost sheep, College of Business, which will not have a PhD. We just suggested everyone have two. Amendment two is that the graduate council requires approval from the undergraduate curriculum committee. That is what we do for undergraduate is was just never specific in this policy. Lastly, the matters dealing with academic policies or catalog goes before the council of deans and Provost.
  - Tim – Further discussion on changes to Chapter 6. All in favor of adopting Bill 440. Ayes carry. Passed third reading.

Electronic Signatures:
o Jeff – If you would go to section 3.2 within the first paragraph, I motion the following. At the end of the first paragraph, “The University will provide faculty and staff with the required software to carry out digital signatures as needed.”

o Tim – Is this a motion to add this sentence? Is there a second? Mike seconds. All in favor of this amendment. Ayes carry.

o Kwaku – Will you remove the red at the top?

o Tim – Would you like to motion to remove that? Carmen moves. Mike seconds. All in favor of removing the comment in orange. Ayes carry.

o Tim – Any further discussion? All in favor of sending this policy forward with the amendment. Ayes carry unanimously.

➤ Bill 448:

o Tim – Motion to approve? Mike moves. Carmen seconds. All in favor of adopting Bill 448.

o Jerome – Can you give brief summary?

o Tim – There was a committee assembled about a year ago to look at instructors using instructors own book in classroom. That is a conflict of interest. This states there will be a group set up within the unit without that person to decide if it is okay.

o Jerome – The committee isn’t in charge of approving everyone’s material?

o Tim – I didn’t notice that in the language when I read it.

o Carmen – It is only about the material being used in the classroom.

o Jeff – I will also add that this is the second reading. If it is voted and approved, that will be third reading. There are two possible options for royalties. They can be waived or the professor can have those funds directed to a fund.

o Tim – All in favor of passing Bill 448. Ayes carry. Jeff, this is the second reading. Having no nays, it passed third reading.

➤ Communicable Disease Policy:

o Tim – This is a revision to the original. Kader moves. Kwaku seconds. Any discussion?

o Mike – Context wise of this bill, I don’t have any problems with it. I trust the experts that wrote this policy. What does bother me is the very heavy administrative content of the committee or make up of the committee. We have faculty, staff, and students that represent 25% of this committee. The students are not responding to communication. I suspect that faculty are guilty too. There are expertise on this campus besides the FSC, Student Health Clinic, and Risk Management. I would recommend having a doubling of faculty, staff, and student representation.

o Carmen – I have a question and recommendation. On confidentiality, when test are performed with Corona, what happens to the genetic material collected? I would like to see something that shows the material destroyed after the test is collected.

o Mike – I will make an amendment that the number of representative to show three senate reps, staff reps, and SGA reps. Carmen seconds.

o Laird – I want to share that I was involved in three of these committees. We had a lot of administrators and one faculty voice. I strongly the support the amendment to triple this representation.

o Tim – Shall the word be changed to three representatives? All in favor. Ayes carry.

o Carmen – I want to make a motion under confidentiality, add point four. The university will ensure that any genetic material is destructed after testing.

o Tim – Is there a second? Jerome seconds.

o Jerome – I agree with that. I would specify genetic material of the human.

o Tim – Any objection to change human genetic material. Should we add another point four? All in favor. Ayes carry.
- Mike – Prior to any other testing.
- Tim - The motion is to amend to say after this testing before any other testing.
- Mike – This is a test only for communicable disease.
- Tim – Is there a second? Jerome seconds. All in favor of the amendment. Ayes carry.
- Candice – I would like to echo a concern from Joey Taylor. I would propose that we would amend to say three representative of faculty.

- Tim – Motion to extend by five minutes. Candice moves. Christine seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry.
  - Tim – The faculty senate can send anyone.
  - Candice – I want to make sure that it isn’t just faculty senate. Three faculty representatives selected by faculty senate.
  - Tim – All in favor. Ayes carry. All in favor of policy as amended. Ayes carry.

- Bill 456:
  - Tim – Motion to approve. Mike moves. Beth seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry unanimously.

- Bill 441:
  - Tim – Motion to approve. Mike moves. Kader seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry unanimously.

- Motion to adjourn by Seyed Sadeghi. Kader Frendi seconds. Meeting adjourn at 2:23