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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – April 2009

Faculty Senators

University of South Alabama

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April 15, 2009
Library Auditorium
3:00 pm

Minutes
Approved by voice vote on June 17, 2009

Present: Adams, Aucoin, Axsmith, Burnham, Campbell, Carr, Connors, Estis, Falkos, Finley, Fisher, Haywick, Hillman, Husain, Johnsten, King, Kinniburgh, Langan, Lemley, Luceford, Madden, McCormick, Morris, O'Connor, Pérez Pineda, Prendergast, Retzlaff-Roberts, Rizk, Shaw, Shelly-Tremblay, Summerlin, D. Turnipseed, P. Turnipseed, Woodford, Wright

Excused: Baggett, Brown, Byrne, Kahn, Keasler, Kingman, Meyer, Moore, Perry, Powers, Romey, Rowell, Spector, Teplick, Toelken,

Unexcused: Allison, Ambrose, Bosarge, Estrada, Omar, Pacheco, Patterson, Quereshi,

A G E N D A

1. Call to order
The chair called the meeting to order at 3:04 with a quorum present.
2. Approval of minutes from the March meeting
Irion moved and Fisher seconded the approval of the March minutes. The assembly approved the minutes by voice vote.
3. Chair's report
The chair briefly reviewed the written report. The recent executive committee meeting focused on nominations for next year's senate executive committee and the forum that Moulton will hold on April 21 at 3:00. The chair asked Caucus leaders to send out a reminder to all the senators regarding the forum. The chair briefly described the purpose of the forum: an idea initially suggested by the Senate. Tate asked whether Moulton will take questions and Sachs responded that he believes that he will. Sachs emphasized the need for a good turnout at the forum. The chair also reviewed progress during the 2008-09 Senate and noted the negative response from the RSA regarding the buying of years into the retirement system.
4. Introduction of new Chair and new Senators
Agenda item moved to new business.
5. Old Business
 - Appointment to Assistant Professor for those with terminal degree and to extend Senior Instructor position to the librarySachs described the background to the resolution and opened discussion. Falkos moved the question, which Morris seconded. The resolution passed by voice vote.

6. New Business

- Election of executive committee for 2009-10 –
The chair presented the slate of nominees prepared by the executive committee and asked for nominations from the floor. With no further nominations, the assembly voted to approve the nominees.
- The outgoing chair introduced David Turnipseed as the new chair who took over the meeting. Turnipseed offered brief comments on his experience with senates in the past and then asked the new senators to stand and introduce themselves. He also praised Sachs for his commitment and his role on the Senate, especially during his last year before retirement.
- Committee preferences and assignments
The new chair asked new senators to send their committee preferences (1st and 2nd choices) to the Senate secretary. The executive committee would put together and announce the new committee assignments prior to the next Senate meeting.
- Selection of caucus leaders
The chair asked the colleges to meet briefly following adjournment to select new caucus leaders and report the name of the caucus leader to the secretary.
- Planning Committee for the first football homecoming
Turnipseed agreed to serve on this committee. He noted also that odds are good that the University Club will be ready by then. He invited participation on a sub-committee on first homecoming, suggesting that perhaps we can do something for the faculty. He also reminded everyone of the president's forum next Tuesday.

7. Committee Reports (final reports from 2008-09 chairs)

- Academic Development and Mentoring (tbd) – written report to be posted
- Environmental Quality (Smoot Major) – working with student sustainability club on recycling – Langan asked about improving the organization of recycling on campus.
- Evaluation (Vicki Tate) – written report to be submitted
- Planning and Development (Zari Aliabadi) – only issue was the university club which is under construction – suggests more involvement in planning of buildings – Sachs noted that the Planning Committee needs to coordinate with Dean Smith on operations of the University Club --
- Policies and Faculty Handbook (Liz Romey) – meetings on line – report to be submitted
- Salary and Benefits (Jean Irion) -- written report submitted – reviewed by Irion --
- Technology Utilization (Tom Meyer) – no report

Tate shared information on the proposal for the Chang Humanitarian award. The award will be given to a USA Faculty member. They are still working on forms, etc. The Senate will determine the recipient during the Spring and the award will be made in the Fall. The executive committee will make the selection. The award goes to a faculty member who has made a difference in their community for humanitarian good. More information will be made available in the near future regarding nominations and advertising.

8. Caucus Reports

- Allied Health – Estis – still making preparations for move to the new building beginning in May – also working on revisions to P/T policies to the college --
- Arts and Sciences – Carr – met with Dean with new members – discussed budget and its impact on new faculty – promised to look into ways to find funding for travel for new faculty
- Continuing Education – no report
- Computer and Information Sciences – no report
- Education -- Kinninburg – announced April 28, 3:30 retirement reception for Sachs in UCOM 3901 --
- Engineering -- no report
- Library – Prendergast -- meeting regarding assistant professor question – hope to have a member of library on handbook committee to help craft the wording of the handbook change.
- Mitchell College of Business – no report
- Medicine – new Chairman for Surgery Department from Vanderbilt – Dr. Richardson
- Nursing – no report – still waiting to move

The meeting adjourned at 4:05.

Minutes submitted by Stephen Morris, Secretary