1. Call to Order

The November 16, 2010, Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 3:20
by Faculty Senate President, Dr. Maurice Holder.
2. Opening Remarks  

Dr. Maurice Holder  

Dr. Holder began his opening remarks by stating that we have no action items up front. We will therefore have the President’s remarks and then continue forward.

3. Administration Remarks  

President James Ammons  

President James Ammons greeted the senate and thanked Dr. Holder for moving his remarks up on the agenda, so that he would be able to address the faculty senate before taking off to Jacksonville. Dr. Ammons encouraged everyone to make the most of the coming week, and to enjoy the game on the weekend because we are headed for darker days.

- He stated there is no move to raise new revenue through new taxes. As a reminder, he stated that the stimulus dollars end on June 30th.
- We have to do things differently here at FAMU and prepare for July 1st, 15% cuts (13 million dollars). We are at a time when we need to work together to restructure FAMU and we have to do things differently. Who would have thought that the 2010 Budget at FAMU would be the same as it was in 2002?
- Input is being gathered for putting together our plan to be presented on December 1st & 2nd at the Board of Trustees meeting in Orlando. We will present our process and guidelines for trimming our budget. This will be in addition to the 13 + 7.9 (8) totaling 21 million dollars possibly being cut beginning on July 1.
- A focus group of faculty, staff, and students participated in this process, nearly 250 were recommended. A total of 100 were randomly selected to discuss what this university would look like in 3 years. We want to make certain that all are aware of the process. We must transform the University and maintain our signature programs. All must have a voice in the restructuring of this university. Cuts are inevitable if the revenue is not there.
- We are looking at a projected 2.5 billion dollar shortfall from the State of Florida. The President is asking all to participate in this dialogue on how we can close the gap. This is on top of the 30 million we have already cut.

Questions:

- Dr. Davenport – If you are still collecting information, what are you going to present on December 1st and 2nd? Dr Ammons responded that a plan on how we will get to 13 million dollars will be presented. The process on how we are going to do this will be presented.
- Dr. Davenport - When will this be done? How are we going to reorganize the campus in 3 weeks?
- Dr. Grable – What are our signature programs?
The President stated that an analysis is being done by an Academic Affairs task force to look at program qualities. The Provost was asked to further explain this. The Provost stated that the task force made up of about 35 members is looking at the best way to operate the university. The task force will have information from others. We will put all that together and make a final recommendation. We are looking at high productivity programs and low productivity programs. How do we label all of these? We are looking at everything.

- Dr. Persaud stated that he was concerned about the validity of the information because people use antidotal information; not valid information. What assurance is there that we will receive valid information from the focus group? The President stated that our analysis will be formed by using data from programs, service functions and reports.

- The President asked the senators if they reported the information from the Faculty Senate back to their units. He stated that Faculty Senators should be on the agenda in the unit faculty meetings.

- Dr. Holder commented that in our restructuring efforts we need to make bold moves, not tentative moves and not to be afraid. He also said that we need to think as they did in 1887. Dr. Holder ended his comments by stating that restructuring is not a bad thing. We need to make bold decision in our efforts.

In his final comments the President proclaimed that his number one goal is to keep the faculty and staff employed. We probably did not notice the cuts in supplies and travel. Now, 80% of what we have left is in personnel. The next rounds of cuts are going to be bold and we are going to be different.

Dr. Holder thanked the President for taking the time to address the senate. After remarks coming from the President, the Parliamentarian announced that we had reached a quorum. Dr. Holder stated that the chair would entertain a motion to approve the November 16th meeting agenda.

4. Approval of November 16th meeting agenda
   It was properly moved and seconded to approve the November 16th meeting agenda. After the vote was taken, the motion passed. The agenda was approved.

5. Approval of October Minutes
   There are two sets of minutes for the October meeting. The first set presented by Senator Davis and the second set transcribed from the recording of the meeting by the secretary. The two sets of minutes are almost
the same. You have both sets of minutes. After you have had a chance to review the minutes of the October meeting, the chair will entertain a motion to approve the October 19th minutes, with the necessary corrections. Are there any corrections? It was properly moved and seconded to approve the October 19th minutes. After the vote was taken, the motion passed. The minutes were approved.

