

Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, January 15, 2008
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Presiding, Dr. Maurice Holder, Faculty Senate President

Faculty Senators present at the meeting were as follows:

Officers (Present)

Dr. Maurice Holder, President
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian
Dr. Mildred Fennal, Secretary

Senators (Present)

Mrs. Ernestine Holmes
Dr. Charles Ervin
Dr. Patricia Stampe
Dr. Robin Kennedy
Dr. Charles Weatherford
Mrs. Almeta Washington
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Ms. Linda Williams
Mr. Larry Wright
Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu
Dr. Delores Lawson
Dr. Joseph Johnson
Mr. Sylvester Peck Sr.
Dr. Alfredo Lorenzo
Prof. Beth Lewis
Prof. Reginald Mombrun
Mrs. Jeneice Williams Smith
Ms. Della Daniels
Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Matthew Powers
Dr. Roscoe Hightower

Dr. Bidhan Saha
Dr. Mary Diallo
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Raymond Hix
Lt. Col. Kelvin Scott
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. LaRae Donnellan
Dr. David Jackson
Prof. Thomas Pugh
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Ms. Raquista Claitt
Dr. Velma Roberts
Prof. Rhoda Cato
Dr. Deidre Powell
Dr. Kinfe Redda
Dr. Eric Kalu
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud
Dr. Franklin Hamilton

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Lauren Sapp
Dr. Donald Palm

Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) Present

Dr. James Ammons

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Excused)

Dr. Uche Ohia

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Maurice Edington
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Barbara Mosley

SGA (Voting) (Present)

Ms. Mellori Lumpkin

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:14 P.M. by Dr. Maurice Holder, President of the Faculty Senate.
- II. **Approval of the Agenda:** It was moved and properly seconded that the Agenda be approved with the following changes. (A). Move the President and the Provost presentation up. (B). Delete alphabet "b" under Committee Reports due to the absence of Dr. Joycelyn Finley-Hervey. Delete alphabet "c" and postpone constitution final vote.
- III. **Opening Remarks:** The opening remarks were postponed in lieu of the President's presentation.
- IV. **President Ammons:** The information shared by the President was as follows:

Dr. Ammons thanked Dr. Kinfu Redda and Dr. Maurice Holder for attending the cabinet meeting.

The college of pharmacy was thanked and congratulated for the outstanding work involved in changing the status of the college by removing it from probation status.

The following new members of the President's team were announced. The new Vice President for University Relations and Executive Director of the Foundation, Carla Willis; the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Teresa Harding; the Vice President for Technology, Robert Seniors; Leroy Pernell, Dean of the School of Law; Dr. Abdulla, Dean of CESTA; Mr. William Hayes, Athletic Director; and Joe Taylor, Head Coach.

The President then addressed the budget cuts. He reminded us that he promised to do all that could be done to avoid staff and faculty cuts. However, with the proposed additional cuts (4.6 million) and revenue lost due to a decline in enrollment (10 million), the academic unit may now feel the decrease in funding. There will be a hiring freeze, positions will go unfilled, and vacant positions will be lost. Additional cuts will involve reduced travel; classes size increases and fewer sections of classes. If there is no rainy day fund there may also be lay offs and summer school reductions.

Florida A&M is offering 4 million dollars in scholarships in an effort to recruit quality students and increase enrollment. Recruitment efforts will encompass states across the country.

The President affirmed that when SACS vote in June, we should have the probation status removed from the university. Instate Tuition was increased by 5% (417 thousand dollars). One third will be used for need based (financial aid), it is hoped that the other money will be used for faculty salary increases.

Dr. Joseph Johnson questioned functioning versus non functioning schools and colleges, and the feasibility of splitting the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Ammons acknowledged that at North Carolina Central, three academic units were made from one unit. He assured the senators that he and the Provost would discuss the matter. Because of the budget cuts, the administration will have to discuss methods for more efficient functioning.

Dr. LaRae Donnellan asked specifics about hires in progress, and if we could explore ways to save energy to cut the budget. The President was not sure how that would work since the cuts are from recurring money.

Mr. Sylvester Peck Sr. had questions for FAMU DRS; the interest was how the cuts will affect the unit. Dr. Holmes the new Superintendent is in discussion with the Bargaining Unit. Money received over enrollment will have to be returned. The University received 400 thousand dollars to fund FAMU DRS.

- V. Dr. Cynthia Hughes Harris**, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs began by affirming her position to participate with the Faculty Senate. She paid tribute to Dr. Ammons for being a great Provost and certainly influencing her. She stated that she sees the Provost as an advocate for the Faculty and for the students. She believes that the position requires her to be a role model. She would like to create an environment that is less of a crisis by being a problem solver using crisis intervention.

Dr. Hughes Harris shared the following information related to what would occur from her officer in the first ninety day.

- SACS- doing what we are suppose to be doing
- Open action oriented environment
- Establishing a team who will get the job done
- Filling existing gaps (faculty)
- Being ready to challenge SACS one year from now
- Make certain specialized programs are ready for accrediting agencies
- Faculty being engaged in where they want to go
- Review new programs goals and determine if the needs are still here

In five years, Dr. Hughes Harris hopes to witness:

- Increased enrollment
- Increased programs
- Increased funds
- Increased good headlines

What are needed for this to occur are team players and team builders according to Dr. Hughes Harris. She believes that working together will net many goals even without appropriate funds.

Other beliefs include maintaining the positive reputation of the institution, assessing strengths and build on them. Assess weaknesses and get rid of them. She believes that recruitment is most important aspect of the Provost's charge. Administration, faculty and students should participate in recruitment. Retention needs equal amount of energy. Advising students and teaching is seen as important and need to be valued and heard. Collective success is important, not just for a few, but for all.

Research dollars, global experience, the local community and health disparities are all important issues, and the entire university should be involved in these areas.

The Provost said she was trying to visit all academic units. She thanked the Senators for the opportunity to speak with them.

Dr. Joseph Johnson expressed the need to put things on the table. He requested that those items that distract faculty from doing their job effectively be examined and boundaries to be imposed on faculty be defined i.e. property management. Dr. Johnson acknowledged that we are all interested in staying out of the press, and requested that a promise be made to look at inventory and other faculty task.

Dr. Charles Weatherford asked that a look be taken at the procurement process, especially the paper work flow. The Provost agreed to look at the situation.

Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud requested that administration to assist in policy and procedure necessary to manage issues with the accrediting process. She believes that familiarity with all issues will assist the school in moving forward with the process.

A request was made by Dr. Prof. Beth Lewis to have the President attend Focus on the Nation. The President said he would check his calendar

- VI. Dr. Holder** report consisted of the following information:
"Forward by Design" authored by Mr. Rosenberg is in effect, as directed by the Board of Governors. One piece of information in the document states that a graduate discipline will need twenty one students to be considered viable. That is an issue for FAMU. If twenty one graduates are not produced, the program will be deleted.

Governor's Green Initiative. The Faculty Senate needs a resolution for the Governor. Dr. Holder stated that a document is needed to show how budget cuts have affected the faculty, including retention.

VII. Dr. Donnellan reported on the Green Coalition. The report will be sent by Dr. Donnellan to the Faculty Senate Secretary. Dr. Mary Diallo encouraged everyone to watch "Kilowatt Hours".

VIII. Dr. Holder reported that there are two main concerns with funding. The graduation rates and what held the students back. The Graham-Frye Bill (?) has been thrown out. There will be more information coming via electronic mail in the President's minutes.

The Faculty Senate Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mildred D. Fennal
Faculty Senate Secretary
Rebecca Bruce
Office Manager