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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE  
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MINUTES OF MEETING 566, 31 MARCH 2016  
APPROVED 28 APRIL 2016

**Present:** Wai Mok, Tim Landry, Joe Conway, Joseph Taylor, Irena Buksa, Carolyn Sanders, Jeremy Fischer, Anne Marie Choup, Mike Banish, Ramon Cerro, Richard Fork, James Swain, Babak Shotorban, Mark Lin, Casey Norris, Ann Bianchi, Azita Amiri, Marlana Primeau, Cheryl Emich, Lenora Smith, Deb Moriarity, Jeff Weimer, Peter Slater, Tim Newman, Ming Sun, Vladimir Florinski, David Stewart, Kader Frendi

**Absent with Proxy:** John Schnell, Eric Fong, Diana Bell, Christine Sears, Ken Zuo, Luciano Matzkin, John Shriver, Grant Zhang

**Absent without Proxy:** Xuejing Xing, Xiaotong Li, Eric Seemann, Kyle Knight, Ying-Cheng Lin, Earl Wells, Larry Carey, Udaysankar Nair, Monica Dillihunt

**Guests:** Robert Altenkirch  
Brent Wren

- Faculty Senate Meeting 566 was called to Order by Dr. Frendi at 12:35.
- Approval of Minutes of Meeting 564 —motion by Deb Moriarity, seconded by Casey Norris. Ayes carry. Motion to approve Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 564 passes.
- Acceptance of Executive Committee Minutes. Ramon Cerro moved, seconded by Michael Banish. Ayes carry. Motion to accept Senate Executive Committee Report March 17, 2016, passes.
- **Administrative Reports**
  - President Altenkirch
    - SACSCOC schedule of activities. Off site—17 standards noncompliant. Good. Got rid of 16 noncompliant issues—make sure instructors meet requirements of SACSCOC About 10 teaching who did not meet. Write a policy to make sure we meet the requirement.  
  
QEP—gave recommendations for improving. Opinion it was a very good visit. SACSCOC will meet in December. Thank you.
    - Tuition—block tuition. Showed graph—Fall 16 full implementation of that structure. In-state goes up 4% then levels out and out of state 2% then starts to drop. Three to 4% for in state and 2% for out of state.

More hours—we want students to increase them so students graduate sooner. Creeping up slowly—hopes next fall will be better. Average 12.5 overall and those more than 12 are 14.2.

Deb Moriarity-- Some sign up for more hours and then struggle—will there be a support structure for helping. President Altenkirch—that is what the SSC and QEP are for. Networks help. Advising as well.

- Kristi Motter has been working on having enrollment projection model. Developed model and based on historical progression. Showed graph. Projection for 2016 is 1300. Projecting 8000+ for total enrollment. Ramon Cerro--Is there a margin of error? President Altenkirch—yes. We have to spread out recruiting going from the Gulf to the Great Lakes and East to Atlantic. She is very conservative. Honors College is helping quite a bit. ACT score keeps going up. Scholarship matrix and block tuition have helped.
- We will build an incubator building using foundation, economic development and state funds—none of our money. Architect hired.
- Michael Banish—The budget from Ray said we got \$69M—is that what we should have gotten or projected. President Altenkirch--Audit statement—tuition and fees what we would receive if every student paid. Under that scholarship allowance have to subtract that. That is not all the scholarships. Some of those are private money so it is a discount. Projection models gross tuition and subtract what we have to put in. Some scholarships in lines below. Buried and cannot find. Projections look at net revenue. Growth next year about \$4M per projections.
- Ramon Cerro—Carnegie problem. Could increase PHD per year by 10. If GTA or GRA paid by university would help. In build out start with small and build out. Why can we not spend some money instead of getting new buildings. Carnegie is a moving target and we were always on edge way calculate now. We would have to increase quite a bit to pump up numbers for Carnegie. Enrollment growth will bring in extra money and can invest in those kinds of things. Look at numbers from Carnegie and imbalance in research spending and graduate students. A lot of what we spend in research is internal and does not produce PHDs. Maybe part of money can be used for that. President Altenkirch agrees have to put more into graduate research to produce PHDs. If take all we spend on research and divide by faculty and staff we are 28th in nation. Young faculty struggle because research funding tight. Our young faculty need money for GRAs.
- Kader Frendi—absence of large classrooms on campus. Do not have classrooms to accommodate. President Altenkirch--Need to use large classrooms we have as many hours as possible. Some classrooms internal walls not load bearing and can

