Faculty Senate Retreat and Meeting  
Tuesday, May 1, 2007  
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
FAMU Teleconference Center  
Presiding, Dr. Mary B. Diallo, Faculty Senate President

Faculty Senators present at the meeting were as follows:

**Officers (Present)**
Dr. Mary B. Diallo, President  
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President  
Dr. Mildred Fennal, Secretary  
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

**Senators (Present)**
Mrs. Ernestine Holmes  
Dr. Charles Ervin  
Dr. Beulah Hemmingway  
Dr. Patricia Stampe  
Dr. Robin Kennedy  
Dr. Charles Weatherford  
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud  
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku  
Dr. Henry Lewis III  
Dr. Arthur Washington  
Ms. Linda Williams  
Dr. Barbara Barnes  
Dr. Maurice Holder  
Dr. Alfredo Lorenzo  
Dr. Roscoe Hightower  
Dr. Joseph Johnson

**Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)**
Dr. Bidhan Saha  
Dr. Adeline Evans  
Lt. Col. Kelvin Scott  
Mr. Emmett Denny  
Dr. Trinetia Respress  
Ms. Lisa McClelland  
Dr. Rufus Ellis  
Dr. Angela Thornton  
Dr. Eric Kalu  
Dr. Charles Wright  
Dr. LaRae Donnellan  
Dr. Velma Roberts  
Dr. Patrick Johnson  
Dr. Thomas Pugh  
Dr. Delores Lawson

**Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) Present**
Dr. Nancy Ella Graham  
Chief Calvin Ross

**SESSION I:**

Opening Remarks: Dr. Mary Diallo, President of the Faculty Senate, called The Retreat to order at 9:30 a.m. She reflected on the last four years and read the promises she made to the Faculty Senate during her first campaign, ending by saying she hoped she had fulfilled those promises. She introduced the participants on the Models of Shared Governance panel.
Models of Shared Governance. Panelist: Dr. Perry Brown, Attorney Linda Barge Miles, Dr. Gerald Grow, and Dr. Charles Weatherford.

Dr. Weatherford began the discussion by presenting items that may be contributing to the frustration of getting things done on campus, especially regarding grants and research. The following issues were offered for discussion and proposed solutions.

1. Processing paper work
2. Frequently changing rules and forms
3. Lack of communication between administration and faculty.

The panel solicited input on how to correct the communication problems between administration and faculty.

Dr. Joseph Johnson expressed concerns that the Administration plans to disrupt university operations, citing the plan to shut down EIT on June 1, 2007 and the recent directive requiring three bids for any item ordered.

Dr. Diallo presented Dr. Maurice Holder, President-elect of the Faculty Senate. He made brief remarks concerning the state of the University.

Other Senators suggested that the Faculty Senate should insist that all rules/regulations, changes, and modifications made by Dr. Castell Bryant since January 2007 be rescinded. Senators also said that implementing grants and research projects is often hampered because paper work is not processed in a timely manner. There is a major concern that the reputation of researchers and the University is being damaged, simply because of this problem.

At the end of the discussion, Dr. Holder offered the following motion:

Since there has been a number of negative changes, accentuated by the current administration's inability to deal with policies, conditions, and governance at the University; and since Dr. Castell Bryant and her administration have contributed to these negative events; and since she has done little to deter and correct instigating and resulting circumstances; and since she has removed shared governance with faculty from procedural operations, the Faculty Senate hereby moves that Dr. Bryant be immediately removed from any decision-making, policy adjusting and leadership activity at Florida A&M University and that any policy changes made by Dr. Bryant since January 2007 be reversed.

The motion passed.

Dr. Perry Brown suggested that the Faculty Senate consider participatory change, indicating that Faculty Senators should be present at all meetings during which the Administration is discussing issues and operations that concern faculty and students.
Dr. Gerald Grow informed the Senate that the Tenure and Promotion Committee was chaired by the graduate dean. Additionally, an attorney and two administrators were also present during the meetings. He stated that this was very surprising and suggested that the Promotion and Tenure Committee should be a faculty committee. He stated that the way the committee is organized could lead to legal challenges. Dr. Evans concurred, adding that a faculty member and not an administrator should head all faculty committees.

In addition to the above issues, Senators discussed reducing the number of Faculty Senate standing committees. Senator Tom Pugh asked that Senate committees be revisited.

