

Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Tuesday, October 21, 2014
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Dr. Bettye A. Grable, Presiding

Officer (Present)

Dr. Bettye Grable, President
Dr. Joe Ann Houston, Secretary
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)

Dr. William Guzman
Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Huberta Jackson-Lowman
Dr. Paulette Reneau
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Desmond Stephens
Dr. Lavetta Henderson
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Raymond Hix
Dr. Violetka Tsoleva
Dr. Keawin Sarjeant
Dr. Ann Marie Cavazos
Prof. Joseph Grant
Dr. John Cooperwood
Dr. Maurice Holder
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. Carl Moore
Dr. Dawn Brown-Cross
Dr. Ronald Lumpkin
Dr. Clyde Ashley
Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Aretha Hill
Dr. David Guthrie
Dr. Sevilla Bronson
Dr. Elijah Johnson
Ms. Jeneice Smith
Mrs. Ernestine Holmes

Ex-Officio (Voting)(Present)

Mrs. Faye Watkins
Dr. Donald Palm

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Aurelia Alexander

Senators (Absent)

Mrs. Marci Duncan
Dr. Na’Imah Ford
Dr. Merlin Langley
Dr. Jermaine Robertson
Dr. James Strohaber
Dr. Jesse Edwards
Dr. Margaret Gitau
Dr. Nise Nekheba
Dr. Perry Brown
Mr. Sylvester Peck
Ms. Raquista Claitt
Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Chao Li
Dr. Olivier Chamel
Dr. Marcia Owens

SGA Voting (Present)

Mr. Ronnie Mackey, II

The Faculty Senate was called to order by President/Senator Bettye Grable at 3:30 when it was determined a quorum was present. President/Senator Grable recommended giving the immediate past president of the Senate, Narayan Persaud, the Golden Medallion Award. It was motioned and seconded

this Award be given to Dr. Persaud. The question was called. The motion carried unanimously. President/Senator Grable promised the Senate Office will make sure Dr. Persaud receives the award before the end of the semester.

President/Senator Grable then asked for a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. It was motioned and seconded the agenda be approved. The motion carried. It was then motioned and seconded the September 16 minutes be adopted. There were no corrections. The motion passed.

The parliamentarian, Dr. Muchovej, and Senator Guzman came forward to conduct the election of committees. President/Senator Grable announced Senator Guzman has been asked to serve as a special assistant to the Faculty Senate.

- The following senators were recommended to serve on the Steering Committee: Latinwo, Davenport, Tsolova, Cavazos, Thornton, Peck, Moore, Alexander, Lumpkin, Hightower, Guthrie, Gragg, Holmes and Mackey (SGA). It was motioned and seconded these senators serve on the Steering Committee. The motion carried.
- The following senators were recommended to serve on the Committee on Committees: (David) Jackson, Reneau, Henderson, Hix, Grant, Oriaku, Claitt, Mtenga, Brown-Cross, Li, Ashley, Bronson, (Elijah) Johnson, and Smith. It was motioned and seconded these senators serve on the Committee on Committees. The motion passed.

President Grable said the Committee on Committee will handle the appointment of faculty members to all University committees. She indicated she will continue to appoint non-senate faculty on this committee.

President Grable then introduced the university president, Dr. Elmira Mangum. President Mangum said it was a pleasure to meet with the Senate. She thanked the senators for their participation in her inauguration. President Mangum gave the following up-dates.

1. CFO – She announced the appointment of Dale Cassidy as the new Vice President of Administration/CFO. Joe Bakker is retiring. There will be a reception this afternoon to welcome Dale and say thanks to Mr. Bakker.
2. Provost – Provost candidates are on campus. She encouraged senators to participate. She asked the senators to encourage more of the faculty to participate in these interviews.
3. Fall Semester – She spoke briefly about athletics. She congratulated the football team on winning its last game against Howard University. The band was given \$10,000 from the Northeast Alumni Association. The band will go to North Carolina A&T University for its homecoming.
4. Sustainability Initiative – The University is getting invitations from around the world about research efforts. Currently, we have received an invitation from Dubai and another from Brazil.
5. Articulation – The University will develop an MOU with some community colleges and work with them on articulation to increase enrollment. This should help with our 6-year graduation rate.
6. She also discussed the Efficiency/Effective rate and the Customer Services program.

Comments and questions were then accepted from the senators.

- A. Senator Ashley thanked the president and spoke about the provost candidates who were being interviewed.
- B. Senator Roscoe Hightower applauded the sustainability initiative. He wanted to know what we will be doing once the MOUs are in place and about the faculty who may be participating in international programs. RESPONSE: President Mangum asked Senator Hightower to speak to the VP for International Affairs. She indicated Study Abroad is something we have to approach as an organization.

- C. Senator Latinwo commented about us “getting ourselves” together. He spoke about students and how they dress. RESPONSE: President Mangum empathized.
- D. Senator David Jackson asked about teaching loads. RESPONSE: The University is exploring ideas but will rely on the provost to develop. We need to hire more faculty. She went on to discuss salary equity. The BOT will present the study. This will be a comparative study.
- E. Senator Holder asked about the communication between administration and faculty. REPOSENSE: The president responded truth is the best equalizer.
- F. Senator Ashley said the president’s philosophy is important and asked what will she do to ensure “honest and truth” permeate through all levels of administration. RESPONSE: President Mangum reported two books are being used to raise the level of consciousness on ethics.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

President/Senator Grable then deviated briefly from the agenda to introduce Malik Scott who came to ask senators/faculty to encourage students to get out and vote. He asked the senators to use our influence to get students out to vote. He distributed information about early voting places.

President/ Senator Grable reported a letter will go to the provost about the plus/minus grading system.

Dr. Neil James gave the report of the Curriculum Committee. He presented one new course from the College of Education and 11 e-courses from the School of Allied Health. It was moved and seconded the report be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Interim Vice President Michael James and Attorney Iris Elijah from the General Counsel’s Office presented the E-Mail Policy. Mr. James told the Senate the policy will be presented to the BOT in December. The goal of this policy is to enforce FAMU’s email system as the only authorized system of communication. Mr. James told us the policy has already been approved by the SGA.

A lengthy and torrid discussion followed. The senators asked many questions and expressed concerns about the practicality of enforcing this policy and the exceptions. Senator Guthrie asked questions about using his personal devices to send text messages. Senator David Jackson asked about corresponding with prospective students; Dr. Neil James asked whether students will be able to keep their email addresses once they graduate. Senator Grant raised concerns about the use of university emails for non-university business. Dr. Muchovej questioned Attorney Elijah about the final statement in the policy that relates to Collective Bargaining.

President/Senator Grable asked if we needed to continue this discussion. It was agreed we did. It was suggested by Senator Guthrie that this item come back as continuing business.

We adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Submitted,

Joe A. Houston, Recorder