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Faculty Senate Minutes

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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – August 2017

Faculty Senators

Univeristy of South Alabama

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August 22, 2017 – Faculty club - 3:00 pm
DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Gubler, Cooper, Pohlmann, Carr, Davis, Fisher, Gossett, Harrington, Hossain, Kozelsky, Mark, Mata, Moore, Pavelescu, Poston, St. Clair, Whitson, Williams, Zlomke, Bourrie, Campbell, McDonald, Gecewicz, Allison, Reeves, Schwarz, Mitchell, Cleary, Poole, Spencer, West, Lemley, Wilson, Alexeyev, Chinkers, Gillespie, Rich, Wito, Sayner, Chow, Gillis, Madden, Pennywell, Swanzy, Graves, Platt, Riley, Vandawaa, Varner, Williams, Davis, Aishwarya, Piazza, Rocconi

Excused: O'Connor, Swiger, Reichert, Koestner, Bennett-Baldwin, Bolton, Lammle, Omar, Ponnambalam, Steffler, Scalici

Call to Order: 3:02 by Elizabeth Vandewaa

Approval of minutes: May 2017 meeting; motioned; 2nded

Approval of agenda : Motion; 2nded

President's Report

Building and Planning

- Athletic Facility: Contained collapse to the site. No one hurt. Insurance adjusters investigating the root cause.
- Simulation Hospital: May break ground or should break ground next fall---will be an extension of the Allied Health Building. Will go into the Allied Health parking lot. Engineers have been out there, measuring the space.
- Parking: Parking will be impacted by building, and over the summer an overflow was completed across the street. Parking consultant is on the campus next week. Please forward me questions about parking, if there are any. I will address conversion of student spots to faculty spots so that overflow is reserved for students, rather than students and faculty.
- Dorms: Dorms are full. Some space in the Grove for 60 students. Students have residential permits if they live in the Grove. Can't park on campus. Building 2 dorms.

Enrollment: Enrollment down, partially due to decline in international students. [ED: Number of reasons contributed from the floor, including political environment and transition in USA recruitment approach. International students deciding to go to Canada and Australia.] Enrollment also down to improvement of graduation rates (a positive), and more students opting to go to community college through Pathway USA.

Pathway USA: Grown substantially. 500+ students ready to come to USA next year.

Town Halls: Town halls coming up. Need verification of Caucus leaders of Education and COM. President and Provost will come for an hour to visit with faculty. They want a dialogue not a monologue. They want transparency and questions.

From the Floor: Tony et al plan to walk through the building to interact with faculty and staff in their environments.

Search Update

- Nursing: Dr. Heather Hall named as interim dean. One year appointment, during which and after which she will be given a review by Senior administration. Anonymous 360 degree review. Then decisions will be made whether to open a new search.
- Honors Dean: Hired Dr. Cathy Cook.
- Graduate Dean: Hired Dr. J. Harold Pardue
- Chief Diversity: In the process of screening applications. 100+ applications. Angela Coleman doing an excellent job screening applicants.
- Community Engagement Office and Director: Meeting next week or week after with a few of the candidates. Does not know who the candidates are. Selected candidates already. Search is moving quickly.
- Associate Vice President for Finance and Human Resources: Pam Henderson is retiring. Search process opened over the summer. [From the floor: Person who is retiring used to be the *Director* of Human Resources.]

Old Business

Ad Hoc Health Affairs Committee (sign up sheet): One idea includes inviting Owen Bailey or Allen Wiley chief strategy officer to talk with us about our take on Health Care system. Health Affairs Committee should meet with Deans and get info.

Chair Review [PC]: Committee formed of administrators and faculty made a recommendation last week that chairs served 5 year terms. Did not go over well. Committee recognized difficult

position of chairs. Many chairs said they felt they were pressured to stay on past burnout. Another recommendation involved meetings between Deans and Chairs and Faculty.

Not sure the 5 year term limit will pass. But the committee completed the process and filed the report.

[EH]Tenure Extension Policy for Life Events—Update: Deans less enthusiastic about TEPL than Termination of Tenured Faculty Policy. Returning with changes.

Termination of Tenured Faculty was approved, however.

New Business

Nominations from the floor for Evaluation Committee-none

Social Media: Patricia Mark volunteers

Announcements

Seed Grant: A&S Seed Grant. Holding a reception and information session on Sept. 7, 3-5 pm.

