

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009
3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M., LEE HALL AUDITORIUM
PRESIDING, DR. MAURICE HOLDER, FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT**

AGENDA

Faculty Senators present at the meeting were as follows:

Officers (Present)

Dr. Maurice Holder, President
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President
Mrs. Jeneice Smith, Secretary
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)

Mrs. Ernestine Holmes
Dr. Raymond Hix
Dr. Joseph Johnson
Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu
Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton
Dr. Christopher Ikediobi
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud
Dr. Charles Magee
Dr. Larry Wright
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Professor Beth Lewis
Dr. Marcia Owens
Dr. Frances Stallworth
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. Charles Ervin
Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. Matthew Powers
Dr. LaRae Donnellan

Dr. Bidhan Saha
Dr. Narayan Persaud
Dr. Mary Diallo
Dr. Kandy Woods
Dr. Arthur Washington
Dr. Kinfe Redda
Mrs. Almeta Washington
Dr. Velma Roberts
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Deidra Powell
Dr. Lawrence Carter
Dr. Maurice Edington
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Janelle Baker
Professor Thomas Pugh
Dr. Hudson Nwakanma

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Donald Palm
Mr. Roland Gaines

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Edward Jones
Professor Crisarla Houston
Dr. Renee Reams
Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Alice Rozier
Dr. Ashvini Chauhan

CALL TO ORDER

The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 3:08 by Dr. Maurice Holder, Faculty Senate President.

OPENING REMARKS

DR. MAURICE HOLDER

In his opening remarks, President Holder welcomed the faculty senate back to a new term. The Vice-President of the senate, Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton, was introduced. Dr. Holder acknowledged Dr. Diallo and Dr. Worthen and their value to the senate as past president and vice-president of the faculty senate. He stated that he welcomed their involvement in the senate.

Dr. Holder commented on having high expectations this year, with communication between the various units, colleges and individuals having a key role in making this a successful year. The effectiveness of the 2009-2010 Faculty Planning Conference was highlighted. The senators were urged to share ideas for next year's pre-planning meeting with Mary Simmons.

Next, Dr. Holder stated that in the packets today are copies of the faculty senate schedule of activities, with dates and times. We were asked to share this information with our colleagues in the various units. Also in the packet is a flyer announcing that nominations will be accepted by the office of the Provost, October 12, 2009-November 16, 2009 for the teacher, advisor and advanced teacher of the year. There is also a form for traits of an effective senator. Please fill this out and turn in to Ms. Bruce before you leave today.

This meeting's agenda was compiled by the executive committee comprised of Dr. Maurice Holder, Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton, and Dr. James Muchovej, due to the fact that the time for the meeting was too close to the Steering Committee Meeting. The Steering Committee met on 9/7/09 and this meeting is early (9/15), but it is the third Tuesday. The month started on a Tuesday, September 1, 2009.

Dr. Holder and Dr. Singleton met with the President to discuss the activities of the faculty. From this meeting there are four items which will be termed as Presidential concerns. 1) The H1N1 virus is here. What are we going to do as a faculty to be on the forefront of how this affects the minority community? A committee lead by _____ will look into our involvement. 2) What are we going to do as a faculty to be a part of the Health forum reform? 3) Under sustainability, we note that the FAMU Green Coalition started in the Faculty Senate. Dr. Donnellon is on sabbatical this semester. However she left comments which will be read to the senate. 4) Awards program. Later in this semester one general awards program through the Provost office will be given. The Steering Committee will look at a way to assess the administration also.

This is the time to make committee assignments. Full representation on all committees according to the constitution is needed. These committees will make brief reports to the senate.

INSTALLATION OF NEW SENATORS

Attorney Thomas was asked to come forward for the installation of new senators. The new senators were asked to stand and repeat the oath. Following this, Attorney Thomas proclaimed the senators duly sworn.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 15 MEETING AGENDA

President Holder asked the Senate to approve the September 15th meeting agenda. It was so moved and properly seconded that the agenda be approved. After the vote, the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

President Holder stated that copies of the minutes from the Faculty Senate Retreat held on May 5, 2009, have been passed out in the packets today and some are available in the back today. Time was given to review the minutes. Dr. Holder asked for approval of the minutes. It was moved and properly seconded that the minutes of the May 5th, Faculty Senate Retreat be approved with the necessary corrections. The call for questions was given. With no questions raised, the motion to accept the May 5th minutes, with the necessary correction, was approved.

PRESIDENT REMARKS

Dr. Holder introduced Dr. James Ammons and asked him to come forward for remarks. President Ammons thanked Dr. Holder and offered greetings to the officers and members of the faculty senate. He also acknowledged the SGA Vice-President, Calvin Hayes attendance today.