6. Continuing Business
   A. Curriculum Committee
      Dr. Maurice Edington
      Dr. Edington presented items for new courses from CESTA, Pharmacy and Education. President Holder asked for a motion to approve the recommendations coming from the Curriculum Committee. It was moved by Senator Jackson and seconded by Senator Smith to approve the recommendations coming from the Curriculum Committee. There was a question raised by Dr. James Muchovej; which follows: “Who would teach the new CESTA Statistics course and why was it not being taught in the mathematics department?” After a few brief comments, Dr. Holder asked the Senators to remember that the senate is only being asked to give its approval for CESTA to create a new course. All other logistics will be handled by the appropriate parties. Dr. Friday-Shroud stated that what CESTA is requesting is not uncommon. After the vote, the motion passed.

      Dr. Edington continued with the next 5 items in which items 1-4 were from the Computer Science Department. 1) A name change for the Department; 2) A new BS minor in Information Technology; 3) A minor in Computer science; and 4) A minor in Computer Science. These are all new program request.

      Dr. Holder asked for a motion on the recommendations coming from the Curriculum committee. It was properly moved and seconded to accept the recommendations. There were no questions. The motion carried.

      Item number 5 was a request from the school of Nursing. Dean Norman made a brief presentation on behalf of the School of Nursing stating that this is a Distance Learning track for a MSN program in Women’s Health. After the presentation, it was moved by Dr. Palm and seconded by Dr. Redda to approve the on-line course in Nursing. There were no questions. The motion carried. Dr. Edington thanked the senate and announced that QEP will meet tonight & tomorrow night. He asked everyone to please notify the students about the freshman seminar.
B. Benevolent and Condolence Committee  
Dr. Deidre Powell

Dr. Deidre Powell requested to move the presentation from the Benevolent and Condolence Committee to the January 2011 faculty senate meeting. The request was granted.

C. FAMU Travel Award  
Dr. Roscoe Hightower

Dr. Rosco Hightower presented a recommendation from the FAMU Travel Awards committee to award 1,000.00 to recipients for fall 2011 awards. The following four FAMU faculty are recommended to the FAMU Faculty Senate for approval for the fall 2010 grants.

E.G. Davis – College of Education
V. Eno – College of Arts & Sciences
E. C. Lewis – School of Architecture
Abate – College of Law

Dr. Holder asked for a motion on awarding 1,000.00 for the fall 2011 FAMU Travel Awards and approving the recommended faculty. It was so moved and seconded. The motion was approved.

Senator Elizabeth Lewis recommended that the window of travel time be changed. Dr. Hightower replied that the deadline for spring 2011 awards is December 2, 2010. Attorney Tshaka Randall asked if the applications had been received.

Dr. Diallo announced that she had been given the travel award amounts for 2008-09 and wanted to read them so they would be included in the minutes.

Ms. Kristen Bowens  $1,000.00  Criminology
Dr. Cynthia Cook  $4,087.00  Criminology
Ms. Jeannette Cox  $537.44  Library
Dr. Charles Ervin  1,631.00  Education
Dr. Margaret Gitau  2,400.00  CESTA
Dr. Bettye Grable  2,864.00  CJGC
Dr. Huberta Jackson-Lowman  1,483.00  Psychology
Total Awarded  $13,606.64

D. Revisit/Intro to Environmental Sciences  
Dr. Marcia Owens

Dr. Marcia Owens stated that in April of 2008 approval of a new Environmental Science course; (EVR 1001) had been tabled by the Faculty Senate. The course is needed now and Dr. Owens asked that the course be removed from being tabled to allow the senate to take action on it. She further explained that the course had been through
the proper channels of the Department and the Curriculum Committee; however, it was deferred here at the Faculty Senate. Dr. Holder stated that the chair would entertain a motion to move the item from being tabled. It was properly moved and seconded to remove the item from the table. The motion carried.

