

Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Presiding, Dr. Narayan Persaud, Faculty Senate President

Officers (Present)

Dr. Narayan Persaud, President
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President
Dr. Cynthia Davis, Secretary
Mr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)

Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu
Dr. Bettye Grable
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Cynthia Davis
Dr. Gloria Aguilar
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Desmond Stephens
Dr. Adrian McCollum
Dr. Marian Smith
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. Narayan Persaud
Mrs. Almeta Washington
Prof. Thomas Pugh
Dr. Edward Jones
Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Janet Marshall
Dr. Beth Lewis
Dr. LaRae Donnellan
Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton
Dr. Adrienne Cooper
Dr. Pat Broussard
Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Aurelia Alexander
Dr. Marcia Owens
Ms. Ernestine Holmes

Dr. Nazarius Lamango
Dr. Charles Magee
Dr. Tshaka Randall
Dr. Christopher Ikediobi
Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Frances Stallworth
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Mary Diallo
Dr. Carl Moore
Dr. Renee Reams
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Dreamal Worthen
Dr. Lewis Johnson
Dr. Lambert Kanga
Dr. Adrian McCollum
Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. Velma Roberts
Dr. Elijah Johnson
Dr. Endya Stewart
Lt. Diana Hess
Dr. Gervin Robertson
Dr. Kandy Woods
Dr. DeEdgra Williams
Ms. Jeneice Smith

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Uloma Onubogu
Dr. Brenda Bryant

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

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

Parliamentarian Muchovej announced that a quorum was reached at 3:15 p.m.

Opening Remarks

President Persaud opened with comments that focused on the importance of shared governance and then asked Senators to read a proposal on Senate Councils before the next meeting. He asked Vice President Worthen if she wanted to add to the opening remarks. She declined.

Installation of New Senators

New Senators were installed at 3:20 p.m.

Approval of September 20th Meeting Agenda

Senators approved the meeting agenda for the Sept. 20, 2011 meeting.

Approval of May 2nd (Retreat) Minutes

Senators approved the minutes for April 4, 2011 and May 2, 2011 Faculty Senate Retreat.

Administration Remarks

Provost Hughes-Harris announced that President Ammons was unable to make it to meeting because he was engaged in Presidential activities related to FAMU's need for resources. She welcomed Senators to the start of the new 2011-2012 academic year. She then congratulated the new Senators and those continuing their terms. Provost Hughes-Harris stressed the importance of Senators keeping our colleagues informed of the decisions and discussions that occur in the Faculty Senate meetings. Her goal is to get more Deans to come to the meetings.

She stated that this academic year began with a lot of excitement and a bit of trepidation. The year started with some elements of the Restructuring Plan being put in place. She stressed that the restructuring is not a singular event, but a process that requires a lot of input from the University community. One activity that was scheduled to launch on July 1st was the moving of CESTA to the School of Architecture, and she noted that the Department of Economics was moved to the School of Business and Industry. What was formerly the Environmental Science Institute has become a sole standing entity. The proposed renaming of CESTA to the College of Agriculture, Sustainability and Food Science, will be considered by the Board of Trustees next week. The new name proposed for the Environmental Science Institute is the School of the Environment.

Several programs identified as low-productivity programs were terminated. Teach-out plans were established to address the needs of the students affected by the termination of programs. Upcoming plans include moving the Teacher Education programs to the College of Education in January 2012, and the separation of the College of Arts and Sciences into two units, the College of Behavioral Sciences, Arts and Humanities; and the College of the Sciences. In 2013 the Institute of Public Health will become the freestanding School of Public Health after the scheduled accreditation visit in late 2012-early 2013. Academic Affairs is responsible for oversight of these activities.

The provost mentioned that she needs the assistance of the Faculty Senate in identifying peer institutions. She would like to either reserve time at the next meeting or establish a committee to identify peer institutions. Ideally, peer institutions are like us in multiple ways: enrollment, endowments, land grant status etc. We will also need to identify aspirational peers that may have larger enrollments, larger endowments etc. Some peer institutions have been presented to

the Board of Trustees, but it was decided that further examination may be necessary to identify the criteria used in identifying peer institutions, as well as the institutions selected. We may also need to look at peers at the unit level. Who are the peers that faculty identifies at their unit level right now and those that are their aspirational peers. That is the task ahead of us. The Provost said that she has given that task to the respective Deans, but feels that faculty should also be involved in looking at the criteria. This process forces us to look at a cross-section of peers and the average criteria used.

Other information shared by the Provost included a reminder that we are at the beginning stages of the SACS 5-year Review. It is not as cumbersome as the review conducted 4 years ago. But the focus will be on assessment, outcomes and the utilization of information. Also, focus will be placed on the QEP and “how we are living:” that plan as well as our credentialing processes.