The President started out on a sad note by announcing that Courtney Simms, a senior in the School of Journalism and Graphic Communication, passed away on Monday, September 14, 2009, from a case of bacterial meningitis. He offered condolences to the family and to the School of Journalism. Ms. Simms was residing off campus and was receiving proper medical attention. He assured the senate that precautionary measures are being taken to access those she was in contact with.

The President stated that other than these incidents, we are off to a good start this year. We have had growth in the enrollment. As of this meeting we have 12,278 students enrolled. This fall we have a freshmen class of 2,067. Last year this number was 1,836. The numbers are going in the right direction.

Dr. Ammons thanked Drs. Holder and Singleton for sharing issues of the faculty with him. He stated that the administration is working hard to make sure they address these issues. This summer the Board entertained recommendations from the President. Items considered were:

- Improve the over academic experience on campus.

- Working to enhance technology.
- Putting in place the infrastructure for new courses and programs. Faculty must be engaged in all types of teaching.
- Increase amount of private and other resources. 1.2 million dollars in stimulus dollars has been awarded to Allied Health Science and Nursing Scholarships. Grants for Public Health Institute, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science have been applied for. Speaking with the Congressional delegation on tomorrow to help us to bring dollars to FAMU. FAMU is doing a good job in helping the government spend the stimulus money. 30 million dollars in research proposals are being evaluated. We need to leverage our brain by partnering with others.

The Presidents will

Our new Diplomat in Resident will be here by October 1, 2009. FAMU is one of 14 schools with this program in place. New programs are under development. The President will be meeting with the new regent, Frank Brogan to talk about new programs. The School of Dentistry proposal is the #1 legislative priority. The State of Florida has the capacity to fund the School of Dentistry.

Next, we have embarked on a comprehensive plan for the athlete program. We are talking about major funds. The NFL Hall of Fame inducted Bob Hayes. The athletes need to see faculty at events-we need to support them as they work to complete their education.

Finally the President Ammons said that this time is a teachable moment. Today we have an African American President, new environmental concerns, green economic, new jobs, H1N1 virus, and financial crises. Research will be done on all these issues. We have a rich pool of issues. Join President Holder and Vice-President Singleton and be a part of this creation of new knowledge.

Dr. Holder thanked the President for his remarks and then invited questions from the floor.

Dr. Joseph Johnson stated that there is an immediate crisis with concern to student support. Graduate support monies are not being processed in a timely fashion. He question giving the students one lump sum of money. He made comments on the procedures for distributing student stipends and the current process. Dr. Johnson asked the President for intervention in this serious matter.

The response from President Ammons was that he would look into this. There were no further questions for the President. Next Dr. Holder asked the Provost to greet the senate.

Dr. Cynthia Hughes Harris greeted the faculty senate and stated that we have more challenges this year than last year. Dr. Hughes Harris thanked the faculty as a hold. She stated that teachers have larger classes, they are teaching more and in spite of the stress, they continue to plan, dream and carry out visions in spite of everything.

Dr. Hughes Harris said that the President talked about a number of Technology advances we are making, including Blackboard updates. In addition to that, we are focusing more and differently on international issues. We are always focused on retention and we are doing an exceptional job of retention. We have initiated the Freshman Seminar Series through the QEP and Critical Thinking.

The Provost stated that if there is anything she would encourage it is for faculty to continue to ask for stimulus dollars. Summer workshops were held for faculty to help access this money. She advised the faculty to access grants.gov daily. The last comments made by the Provost concerned the kick off and the activities of the Lyceum Series.

There were no questions for the Provost.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RESEARCH AWARDS

Dr. Redda came forward and stated that he was here today to bring the senate up to date on the status of the Research Award. The document has been clarified through the general council. Dr. Larry Robinson says the money is available. A lot of time has passed since we started this. The committee drafted the document listing the criteria. Just to summarize the awards: Recognizing that awards are given to teachers, we agreed that we should also reward researchers. The document is in the packets today. There are three levels of awards.

1. The Distinguished Researcher Award-to be presented with \$5,000 and a plaque
2. Research Excellence Award- 6 years, \$3,000 monetary award may be presented up to three individuals
3. Emerging Researcher Award- up to three awards to be presented, each with a \$2,000 monetary award.

Every October, faculty are to check the budget, the committee revised how to be nominated; the nomination form is included as well as the deadline times and the application.

Dr. Holder asked the senators to read over the document and it will be presented at the next meeting. Remember, that this document was presented, approved, rescinded, placed on hold until the general council could review it and now, the document will be presented at the next Faculty Senate Meeting in October.

