Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January, 15, 2013
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Dr. Narayan Persaud, Presiding

Officers (Present)
Dr. Narayan Persaud, President
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President
Dr. Joe Ann Houston, Secretary
Mr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)
Dr. Ernestine Holmes    Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Frances Stallworth    Dr. Lamba Kanga
Dr. Mary Diallo    Dr. Narayan Persaud
Dr. Charles Magee    Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport    Prof. Beth Lewis
Prof. Kandy Woods    Prof. Aurelia Alexander
Dr. Lavetta Henderson    Dr. Ann Marie Cavazos
Dr. Pat Broussard    Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Carl Moore    Dr. Chao Li
Dr. Andrew Skerritt    Ms. Jeneice Smith
Dr. Hudson Nwakanma    Dr. Bettye Grable
Dr. Elijah Johnson    Dr. Renee Reams
Dr. Marcia Owens    Dr. Joe Ann Houston
Ms. Edith Carnley    Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Huberta Jackson-Lowman    Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. Gervin Robertson    Mrs. Marci Duncan
Dr. Na’Imah Ford    Dr. Lewis Johnson
Dr. Desmond Stephens    Dr. Nazarius Lamango
Dr. Ronald B. Lumpkin    Dr. Angela Murphy
Dr. Dreamal Worthen

Senators (Absent)
Lt. Diana Hess    Dr. Endya Stewart
Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu    Dr. Uloma Onubogu
Dr. Peter Kalu

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)    Senators (Excused)
Dr. Ruth Swan    Dr. Deidre Evans
Dr. Donald Palm    Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku

Mrs. Brenda Bryant
SGA (Voting) (Present)
Mr. Michael Jefferson

The monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate was opened by President/Senator Narayan Persaud at 3:20 p.m. President Persaud announced items on the agenda were carried over because we’d not had a quorum at the last meeting. He then thanked the Convocation speaker and gave highlights of the MLK Convocation.

It was motion and seconded that the agenda be accepted. Motion carried.

Motioned and seconded that the November minutes be adopted. The motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was administrative updates by Interim President Larry Robinson. The President began by welcoming the senators to the first Senate Meeting of the year. He then provided information on the following items.

1. Planned response to the Inspector General on the Anti-Hazing Program. – The University has until January 23 to respond to this report. The University’s responses can only address factual inaccuracies in the report. The Board of Governors will address this report at its meeting on tomorrow, January 16.

2. New appointments – He announced the appointment of the Special Assistant to the President for Hazing and the Band Director. He did not provide names.

3. BOG Meeting – The chairman of the university’s Board of Trustees will address the Board of Governors on Thursday to give an up-date on the presidential search.

4. SACS Report – The University is waiting for the full report.

5. Auditor General’s Report – The Operating Report from the Auditor General is in and has some twenty-five (25) findings. Issues from July 11, 2011 – June 30, 2012 are currently being worked on. The University has thirty (30) days to respond.

6. An impending federal report

7. Sabbatical, Promotion and Professional Development – Dr. Robinson announced

The floor was then opened for questions.

 Senator Latinwo thanked the interim president for his transparency. He asked about the appointment of a permanent VP for Research. Dr. Robinson said he was concerned about the length of the vacancy since it has not been permanently filled since 2010. He indicated, however, that the permanent president should have an opportunity to fill any vice president positions.
Next item on the agenda were remarks from the provost. Interim Provost, Rodner Wright provided the following information.

1. Enrollment – As of January 14, the total enrollment was 10,916 students as compared to 11,959 last year. Enrollment is down about 1,000.
2. Technology – Mr. Wright discussed the purchased of new computers.
3. Vacant positions – He announced the following vacancies and thanked the search committees.
   A. College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities
   B. Science and Technology
   C. School of Environmental Sciences
   D. School of Nursing
   E. Director of Libraries
4. SACS – Mr. Wright thanked President Persaud and Vice President Worthen for providing faculty to work on SACS. The work group will be chaired by Drs. Gita Pitter and Maurice Edington.

The house was then opened for questions and comments.

- Senator Roscoe Hightower asked about the administrative policy on canceling classes. The provost responded.
- Senator Elizabeth Davenport talked about the comments that came from the Faculty Senate-sponsored Town Meeting. She encouraged administration to cast a wider net to involve faculty.
- Senator Pat Broussard asked about personally support good news for the University. It was suggested that she make future requests through the academic unit.
- Senator Huberta Jackson-Lowman asked about spreading the good news at the University. She asked about the radio station.
- Senator Joe Ann Houston asked about the re-branding allocation that was made by the BOT and the need to present the University in a more positive light.

The next item on the agenda was about Faculty Evaluations. The item was presented by Ivey Williams from the Office of Student Retention.

The final agenda item was a report of the Curriculum Committee. The report was presented by Senator Neil James. It was motioned and seconded that the report of the Curriculum Committee be adopted. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Faculty Senate be adjourned. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Joe A. Houston
Recorder