One personal goal that the Provost has set for herself this year is to visit every academic unit at least once a year, but ideally, once a semester.

Licensure pass rates was an issue that appeared as an action item on the Board of Trustees agenda for the June Retreat. There is a need to establish baseline goals to be accomplished over the next year and into the future. The goals need to reflect what the State already has as far as our workplans, goals etc. There have been at least 6 goals set for Academic Affairs and an additional 3 “research” goals that have been set for the entire University community. For those divisions that are not bound by accreditation are bound by quality improvement. They are also looking at the 3 new online programs launched a few weeks ago. We want to see an increase in the number of enrolled doctoral (research) students because the Carnegie standards requires that we graduate a certain number of research doctoral students each year to maintain the Carnegie designation as a research institution. We also want to look at increasing the number of endowed professors. Many programs have endowed professorships that are currently empty. These professorships facilitate research. It helps faculty with their research, but also in the recruitment and graduation of students. The University wants to increase the number of PhD programs in STEM areas to comply with the goal stated in the 1999 Center of Excellence document. It is our external funding that distinguishes us and assists in attracting professors for research and quality students. The passage of licensure exams—it has been deemed critical that students perform extremely well. Goals were set, but faculty may not have had the time to discuss what would be needed to have success with each established goal. This is consistent with meeting accreditation standards.

Provost Hughes-Harris thanked former Faculty Senate President and Board of Trustees member, Dr. Holder for his continued focus on the importance of reaching the goals.

Senator Charles Magee asked for the name of the new colleges. Clarification was sought on whether the remaining units would be classified as divisions or departments in the newly formed colleges. He suggested that it would be best for the units to be departments, stating that it is easier to go from an academic unit to a department compared to the transition from an academic unit to a division.

Senator Adrienne Cooper from Agriculture, Sustainability, and Food Sciences asked for clarification in the name of the unit, whether it was Food Science or Food Sciences. She also asked what the administration would do to support the increase in research in the college.

Provost Hughes-Harris responded that they are looking at how Graduate Studies and the Division of Research are working together to move forward on efforts that look at mentoring, shared teaching loads, and the relationship between graduation education and research. For instance focus is placed on ways to assist faculty in the development of proposals as well as proposal submissions.

Provost Hughes-Harris stated that she did not discuss the budget and its' implications. She voiced that she knows that the budget is threatened. We have a reduced budget and it is "on thin ice," but we are holding on. President Persaud apologized for his "stumbling" through his first meeting, he then renewed his earlier call for Senate members to consider serving on one of the proposed councils and to share their ideas. He also asked that Senators submit pictures with short bios.

Continuing Business

Curriculum Committee Dr. Edington presented 5 course changes

- (a) ENV 4001 change from a pre-requisite to a co-requisite course
- (b) CGN 5931 as a new zero-credit course for students that taking their comprehensive exams during that semester.
- (c) Increase the number of hours because faculty realized that students needed more time to with their problem-solving skills
- (d) BME students need to be exposed to the field prior to moving onto their upper division coursework
- (e) ARC wants to change course from ARC 3702 to ARC 2207 to be consistent with what is in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS).

Motion was made to accept proposed changes by Senator Elizabeth Lewis and was seconded by Senator Edward Jones.

Continuing Business

Teacher of the Year Committee

The Provost presented the Teacher of the Year plaques to the following award recipients:

Mr. Fran Scott, Advisor of the Year, Allied Health Sciences

Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu, Advanced Teacher, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Francis Stallworth, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku, College of Pharmacy

Ms. Nandi Riley, Instructor, College of Arts & Sciences

Mr. Rufus Ellis, Jr, College of Education

Dr. Kalayu Belay, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Natalie King-Pedroso, College of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Elizabeth Lewis, School of Architecture

Dr. Roscoe Hightower, SBI

President Persaud stated that is always nice for faculty to have some appreciation for their work over the years.

Travel Awards

Senator Hightower stated that Monday, September 12th was the deadline and noted that 6 applications were submitted for consideration. The next deadline will be the Monday before the 1st Faculty Senate Meeting in the spring semester.

FAMU Green Committee

Senator Donnellan stated that the Green Committee is not currently listed as a committee that faculty members can get involved in but hopes to rectify this. FAMU is currently the only HBCU to be on the Princeton list of “green” campuses and needs to stay on that list. She has approached a number of entities regarding this need. The 6th Annual Meeting for the Florida Sustainability Council will be held October 24th & 25th. The cost is \$175 per person, \$50 per student. Individuals can apply for scholarships to cover the costs of attending.