Dr. Evans reminded everyone that the Tenure and Promotion Committee is very important because it involves people's lives and livelihood. Dr. Lewis suggested looking at the process of selecting the tenure committee members in schools. Dr. Washington said it is necessary to complete a faculty constitution. Dr. Beulah Hemmingway reminded the senators that the procedure for selecting chairs for the Tenure and Promotion Committee is in the FAMU Constitution. Dr. Barbara Thompson, President of the FAMU UFF described the ongoing issues with tenure and promotion as a nightmare.

**COUNSELING:** Yolanda Bogan discussed services offered by the Counseling Center. Senators asked questions about the faculty role in the referral process and confidentiality of records. Faculty can refer students because all interactions are confidential. Students who do not want to be seen entering the Counseling Center on campus may go to the Bond Clinic for counseling. The service is free. Students with learning disabilities are to be referred to the Learning Disabilities Center.

**SACS Reaffirmation.** Dr. Hobbs presented an update on the SACS Reaffirmation process. She discussed the challenges facing the University. Senators discussed the problems experienced by faculty who tried to use the new Faculty Credentials database. Dr. Hobbs agreed to revisit the database. Dr. Holder asked if SACS was on course. Dr. Hobbs stated that all things were in place and FAMU should be okay.

**Campus Safety**

Chief Ross presented a PowerPoint on measures used to ensure campus safety. It showed evidence that violent crime is down on campus, but high around the campus. Larceny is the highest crime on campus. Parking is now controlled by the Police Department. It was noted that there is not adequate parking on the campus. A discussion on parking continued, and all senators received appropriate information. Senators asked Chief Ross to review lighting on campus, noting some potential problem areas. The senators were assured that there is a quarterly report issued on lighting on campus. Chief Ross announced that student escorts are no longer available because of budget cuts, but the money is being requested again. A brief discussion followed concerning the Virginia Tech massacre. Chief Ross assured Senators that procedures are in place to manage such a crisis on the campus. He discussed the emergency siren that is in place to alert students and faculty when a problem occurs on campus.
Session II

Curriculum
Allied Health presented a request for approval on a Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy. It was moved and properly seconded that the program be approved. The request must now go to the Board of Trustees.

As a follow-up to the School of Nursing’s request for approval of a Clinical Nurse Leader Program, Dr. Earp and Dr. Graham presented supporting documentation for the proposed program. Senators asked many questions about the structure and requirements. No action was taken.

Governmental Relations:
Ms. Jackie Maxley presented a legislative update. FAMU lost two million dollars because of a decrease in enrollment. She said that FAMU received a 2.7% budget increase, explaining the re-occurring and non-reoccurring items in the budget.

Linda Barge Miles stated that the handbook draft was to go online. She requested reviewers. The Faculty Senate President was asked to participate. It would appear that the Handbook Committee was made up of more administrators than faculty.

Academic Affairs
Dr. Austin presented the following points.

1. This is a great opportunity for the faculty to make an assessment of needs and share it with the new president.
2. The University needs to be able to move more efficiently and to respond more quickly.
3. The Faculty Planning Conference will be held in August, adding that Dr. Henderson chairs the committee. There will be a golf tournament during the first week of the Faculty Planning Conference as part of the new teacher orientation.
4. The College of Education received full Accreditation
5. There is concern for retention and graduation rates.

A discussion followed regarding retention and graduation rates.

Senators presented discussed many issues with Dr. Austin. Dr. Wright said that FAMU should hire researchers to tell FAMU’s story, citing the many contributions the University makes to education and society.

A committee consisting of Dr. Henry Lewis, Dr. Charles Weatherford, Dr. Patrick Johnson, Ms. Linda Williams, Dr. Angela Thornton, and Dr. Saha Bedham was established to examine and create a response to the Pappas Report.
It was moved and properly seconded that the President of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Henry Lewis, and Tom Pugh be given permission to address the response to the Pappas Report. The motion passed.

**Green Coalition:**

Dr. LaRae Donnellan reported that seven senators attended the FAMU Green Coalition retreat. She distributed a document that outlined the progress of the coalition, as well as its goals and objectives.

Dr. Worthen provided the closing remarks, and the Faculty Senate adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mildred D. Fennal
Faculty Senate Secretary