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Faculty Senate Minutes

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9-1-2016

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – September 2016

Faculty Senators

*University of South Alabama*

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**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA**  
**Faculty Senate**

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**September 21, 2016 – Faculty Club - 3:00 pm**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Jason Brooks, Ron Morgan, Tracy O’Connor, Cherie Pohlmann, Phil Carr, Rene Culler, Sam Fisher, Chris Freed, Nick Gossett, Ellen Harrington, Mara Kozelsky, Patricia Mark, Juan Mata, Laura Moore, Sinead Ni Chadhain, Andrew Pavelescu, Ted Poston, Matthew Reichert, Philliop Smith, Justin St. Clair, Sam Stutsman, Rebecca Williams, David Bourrie, JT McDonald, Leslie Whitson, Elizabeth Allison, Laureen Fregeau, Linda Reeves, Jim Vaneghan, Tom Rich, Wito Richter, Mikhail Alexeyev, Bennett-Baldwin, D., Bill Gillis, Terry Grant, Gwen Pennywell, Kelly Woodford, Sam Fisher, Amy Davis, Carolyn Dolan, Terrie Platt, Elizabeth Vandewaa, Joyce Varner, Jennifer Scalici, Kumar Palle, Rod Rocconi, Clista Clanton

**Excused:** Matt Campbell, Grant Glover, Saami Yazdani, Bettina Riley, Gary Piazza, Mark Gillespie, Mark Taylor, Michael Chinkers, Eugene Cioffi, Neil Schwarz, Bettina Riley.

**Call to order: at 3:00 by S. Fisher Quorum**

**Approval of minutes:** August 2016 meeting, **motion made to approve; 2<sup>d</sup>; approved**

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

**President’s Report: Sam Fisher**

**Raises:** Raises 2%, no health premium increase. Letters go out around Sept. 30 from Provost, with raises to begin October 1, which will take effect in the November paycheck. Raises should be calculated between .5 - 3.5%. We thanked the administration and said this is a good first step. We are looking forward to next year.

**Leave Policy:** The administration supports the policy, which derives from 15 yr old faculty movement to have sick leave. It’s uncommon for university faculty to have sick leave policy and checking the boxes enables us to maintain a system that is overall beneficial to faculty because not only can we take sick leave, but unused sick leave accrues upon retirement. The box is under employee benefits in PAWS.

**Town Halls**

Education – John Smith, Tony, and Dave Johnson attended. Most faculty attended for about an hour. Most discussion centered on progress toward strategic priorities. Faculty

salaries and morale were topics of discussion as was the construction at University Commons. All College administrators, Deans and Chairs were present, which discouraged open discussion.

**Sam:** If your College does not feel comfortable asking questions while administrators are around, send questions to Caucus leaders.

Business – Like education, the 4 FS senators met with the DJ, JS, and TW about potential concerns raised in the meeting, including: raises and staffing. Town hall was very talkative; no questions stifled was stifled in our perception. International priority was of great interest. Conclusion was that Scott Weldon should come to these town halls as well to answer questions of budget process.

**Sam:** Encourage faculty to come out for town halls and rely on Caucus Leaders to ask questions if group is shy.

Library – Ellen

Issues to be updated: Library staff left with DJ and other Dean. Some Librarians are concerned with the title change, committee has met, job ad has been posted. Discussion of budget struggles: **[see attached report from FS library rep Ellen Wilson]**.

Dr. Waldrop asked library to investigate Learning Commons in Marx Library, a feature at other universities.

Q: Interlibrary loan... will costs of ILL skyrocket?

A: Potentially, and also there are copyright restrictions against ordering too many articles from the same journals.

Q: Is there an update about which resources are being cut?

A: Library liaison will be contacting departments with this information; comment from Bio-Med library that Bio-Med library is feeling similar budget crunch.

**Concur: Sam—how many people have gone to the Concur training?**

Q: What is it?

A: New payment system with cards. Training tries to emphasize how to use it, and if you misuse it grounds for dismissal.

Discussion from the floor: Consensus that Concur training is painful, but E-Visions is worse.

Searches

Executive Director Library [see attached report]

Dean, Honors College: Not kicked off yet. Committee being put together.

Dean and VP, Graduate School. Interviews starting next week. Were four, one dropped out. Presentations will be announced. Try to go. CVs available on AA webpage. Brief review of Candidates' CV. If you go to the presentations, let us know what you think.

Other: Visual Arts Chair, Radiological

### **Announcements**

Town Hall meetings for all colleges

A&S is moved to October 21.

### **Old Business**

Grievance Policy. Vote intended for today but a number of concerns raised by faculty suggest the HB committee revisit the policy to determine if it needs to go back to Deans.

### **New Business**

SGA President: Student Center ballroom September 28, 11:30, Pizza with the President, Student Center.

