

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010
3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M., BCBS AUDITORIUM, ROOM 103
NEW PHARMACY BUILDING
PRESIDING, DR. MAURICE HOLDER, FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT

Officers (Present)

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

Senators (Present)

Dr. Charles Magee	Ms. Linda Williams
Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu	Dr. Clyde Ashley
Dr. Lekan Latinwo	Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku	 Mrs. Almeta Washington
Dr. Dreamal Worthen	Dr. Ngozi Gochukwu
Dr. Cynthia Davis	Dr. Marian Smith
Dr. Marcia Owens	Dr. Angela Murphy
Dr. Roscoe Hightower	Dr. Bettye Grable
Dr. Janelle Baker	Dr. Edward Jones
Dr. Ashvini Chauhan	Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Janet Marshall	Dr. Desmond Stephens
Dr. Narayan Persaud	Dr. Lambert Kanga
Dr. Tshaka Randall	Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Velma Roberts	Dr. Kandy Woods
Prof. Beth Lewis	 Dr. Hudson Nwakanma
Dr. Renee Reams	 Dr. Alice Rozier

Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Donald Palm
Dr. Uche Ohia
Dr. Lauren Sapp

CALL TO ORDER

The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 3:25 by Dr. Maurice Holder, Faculty Senate President.

OPENING REMARKS

DR. MAURICE HOLDER

Dr. Holder began his opening remarks by stating that this is a call meeting designed specifically to look at the budget cuts to be made. Programs and personnel may be affected. The purpose of this meeting is to allow us have discussion, to come up with suggestions, and possible develop a white paper.

President Holder asked Mr. Herbert Bailey to make brief comments on the discussion of the budget from the Budget & Planning Council. Mr. Bailey informed us that in the House of Representatives, there is leniency towards education. The Senate needs to make their recommendation. He also said that the numbers thrown out there are 7.5%, 15%, 20% and more. We don't know yet, but 5% or 7% is still bad for the University. 80% of the budget is Salaries & OPS. Ms. Hardee is working with guiding principles for the Leadership Team. We just don't want to be caught unprepared.

Dr. Palm commented that if there are cuts, the University would treat everyone with respect and give enough time & notice.

Dr. Ashley asked if the budget had been broken down into categories of student, faculty, and administration and he also asked "where is the fat"?

The response was that cuts are not across the board – it is strategic and we don't know the bottom line.

Dr. Davenport asked has collective bargaining been consulted. She stated that we must do things right by giving people notice. That's a year notice for some. She urged us to come up with a holistic viewpoint.

Dr. Holder commented that today we are gathering information. A question from the senate floor asked if a buy-out program had been looked into.

Dr. Davenport commented that additional NEA money is going to HBCU's. She questioned if we have we gotten that money and what are we going to do with it?

Presently we know that the University is considering the elimination of departments and we know that low productivity is being looked at, was the response from Dr. Bailey

For the record, Dr. Ellis announced that his Theory of Practice class is in attendance today. Dr. Latinwo commented that he sees two gaps here. First, we don't know what the Administration is doing and second, we don't know what the state is doing.

The discussion continued with Dr. Holder stating that rather than being retroactive, we want to be proactive. We do know that the University's recommendations have been made. The final decision will come from the leadership team, administration and the BOT. We want to be included in that process. This is the way we can be proactive in the process.

More questions were raised from the senate floor concerning the University's actual budget amount and the final cut. Also members wanted to be given more information about what is going on in this process from the administrative side of the University. Dr. Holder stated that the University's budget is public information. It is shared in the library and in the academic affairs office. It is not hidden. His view on today is that if we give a few suggestions like holding the library harmless, it may help the administration make some decisions.

Dr. Ashley, SBI, said that for clarification, we can do different scenarios. We can suggest what would happen if we had a 6% cut, a 7% cut, a 15% cut. It would help in the process. We don't know what the University has done in this process. The information would help us. It would give us a foundation or a basis to make recommendations.

At this time the Parliamentarian announced that a quorum had been reached.

Dr. Shaw, ESI, said that he is unclear as to whether or not we have a process. His question was, "Is there a report"? Dr. Holder responded by saying that the President met with the whole steering committee – 2 other meetings took place. The steering committee met and a sub-committee was formed and came up with a report. That is the report that you have. Other comments were made at the last faculty senate meeting.

Dr. Davenport came forward and said that this is like "shooting fish in a bucket. It is not logical. She herself asked for retention and graduation numbers. 347 OPS still waiting for information. Data needs to be offered as to what we can do.

Mr. Bailey said that the data we are using is the data the deans collected from their units. CEO Hardee and the Provost are going to meet and look at what has been collected.

Charles McGee stated that some faculty don't know what went forward from their colleges
Dr. Marian Smith said that we are wasting time talking. We are looking at this from a practical view. We need to look at this as a strategic point. We need to know what the school is planning. Dr. Roberts added that some deans have been very transparent in this.

Dr. Tshaka Randall came forward and stated that nobody is doing anything yet. We, as the faculty senate, are here to have a conversation about where we might be going.

Dr. Ashley asked for a point of information. He said that we have a time constraint problem.

Dr. Holder said that if we are going to have input into the process, we must get information in by April 21st. He then asked Dr. Persuad to explain how we would continue from this point.

Dr. Persuad said first, there are no ground rules. Next, he said forget about the list or group you were placed in. We were then asked to break up into groups with seven or eight in each group. In the groups we are to make suggestion as to how we would deal with the budget cuts. Some people may be in favor of cutting positions; others may want to see double dipping cut out, or the administration cut. Dr. Persuad said that we are here to brainstorm on possibilities. He also said that what we say may be accepted or may not be accepted, but we will have gotten our input in.

At this time the attendees separated into five groups. After the allotted time Dr. Holder called the group discussions to a halt. Dr. Persuad thanked everyone for their participation and asked for reports from the individual groups. Reports were presented by Dr. Davenport, Dr. Reams, Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku, Dr. Cynthia Davis and Mr. Carl Moore. Dr. Holder asked that all reports be forwarded to Dr. Persuad for compilation and inclusion in the minutes. Dr. Persuad stated that there was some duplication from the groups, so in the compilation, he would eliminate any duplicated suggestions. This was agreeable to the senators.

Dr. Holder emphasized that this group serves as an advisor to the President. He stated that these suggestions will be sent to the President. The main thing is that these suggestions must go forward by the 5th of next month. The Board of Trustees will meet on April 21st.

Dr. Latinwo stressed that this is just the beginning. We will need more dialog and more analytical data.

With no further questions, comments or suggestions, Dr. Holder called for a motion a motion to adjourn. It was so moved and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.