Next, Dr. Holder stated that now that this item is off the table, the chair would entertain a motion to approve the request from the Environmental Science Department to approve the new course, EVR 1001. It was properly moved and seconded to approve the request from the Environmental Science Department to approve the new course, EVR 1001. After two brief questions concerning the resolution of the general education requirements and other course options, the motion carried.

New Business

A. Distance Learning

Provost Cynthia Hugh Harris
Drs. Maurice Holder/Narayan Persaud

Dr. Holder asked Provost Cynthia Hughes Harris to come forward and make a presentation on Distance Learning. The Provost, in turn, introduced the Distance Learning team and turned the presentation over to Dr. Francetta Fitz. Dr. Fitz presented a slide presentation on where FAMU stands on Distance Learning. Items covered in the presentation included:

- New College & FAMU not offering online programs
- Part of our Strategic Plan is to form this program
- The evolution of Distance Learning at FAMU
- Usage statistics on Blackboard
- Why we must do it, and do it now

The Provost described how we can start this now. She introduced HBCUsOnline.com. This company brought together university presidents to discuss this issue. Dr. Hughes Harris said that our charge from Dr. Ammons is to make this happen here at FAMU. The Provost continued the presentation on HBCU online by describing the company and its team. The team consists of Tom Joyner, Sr., Tom Joyner, Jr., and several others. The Provost made comments on four other members of the team. Dr. Gerald Hedber, Mr. Vince Conti-CEO, Dr. Adrian Butler -IT, and Dr. Oceana Wright. FAMU already has three graduate programs identified.

SBI – Masters in Business Administration, full time graduate
College of Pharmacy – Masters in Public Health, full-time graduate
School of Nursing – Masters of Science in Nursing, full-time graduate.

Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud presented SACS mandated procedures. In July, a notification letter was sent to SACS. 25%-49% needed notification. FAMU’s Distance Education substantive change prospectus – 6 months prior to offering 50% or more.

Question: Are we ready to support this online, given our issues with iRattler, and CRM?

Dr. Hughes presented projected cost/tuition. Dr. Fitz presented the Future of Distance Education at FAMU, the expected growth in the next five years, establishing committees, the pre-pilot program in SBI and the launching of the remaining programs in August 2011.

Questions for the Distance Learning team included:

- Dr. Jackson asked a question on out of state tuition for in and out of state students and block tuition.
- Dr. Davenport asked about faculty involvement and if it has been being outsourced? Will faculty be in total control? Will this bring changes to faculty contracts? Who will own the course? The Provost responded that the faculty will own it.
- Dr. Betty Grable asked Mr. Seniors if students will have access through blackberries. Dr. Seniors stated that mobile versions are offered now. Senators were invited to stop in room 303 Lee Hall to update access.
- Dr. Persuad stated that he understands the urgency of online education. He asked how many of the institutions with online education programs have 3rd party vendors and what is the remuneration? What will they be paid? The Provost remarked that the students will be charged through tuition. The vendor will get some and the university will get some. Both the vendors and the University will obtain this.

- Mr. Seniors was asked if the infrastructure was in place to support this. His reply was that 7,500 students are to be targeted. In May, all of the hardware will be transitioned to a brand new system. There was a concern as to the scale to which faculty will be trained. Now, faculty may only be using Blackboard for attendance. We will need to focus on faculty training.
Dr. Ohia was concerned about student testing and assessment. The Provost stated that students will be tested similar to the University of Maryland students.

Atty. Randall asked about compensation for faculty time and effort and the additional work this will involve.

This concluded the presentation on Distance Learning. The Provost thanked everyone for their time and comments.

8. Announcements
   No announcements were made.

9. Adjournment
   President Holder asked for a motion to adjourn. It was so moved and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeneice W. Smith
Faculty Senate Secretary

Rebecca Bruce
Faculty Senate Office Manager