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Minutes 2017-2018

Faculty Senate Minutes

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10-1-2017

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – October 2017

Faculty Senators

*Univeristy of South Alabama*

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**October 18, 2017 – Faculty club - 3:00 pm  
DRAFT MINUTES**

**Present:** Brooks, Gubler, Cooper, O'Connor, Pohlmann, Carr, Davis, Gossett, Harrington, Hossain, Kozelsky, Mark, Mata, Pavelescu, Poston, Reichert, St. Clair, Whitson, Zlomke, Hurley, Bourrie, Campbell, McDonald, Koestner, Allison, Schwarz, Woltring, Cleary, Poole, Spencer, West, Lemley, Wilson, Alexeyev, Chinkers, Rich, Sayner, Madden, Pennywell, Platt, Swanzey, Vandewaa, Varner, Williams, Aishwarya, Piazza, Rocconi

**Excused:** Swiger, Fisher, Moore, Williams, Gecewicz, **Reeves, Keshoc**, Chow, Gillis, Riley, Bennett-Baldwin, Younce, Bolton, Lammle, Omar, Ponnammabalam, Steffler, Scalici

**Call to Order:** 3:06 by Elizabeth Vandewaa

**Approval of minutes:** September 2017 meeting; **motion to approve with appropriate spelling and grammar corrections; 2d; approved**

**Approval of agenda : motion to approve; 2d; approved**

**President's Report**

Welcome to Special Guests—USA Board of Trustees Member Hon Mike Windom

P&T Update: The Executive Committee met with Dave Johnson last week and discussed some possible revisions to tenure tracks at USA to include an educator track as a tenurable track. The Educator track would be expected to conduct scholarship in teaching and learning (or as some faculty would like to propose—research in the field) in order to be promoted and ultimately, tenured. The benefit of this would multiply to other faculty in departments who have research agendas and to not want to have a heavy teaching load—teaching faculty would take on that load while research faculty could be relieved of some of the teaching. The thought is that we could both advance the teaching mission of the University as well as the research mission of the University with this plan. We also asked about expanding the Instructor rank to a three rank system to allow for more financial growth within that system, or perhaps a transition out of that system into the Assistant professor system. A committee is being formed to look at this. We are looking at a similar sort of program for the Professor rank—where once an individual has reached full professor, there is nowhere to go except into an administrative role, perhaps. So we are examining roles at other Universities—like at UCF, for instance, where they have the Pegasus professors—recognized senior rank full professors—so maybe we can get something like this at USA. It would involve an honorific, perhaps a little money, or a title for the individual recognized as such.

Folded into this....a committee is also being formed to examine how to best evaluate teaching—which may include peer observation of teaching, revisions of evaluation tools, and then revisions to the Faculty Handbook to reflect how we will evaluate teaching.

Town Halls—Medicine should be having their Town Hall as we speak. MCI had theirs on Monday, and Education since our last meeting.

Other: Pell grants are coming back for Summer 2018! Not sure what effect this may have on the tail end of student education—not sure if the cap is being raised.

### **Search Update**

- Chief Diversity Officer—interviews will be starting next week. We will have 4 candidates to interview and look forward to the process and to keeping you updated
- Community Engagement Office and Director—Shannon Shelley-Tremblay was named the inaugural Community Engagement Officer and Director.

Associate Vice President for Finance and Human Resources—Interviews wrapped up last

### **Old Business**

Tenure Extension Policy for Life Events: Update

Renewable Term Limits, Chair: Update

### **New Business:**

Dean Richard Wood Emeritus Status-Vote to be held on-line

### **FS Awards: Slate proposed and accepted**

**[Final copy of minutes will have Committee's report]**

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

#### **1) Dr. Alan Whaley**

#### **Chief Strategy Officer for Health Care**

Health Care Authority, Open Enrollment

A year ago, President Waldrop engaged the Chartist Group ; 2015 University Healthcare Act allowed USA and UAB to set health care system

Purpose is to open access points to the system so our 6,000 employees and their dependents can access primary care network, will become biggest in the city which will allow entire people in the city to access the entire USA system

Q: Mobile Bay diagnostics, excellent nurse practitioners. How are they being employed?

A: We'd like to add more nurse practitioners. Practitioners are very important part of the practice.

Q: Is there a possibility of getting a urologist in the system?

A: Yes. Urologist is a high priority. Don't have a time line but a priority in recruiting specialists.

Q: Is there a conflict in creating two poles of doctors at USA? Some with teaching and residents, and some without.

A: Hopefully not, we expect incoming will also have residences?

Q: Any locations on Eastern Shore.

A: Right now, no. but maybe in future.

Q: How about south west, like near Bayou la Baytre.

A: Corner of Cottage Hill and Schillinger is as far west as we go right now.

## **2) Joe Currier**

Chair of VA Committee

Purpose is to promote collaboration between DOD and local initiatives

We have done four large scale surveys over the last 4-5 years, we estimate we have 500 students on campus who serve on campus or are currently enlisted. These folks are all using GI money. IN the range of 400-600. Estimate we have another additional 1/3 who are not utilizing GI money, so 600-800 veterans, and then an additional 400 students are children or spouses drawing benefits.

One of the projects the VA committee commissioned: boots to books. Collaborated with folks at University of West Florida.

Describe our population of student service members more accurately

Trying to learn about people needing help and where are they getting it.

Over-representation of men.

Students tend to be older than non-traditional students.

Over-representation of Caucasian groups (2/3)

Compared to the typical undergrads, 1/2 are already married or have kids.

1 of every 2 first generation college students

even representation of folk from different service branches

Major findings:

3 of every 4 people confident about their academic success, connecting with professors, confident of finishing degree; high levels of alcohol consumption; over 1/3 spiked on need for mental health treatment; only 62% of people used services in VA.

Several Recommendations: Developing procedures promoting educational awareness for faculty. Including bearing in mind veterans do not have control over their VA schedules. Etc.

Q: Is there away to notify teachers about veterans who served?

A: No, but it would be great.

Joe: about 15% of our folks are in the guards and reserve