enlarge. Peter Slater—hire more GTAS rather than one lecturer. President Altenkirch—have to decide how to best distribute funding.

- Joseph Taylor—rise in enrollment and get retention. Decline in spending on faculty. Curious on what timeframe where we will feel comfortable again with expenditures on faculty. President Altenkirch—expenditures on colleges increased 25% and increase on other things about the same. Enrollment has not been changing and have not generated enough revenue to do what you are talking about. Number of our budget that went to the house increased by 2.7% however when the governor sent it to the house he put in \$3M for the incubator and the total got cut and we are not sure did O&M get increased by \$750K so that we will have to put it back into the incubator. We have to increase over time.
- President Altenkirch: Problem with DOD and dropped in Overhead. Each year looks like we will generate \$4 to 5M in additional revenue. Hit Steady state in 2021.
- Michael Banish---Audit statement—tuition and fee revenue increased by 130% State appropriation has gone down. Tuition increase is there whether we have increase in enrollment. President Altenkirch--If you look at audit statement cannot do what you are doing. You have to look at discount numbers. Michael Banish--can you share discount numbers? President Altenkirch--Have numbers for 13/14, 14/15, and 15/16. Projection going forward for 16/17.
- Tim Newman—any advance on Residence Hall. President Altenkirch--Open to fraternities and sororities an opportunity to build more houses. Two things could happen—1) a fraternity or sorority that does not have a house might want to buy one and; 2) some who have one may want a larger one. We front the money and then recoup the money in 15 years at 5 and quarter percent. Have sights prepared and out of state enrollment is going up. This is an inexpensive thing to start with. Residence hall has been on the drawing board for some time. Cost cutting on that. Thinking of moving that forward in June. Earliest could open would be fall 18. Every bed will be full this fall.
- Associate Provost Brent Wren
  - Important dates—hope you can come to as many as possible. Receptions. Honors. Faculty Staff Appreciation in Charger Park. Commencement—issue this time is that it occurs at the same time as Panoply. The area right in front of the Arena is open to South Hall—Pollard Street is also open. Will send more information this week.
  - Bhavani Sitaraman--Are you concerned about the petition and students regarding the speaker. Brent Wren --everyone is entitled to their opinion. We have had many different speakers with different opinions. Not worried but acknowledge concern. Ramon Cerro—We realize this was not happening at the time of the choice. The way things are going and conflicts, etc. do you still think it is a good

idea to have such a speaker? President Altenkirch—the recommendation came back in November. We asked in early January. Yes circumstances have changed—to disinvite him would be disrespectful to him and to the office. President Altenkirch—he is not going to give a political speech. He will give a 15 minute feel good speech. Deb Moriarity—I had a discussion with students—they did not understand how this works. They wanted to know is the President telling faculty they have to go. Deb Moriarity told the students this is your graduation and do not let the choice of speaker or anything else ruin your graduation.

- Michael Banish—Jeff Sessions has never really done anything for UAH. President Altenkirch—he goes about his position different from Shelby and others. He is a colleague of those we are talking about and it is not nice to disrespect colleagues. It is not unusual to invite political speakers. He is not running for office. David Stewart—in the past when the Honorary Degrees and Naming Committee met and made recommendations the Executive Committee has been informed and given the opportunity to comment. I believe this is smart. It would avoid this kind of discussion or issue.

➤ Officer and Committee Reports.