Presentation by Joy Washington

USA Speakers' Bureau: Demonstrates web-page in the Office of marketing and communication, and invites faculty to fill in the on-line forms.

Q: When do we go live?

A: We want time to populate it first. We would like to have it up within the month. This will also become a basis for building a database for experts for media contact.

Q: If we do sign up for this, does everything we do need to take place through this site?

A: Not at all. Whatever works for you.

Sam: Something coming through the pike is a new health plan, a less expensive alternative for those who are willing to use university health plan. Would take effect in January.

Faculty Fandango

Committee Reports & Caucus Reports – Submitted in Writing

## **SCEP**

K. Chimène Gecewicz, MA

As caucus leader for the SCESP, I wanted to report that the search for a new dean was successful. Dr. Richard Carter, the newly appointed Dean of the SCESP, joined us on September 1, 2016. Dr. Carter comes to the University of South Alabama from Western Illinois University. While at Western Illinois University, Dr. Carter served as executive director of the School of Distance Learning, International Studies and Outreach. Dr. Carter earned his Ph.D. in educational administration, his M.S. in industrial technology and his B.S. in industrial education from Purdue University.

## **COE Caucus Report**

--Laureen Fregeau

The College of Education has opened two new non-certification programs for students interested in working in non-formal education careers. The Early Childhood Studies Program prepares those who want careers as teachers, directors and other professionals in child care, Head Start, Early Head Start, infant and toddler programs, private preschools, Early Intervention or other programs where teacher certification is not required. The Educational Studies Program prepares individuals to work with children, adolescents and adults in a wide variety of non-traditional educational settings, such as education departments of hospitals, correctional institutions, zoos, museums, places of workshop, mental health facilities, non-profits, and more, where teacher certification is not required.

The college has also had a new series of courses approved in International Development and Global Education. These TBL and Service Learning-format courses are directed at students who have an interest in working internationally in international development careers, with NGOs or government agencies or in service careers related to gender issues. Students meet virtually with professionals from around the globe and gain service experience in the field of international development.

The COE's Literacy Center is open and accepting clients for individual and group tutorials. The LC looks forward to serving the families of our community through low cost, individualized tutoring.

The Professional Studies Department has generated over 1.38 million in grant funding, published 9 peer-reviewed articles and 9 other publications across 10 faculty and provided a broad range of community service including St. Mary's Trauma-Informed Care Project, the Mobile Juvenile Court Collaborative, Integrated Health Care at USA Family Medicine, Mobile in Black & White - promoting community dialogues, obesity awareness with Junior League & Mobile Health Department and the Mobile Rose Initiative.

## **MCOB**

Bill Gillis

The Mitchell College of Business had its Fall "Get Connected Day" from 11am - 2pm on September 20th in the open space, outside on the second floor. Multiple tables were set up - from CEO (Collegiate Entrepreneurship Organization), to SHRm (Society for Human Resource Management), to FMA (Financial Management Association) and many others. Free hot dogs, chips, and drinks were handed out and a dunk tank was used to raise money for the flood victims in Louisiana.

The Faculty also met with Dr. Waldrop, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Smith in an open forum to cover a wide ranging set of issues.

## **USA Libraries**

**Ellen Wilson**

Search Update:

Libraries faculty met with Dr. Johnson and Dr. Bob Wood on 8/23. Some librarians are concerned with title change from dean to executive director and prefer it remain either dean or be University Librarian.

Committee members:

Bob Wood, Chair (MCOB)

Raj Chaudhury (ILC)

Barry Dale (Physical Therapy)

Mary Duffy (Libraries)

Andre Green (Education)

Susan McCready (Modern and Classical Languages & Literature)

Amy Prendergast (Marx Library)

Geneva Staggs (Biomedical Library)

Job ad was posted to library website and several listservs on 9/19/16. Also in Chronicle of Higher Education.

## **Budget:**

Marx Library's request for additional money in the budget to cover the increasing cost (inflation) of electronic resources was denied. Inflation is anticipated to cause what is effectively a budget deficit of \$190,000 - \$200k and will necessitate cancellations of journal titles and electronic databases. We will attempt to minimize the disruption to the needs of students and faculty, seek and incorporate faculty feedback, and be as transparent as possible with what cuts are happening. The first step has been to look at individual journal subscriptions that are paid through one particular vendor (deadline was this month for decisions).

## **Information Commons:**

Dr. Waldrop asked us to investigate the possibility of putting an information/learning commons in the Marx Library. This would probably occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> floor north side (IMC) and incorporate

collaborative learning spaces and learning technology. A committee has been formed. Dr. Waldrop and Dr. Johnson will visit spaces like this at other institutions. Students are being surveyed and faculty focus groups will be held mid-October.