Need to RSVP

Caucus and Committee Reports Submitted in Writing

Education Caucus Election

Special Guest: Happy Fulford

Executive Director of USA's office of Governmental Relations

Happy: Nick Lawkis and Happy Fulford entire staff of Government Relations

Represent USA at every level: local, regional, and state

Happy lives in Montgomery to best engage the state

We spend a lot of time in Washington

Most of the time is spent on Affordable Health Care Act and Repeal and Replace

We used to get earmarks, but they went away, which is worse thing to happen to public university.

Nick: What we see for FY 17-18

State appropriations vs. federal

Education trust vs. General Funds

General Funds: 1.85 billion. From that they take another 6-8 billion.

Education trust fund: 6.3 billion. 69% = k-12; 19% = university; rest = community college

Federal- 18 billion dollars.

Rolling reserve: take the highest 14 years in 15 years to limit the budget.

6 billion budget, + 250 million, is the cap of education budget growth, the overage goes to savings.

6.3 billion up 300 million, only an increase of 9 million.

Stagnant growth. Universities received no growth, slated for major cuts this year, but ended up with level funding.

Happy: 2008 budget = 138 million; fell by 41 million. Down 23%, similar to Auburn and Alabama.

Bills of interest that passed last session: We lobby actively dozens of bills and lobby to get them taxed and 'killed.' We get 10% of 4 yr college budget. We are the 3rd largest.

Nick: 1,030 bills introduced last year, typically get 1,500 or more. Bill production slowed down with transition of governor.

Big bills: Autism coverage (won, fought by business, neutral for USA—has one of 3 centers for Autism excellence, but also insurance goes up)

Veteran Monument protection---Alabama passed a bill to protect and move statues in place for 40 years.

Midwifery: decriminalizes having babies in the home

Right to Life language: passed this year, will go into statewide ballot

Civics test: students required to pass 100 questions before graduating

Library, research, electronic databases exempt from bid law

Campus pack and carry failed, but likely to come back

Prison construction failed, but likely to come back

Americans First Act: Cannot declare ourselves sanctuary university---Attorney General could 0 our funding.

Education tracking bill: did not pass

Redistricting: State sued for Gerry-mandering

Brunch bill: 10 am to noon, passed.

Happy: thanks faculty for being responsive. Faculty sends emails when Happy asks, and engage people when they ask.

Praise for Happy and Nick from the floor.

Q: Is Performance based funding coming?

A: Lots of conversations. Good news is Senator Orr---“our goal is to do no harm”. As long as we are level funded, very hard to make changes.

Big questions about access

Libraries' Caucus Report, August 2017

Lorene Flanders began as Executive Director of University Libraries on April 1st, 2017. She previously served as Dean of Libraries at the University of West Georgia.

The Marx Library and university administration are in the planning stages of a Learning/Information Commons to be housed on the first floor north side of the library (where the Instructional Media Center was). The music books formerly housed in that location have been integrated into the bookstacks. Media items and the children's/young adult collection have moved to the second floor north. Students are already using the space and formal construction will likely begin in January.

Effective August 15th, 2017, Elizabeth Rugan Shepard is a tenured associate librarian. Angela Rand and Trey Lemley were promoted to senior librarian on the same date.

One faculty member left the Biomedical Library in July. A search committee for an entry-level replacement will be forming shortly.

The Libraries' town hall meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11th, at 3:30 pm.

College of Nursing

Caucus Report

Dr. Joyce Varner, Caucus Leader

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Dr. Heather Hall has been selected to serve as Interim Dean of the College of Nursing and is now serving in that role.

Dr. Kathy Bydalek has been selected to serve as Interim Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and is now serving in that role.

The CON will host a Town Hall meeting with Dr. Waldrop on September 25th at 3:30 pm.

Senators will meet with Dr. Waldrop at 3:00pm in Room 1013.

Global USA

Global USA was created to support the university's strategic priority of global engagement by working with colleges, departments, faculty, staff, students and the Mobile community to facilitate the comprehensive internationalization of the University of South Alabama. Global USA consists of the following offices/programs:

- Center for Continuing Education and Conference Services
- English Language Center
- Office of Global Outreach and International Student Services
- Office of Immigration and International Admissions
- Office of International Education
- USA Baldwin County

With the creation of Global USA, these offices have been placed within a single administrative unit. This allows for improved collaboration.

As part of the reorganization that led to the creation of Global USA, there have been some staffing changes. Hannah Murphy was hired as the Director of Global Outreach. She will be

responsible for international recruiting efforts. This fall she will travel to fourteen different countries in Latin American and Asia. During her travels, she will attend recruiting events in 18 cities. She will also visit 24 high schools.

A search has been underway to hire a new Coordinator of International Student Programs. The search committee reports that the position should be filled by September 6. There is also a search to hire a Director of Global Strategy and Business Development. There are no updates available on the status of that search.