- President—Kader Frendi

- Board meeting next week in new Student Services Building—in the Conference Center—President Altenkirch—we only have a certificate of occupancy for the Conference Center. Kader Frendi--Meeting at the end of board meeting with UA and UAB Executive Committees. Will have numbers tomorrow—about 12. We are going to start a tradition of rotating meetings and exchanges of ideas—will meet with UA in November. The meeting of the Executive Committees will be in SST 301.
- Given the number of things outstanding, the Handbook and policies—we may call a special meeting of the Senate if we do not have all things voted on in the next meeting. Unless we have the Administration out and just do business at the next meeting we may have to call a special meeting.
- Website—Lauren and I have been working on the website. It is looking better now. We have the Handbook with the 3 chapters approved. We have a site for policies and dates they were approved. Our approved policies are separate from the President's policies. We have a meeting with Dee and Russ in April to help understand the i.t. policies. I want to clear the page with approvals before the semester ends. Past Resolutions--we have most of the records—we have some holes. Not sure whether this happened in moving websites and I may have to go to the Presidents from the past and see if they have resolutions.
- Ramon Cerro—we were told the policies had to be in place for SACSCOC and now SACSCOC has come and gone. We have a priority for the Handbook and we should forget about policies for a while. Kader Frendi agrees. If you look at the policies you can see that some were added to the Handbook because we did not want to duplicate. We want to try to get everything in the Handbook and not duplicate.
- I have to apologize to the Senate. I have apologized to the Senate Executive Committee. In December we passed chapters 1, 2, and 3. These were going to the Board for February and there was a small change needed when I was on vacation. A

description was not accurate. I was asked for a general statement. I wanted to meet the deadline and so I said go forward. I checked the bylaws and I have to carry out duties of this office. I did not bring it to you and I apologize for that. Bill 384 "Clarifying Handbook Revision Expectations" is proposed with changes from the Executive Committee. Removed description of Dean of Students. The Provost said the VP for Student Affairs and Dean of Students reports to VP Student Affairs so why is it here.

Carolyn Sanders—two years ago the organization changed to allow for a VP of Student Affairs—prior to that the Dean of Students reported to the Provost. The Dean of Students description will be removed from the Handbook. Asked for Dean of Students description. Deb Moriarity—we did have the VPSA before and then we moved to Dean of Students and then back to VPSA. No change to Handbook is possible without approval of full Faculty Senate. As soon as this bill is approved I will direct Lauren to put it on the website.

Motion to approve the bill—Motion by Tim Newman and Michael Banish seconded to approve Bill 384. The vote was unanimous in favor. This will protect future Senate Presidents. **The Bill 384 passes and will be sent to the Administration.**

- Handbook Committee –
  - Tim Newman—4 meetings and two more scheduled. We should wrap up at that point with the chapters we have.
  - I think shared governance is in a decrepit state at UAH. The Website—has become the only permanent storage for the Faculty Senate. 2011-12—website disappeared. Changed hosting and other things became a higher priority. I was assured everything would be moved over. Only part of the material made the transition. After that President it did not make the transition and I went again to the Provost and it still did not happen and I had interactions with other administrators and I was assured stuff would make the transition. There needs to be a commitment by the Administration that when we change the host for our website then everything makes the transition. Changes were made to the Handbook without Senate approval. Concern. An example is the Creation of a program approved by the Board and no Faculty Senate input. Bylaws state what should be. I am concerned and we have to be more serious in standing up for our rights and the Administration has to take seriously the shared governance and our rights. I salute Kader Frendi for working on the website.

Ramon Cerro—there are more symptoms—it is a different way Administration looks at shared governance. There were many policies and obviously there was some goal and we do not know what it is.

Kader Frendi—You are pointing to something we realized and that is why we have asked that the Senate be strong. We need to have a tradition of leadership development.

Bhavani Sitaraman—there have also been changes in the Senate and it might be good to have an orientation at the beginning of each year and let the new Senators know the procedures and duties of the Senate. This way we can have carry-over from generation to generation.