Questions:

Dr. Kennedy asked how much money is available. Dr. Holder stated that the money is coming from the Division of Research. Dr. Larry Robinson has a total of \$20,000.00 set aside for this.

Another query asked is there a parallel award for non-research awards. Dr. Holder stated that the non-research awards are the Teacher and Advisor of the Year Awards. After the discussion, Dr. Holder stated that he would entertain a motion to accept the report from the Research Award Committee. It was properly motioned and seconded. The motion passed.

B. TRAVEL AWARDS

Dr. Roscoe Hightower stated that a copy of this report is in the folder. There were 7 travel awards recipients. Dr. Hightower wanted to make the senators aware that there had been a delay in providing reimbursements to three faculty members. A question

was raised as to who received the awards. Dr. Holder interjected that Ms. Bruce would place a list of recipients on the webpage. Dr. Hightower stated that the announcement for the fall 2009 Faculty Senate Travel Grant will be made after the committee meets over the next several weeks.

Dr. Holder asked for a motion to accept the report. It was properly motioned and seconded to accept the report. The motion carried. Dr. Holder stated that the three persons concerned would be getting their reimbursements in the near future.

Next, Dr. Joseph Johnson approached the microphone to call for a point of order. Dr. Johnson stated that in the packet today there is an announcement concerning the teacher of the year. Dr. Johnson said that while he recognized that this topic is not an agenda item today, the point of order is that nothing should be presented in the folder unless it is up for approval or discussion. Dr. Johnson further stated that the eligibility section as printed, rules out all physics professors from being eligible for this award.

Dr. Holder asked to make a few comments on the history of this award. He stated that this started in Dyson 102, the University Senate voted unanimously to establish a teacher of the year award. For the first two years no award was given. In 1985 Dr. Humphrey asked this body to revisit the teacher of the year award. In 1988 the plan was approved by Dr. Hogg, Vice-President and Provost and the general faculty. The first award was made at the commencement ceremony in 1988. Dr. Holder stated that he was the first recipient of the award. Under the same guidelines, the applications go through the office of the vice-president. Dr. Holder stated that since concerns had been raised we will revisit this. It will be brought forward to the steering committee to be revisited. Dr. Johnson responded that Dr. Redda and the Research Award was put through a bruising review process, the Green Coalition which was established here in the faculty senate worked through the process, but this award has not been scrutinized through the same faculty senate process. It has to be given a much more thorough examination.

Mr. Tshaka Randall from Law School commented that he and his colleagues would also be excluded from receiving this award as it is now stated.

Dr. Holder asked Dr. Johnson to put his request in the form of a motion. It was so moved by Dr. Joseph Johnson that we revisit the teacher of the year award. The motion was properly seconded. Dr. Holder called for questions.

- Dr. Hudson and Dr. Hightower both stated that this award has already been established and did not seem to need discussion.
- Dr. Marcia Owens asked does the motion apply to this year's process.
- Another comment made was that the motion as made is much broader than simply revisiting the teacher of the year award.

To clarify Dr. Johnson's motion, Dr. Holder stated that we would be revisiting the criteria for the award, not the need for the award. Dr. Holder said that with the senate's permission, he would ask for an immediate meeting of the steering committee to revisit this award.

- Dr. Dorothy Henderson came forward to state that she remembered that the Teacher of the Year and the Advisor of the Year award was mandated by a statute from the Florida Legislature to "enhance undergraduate teaching". This was during Dr. Fenceroy's tenure as Faculty Senate President.

Dr. Holder called for the vote on the motion to revisit the teacher of the year award. The vote was 18 in favor of revisiting the award, 13 against revisiting and one abstained. The motion passed. Dr. Holder said that this issue will now go before the steering committee.

NEW BUSINESS

SENATE ELECTIONS-DR. JAMES MUCHOVEJ

Dr. Muchovej stated that according to the by-laws at next month's meeting we are to hold elections for members to serve on the steering committee. The steering committee is to be comprised of one person from each unit, college or school.

Also, we are to elect members to the Committee on Committees. These members will serve a two year staggered term.

Dr. Muchovej also stated that due to the fact that we elect at the October meeting, it may be beneficial to amend, in the by-laws, the way we elect committees.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC COMMITTEES-DR. MAURICE HOLDER

Dr. Holder announced that the establishment of Ad Hoc committees would be tabled until after talking with Brian Lewis at the next meeting or the steering committee meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Mrs. Jeneice W. Smith, Faculty Senate Secretary
Mrs. Rebecca Bruce, Faculty Senate Office Manager