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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – September 2007

Faculty Senators

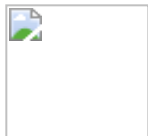
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Faculty Senate 2007-08

University of South Alabama
 Faculty Senate
 2007-2008
 September 19, 2007
 University Library, Rm.110

Approved Minutes

Present: Aliabadi, Amare, Aucoin, Baggett, Britt, Brown, Bru, Burnham, Carnahan, Carter, Crumb, Doran, Estis, Engin, Falkos, Hamilton, Heins, Johnsten, I. Khan, Z. Khan, King, Kinniburgh, Lauderdale, Li, Loomis, Major, Meyer, Morris, Perez-Pineda, Porter, Prendergast, Prescott, Prokhorov, Romey, Rowell, Santoli, Simpson, Tate, Teplick, Vrettos, Woodford, Tony Wright, Tootie Wright

Excused: Douglass, Fresne, Green, Haas, Irion, Pettyjohn, Robinson, Sachs,

Unexcused: Allison, Dardeau, McNair, Phelan, Sherman,

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:03 P.M. by Chair Tate. Quorum present.
2. Approval of Minutes: July.
 - Motion by Chair to approve minutes for the July 18 meeting; no changes or suggestions; unanimous approval.
3. Chair's Report. Chair Tate summarized points from the written report which is available in its entirety online. Highlights are listed as below:

- Budget Council Meeting, Aug. 2 & 3, 2007 The proposed budgets for the various entities in the University were presented. For FY 07/08 the State appropriation increase will be \$17.7 million. After all of the necessary expenses are covered, there is a good possibility that the University will be able to include an approximate 5% salary increase for University employees in the next fiscal year.
- University Press Conference, Aug. 28, 2007 Pres. Moulton announced that USA has now topped the 14,000 student level. This is an increase of over 700 students over last year's level. Graduate students also reached a record level with 2,810 students, which is a 2.86% increase. The number of Undergraduate student has increased by 6.07%, with a record Freshman Class of 1,671 students.
- Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting, Sept. 5, 2007 The question of the status of equity pay, as outlined by the "External Equity Adjustment Recommendations" that was passed by the Senate in Sept. 2007, was discussed. The Salary & Fringe Benefits Committee had some questions which they requested be put to the University Administration.

The Late Course Withdrawal Policy proposal was discussed.

There have been no volunteers for chairing the University Planning and Development Committee. John Sachs has agreed to be interim Chair, until a permanent chair can be determined, so the committee can convene.

The proposed "Responsibilities of Faculty Officers and Caucus Leaders" were approved by the committee and will be posted on the Faculty Senate website.

Plans are going forward for the Faculty Senate-sponsored Town Meetings.

- FS Executive Committee meeting with President Moulton, Sept. 12, 2007 The Executive Committee brought to the Administration some questions that were requested by the Faculty Senate Salary & Fringe

Benefits Committee. Also, the University Administration is actively pursuing plans for a University Club and hope to have something to announce in the near future.

- USA Foundation Board of Trustees, Sept., 17, 2007 The Board reported that the investments of the Foundation have done well for the past year. Because of the successful growth in their assets, the Board has decided to give the University double the amount of their annual commitment to the Mitchell Cancer Institute, for a total of \$3 million, for this year.

4. Old Business.

- Responsibility details of Senate Officers, Committee Chairs, and Caucus Leaders were distributed in person and are already posted on the Senate's website

5. New Business.

- *Revised* Resolution Endorsing a Modification to the Late Course Withdrawal Policy

After much discussion a vote to approve with friendly amendments was held.

The resolution passed 27 to 8 with 2 abstentions. Senate will now take this resolution forward to the Administration for their consideration.

- Town meetings. Senate will be sponsoring four town meetings for faculty. This will allow faculty to address the Senate directly with any issues, concerns, questions. The meetings are going to be held at various locations and times to reach as many faculty as possible. Food will also be served. All senators are asked to attend at least one of these meetings. Chair Tate requests that caucus leaders be at the meeting nearest his/her college.

6. Committee Reports.

- Academic Development and Mentoring (Steve Morris): No report.
- Environmental Quality (Susan Santoli): The committee is investigating any profits that might be found from recycling and have found that generally, profits do not result. Susan Santoli will be contacting Caucus Leaders to see if we can get volunteers to serve as recycling coordinators to work with Chris Willis in facilities. Committee is checking to see if:

- Mobile will be sponsoring a hazardous waste disposal day;
- Mobile is establishing a second recycling center, and if so, where;
- additional "No Smoking" signs are being posted around campus;
- recycling could be part of both the Freshman Experience and the New Faculty Orientation.

Smoot Major is going to keep the committee informed about some situations with the Nature Trail and Technology Park.

- Evaluation (Tom Johnsten): No report.
- Planning and Development (John Sachs): No report.
- Policies and Faculty Handbook (Eric Loomis): Discussion has begun in regards to grievance procedure for faculty denied tenure.
- Salary and Benefits (Jean Irion): Discussion continued about University policy on equity raises. Discussion is tabled while the committee investigates this further.
- Technology Utilization (Jie Li): Technology Fair is Oct. 26. There are 35 spots with ten of those still open. Faculty members who use technology in a creative way and willing to share that with others on campus are encouraged to participate.

7. Caucus Leader Reports.

- Allied Health (Zari Aliabadi)- Three chair positions are currently filled with interims.
- Arts and Sciences (Tony Wright)- No report.
- Continuing Education (Elliott Lauderdale)- No report.
- Computer and Information Sciences (Michael Doran): Dean search continues. Three new candidates coming in

soon.

- Education (Leah Kinniburgh): Several faculty searches going on right now.
- Engineering (Ali Engin): New senator- Peter Byrne.
- Library (Amy Prendergast): No report.
- Mitchell College of Business (Greg Prescott): AACSB (accreditation) will be on campus next month for a site visit.
- Medicine (Kevin Green): No report.
- Nursing (Karen Hamilton): New Senator- Tom Meyer. April 2009 is the proposed building completion date.

Chair Tate announced that there is still one Senate vacancy and hopefully it will be filled by October.

8. Meeting adjourned at 3:56 P.M.

[University of South Alabama - Faculty Senate - Mobile, AL 36688-0002](#)

For comments or questions about our web site, please E-mail [ap](#).

Last date changed: **October 18, 2007**

URL: <http://www.usouthal.edu/usa/fsenate/records/minutes/20070718.html>