Handbook is on the web and we should have bound copies to the Senate at least. Ramon Cerro stated we should have it on the cloud. Jim Swain—are all files going to be PDF—Kader Frendi--yes.

Jim Swain--Kader Frendi apologized—has the Provost indicated any lesson from this? Kader Frendi stated she apologized to him. Jim Swain--She is the CEO—shared governance does not appear to be a priority or she does not appear to be knowledgeable.

- Governance and Operations
  - Jim Swain—met in March to start on IT policies---joint meeting in April with Dee Childs.
  - All senators elected for coming year except music and psychology—Carolyn Sanders stated she is the Senator for music.
  - Have to have election of President and President Elect this month.
- Mike Banish
  - Donations policy—looking at it.
- Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs
  - Eric Seemann has bill on the agenda for writing—The SGA wants to have + - on grading. His committee is working on this.
- Undergraduate Curriculum
  - Azita Amiri—Deb Moriarity—ad hoc Committee met and completed their work on the proficiency—course description about writing course and changed it for the better. More advanced course has been changed. It has gone to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and is being reviewed by the whole committee. Program more designed for what it was intended--Adult Degree. There are 3 concentrations degree names that fulfill all requirements and delineated for students and advisory board as we develop more of those. Much more mimics traditional degrees and all highly interdisciplinary. Kader Frendi--All that were called to serve on committee are amazing and they have come together to fix the problems. Came from top down and we stepped in to get it right.
- Finances and Resources
  - Joey Taylor—we met on April 7 regarding the Library and Lecturer ladder and the RCEU and we are issuing the RCEU call.
- Personnel Committee
  - Ramon Cerro—we met to look at the Titles and tenure and tenure track report. Today we will look at the new version. One main objection. Some things are contradicting what is in the Handbook with the Titles Policy. What is the reason for wanting a full ladder for lecturers? If they want to have that kind of ladder then make them tenure-track. We are creating a separate track for people who teach at this University.

The worst part is the incidence of changing the weight of tenured faculty. Today there is less than 50% tenured faculty. The courses are being populated by non-tenured faculty.

- Ombudsperson
  - Carolyn Sanders—no report
- President-Elect
  - Michael Banish—Dee Childs will meet with us on April 14<sup>th</sup>. This is a special meeting of the Executive Committee to go through i.t. policies and see why are there 12 and maybe we can get to a reasonable number and find out which ones actually affect the faculty and the university They will go last if the Handbook comes up.
  - Taking Bhavani Sitaraman’s suggestion—I suggest we go to my lake house that is an hour and half away from here and one day before school starts we get together and talk about priorities for the year. You will get an email from me later. It is an easy drive and it is away from all the noise and other distractions. Everyone is invited on the 14<sup>th</sup>. It is a working meeting of the Executive Committee.
- Hover board Policy
  - There have been instances of fire—this is an interim policy for our review. There was an amendment in the Executive Committee noted in the yellow part. Marlena Premeau suggested they might want to change the word “assisted” to “assistive”.
  - Dr. Newman stated there should be a motion to approve the bill then a friendly amendment.
  - Michael Banish moved to approve the bill and Marlena Primeau seconded and made a friendly amendment to change the word “assisted” to “assistive”.
  - Jeffrey Weimer asked is there any need for this to address liability issues. Michael Banish—stated not in this policy. This policy is to establish that they cannot bring the hover boards into buildings because of hazards. Other things are addressed elsewhere. The hover boards cannot come into the building.
  - Tim Newman stated that this policy states they can bring them into building but they cannot store them in the building. Michael Banish stated this is defunct now because they cannot bring them into this country but because of the hazard they cannot be stored or charged in buildings.
  - Jeff Weimer thinks the second paragraph does not need to be there. Otherwise we need to address the liability.
- Tim Newman stated Kader Frendi needed a motion to extend the time.
- Kader Frendi asked for a motion to extend the time. Several individuals left.
- Tim Newman then stated he does not believe we still have a quorum.
- Faculty Senate Meeting 566 lost quorum and Adjourned at 2:02 p.m.