There was a flash mob by the Green Coalition today involving 30-40 people to draw attention to the “Moving Planet” event. International Day will be Saturday and she invited Faculty Senate members to Railroad Square event from 4 – 8. The Women’s Center and the Student Health Center are pushing people to move their bodies and use bicycles and will be marching to the event at Railroad Square. She announced the showing of *The Trial of King Coal* at 5:30. Other universities are promoting “green” initiatives by allocating an estimated \$150,000 for Sustainability activities from student fees. FAMU is one school in the state that has yet to commit to this initiative. She is looking at ways to resuscitate the recycling program but will have more information on this later. One effort is underway at the DRS where the school is receiving 75 recycle bins for a student-run initiative. SoDexho is phasing in the use of reusable containers on campus. She is asking that the Faculty Senate put forward a number of resolutions, the first being a request to find funds to restore the recycling program

Dr. Marcia Owens questioned the authority of this proposal by Dr. Donnellan because the Green Committee is not an official Faculty Senate committee. Procedurally this is not how things are to be run, she said. The committee continues to appear on the agenda without a response to questions regarding how this change in the structure occurred. President Persaud requested clarification on the matter from former Faculty Senate President, Dr. Maurice Holder. Dr. Holder stated that this issue keeps coming up and that it was discussed in the last Steering Committee meeting. He asserted that all initiatives for sustainability should be an interest for all of us. In 2006 the first request was made to the Faculty Senate to establish the committee. The President Okayed this as the Green Coalition Committee. However, problems arose with the nomenclature. Dr. Holder’s position is that green initiatives continued throughout his administration as Faculty Senate President. Dr. Owens stated that the discussion is not about “turf” but seeking clarity since it is a part of the President’s sustainability initiatives.

Parliamentarian Muchovej stated that the “Green Coalition” has been an ad-hoc committee of the Senate. Therefore, the proposed resolution must first go through the Steering Committee.

Dr. Owen expressed concerns that if the Faculty Senate allows recognition of the “FAMU Green Coalition” a place on the Faculty Senate agenda, and asked if the same recognition will be granted to each of the student organizations on campus.

Parliamentarian Muchovej stated that the committee initially began in the Faculty Senate but later morphed into a student organization. But that does not mean that it stopped being a Faculty Senate Committee.

Dr. Owens pointed out that this “morphing” was the source of the confusion. The question remained however, should a resolution from the Green Coalition still go before the Faculty Senate without first going through the Steering Committee. She questioned the appropriateness of a resolution being brought to the Faculty Senate without it going through the Steering Committee.

President Persaud stated that a consideration of the request must be delayed until the resolution goes through the Steering Committee. He stressed the importance of electing members to the Committee on Committees that establishes the membership for all of the committees. He will send out an electronic version of the booklet that explains all of the committees. Therefore, we may need to change the “currently established” time for the election of committee members so that it occurs prior to November. It may need to be similar to the election of the Faculty Senate President, Vice President and Secretary.

Drs. Owen and. Donnellan agreed to work together to provide some clarity on the status of the Green Coalition.

New Business

Levels of Academic Standing

Dr. Reginald Perry presented information regarding revisions to the policies related to Undergraduate Academic Standing and explained many of the current sanctions in place. He provided statistics on the academic standing of students in spring 2011 at which time 23% of students had GPA's fewer than 2.0. Nine hundred students received “Warnings”, and 100 were on “Probation”. Three hundred students were placed on “1st Suspension”, two hundred on “2nd Suspension” and 52 were “Dismissed” from the University. Approximately 74% of those students identified were only 1 semester away from attaining a 2.0 GPA. What became clear was that the University needed to provide some interventions and a mechanism to help students move to “something else”. The proposed provision will not allow certain students to come back to the University if it is highly unlikely that they can improve their GPAs to a 2.0. The proposal is only based on the cumulative GPA and can put “a hold” on students who received a “Warning” The proposed mechanism will “reset” the GPA after the student gets an A.A. degree before coming back and requesting reinstatement at FAMU. He referred the Faculty Senate to the Summary Table. Students with “2nd Suspension” or “Dismissal” status cannot come back to FAMU without the A.A.

Dr. Perry stressed that the benefits of the proposed changes is that it will simplify the academic advising process. It provides for technology-based interventions. It will be up to the individual programs what they will do with the students. Many other institutions have this option already. He requested that the review and approval of this proposal be a priority for the Faculty Senate.

Kyle Lydall (History) asked if this proposal has been implemented already.

Dr. Perry clarified that Financial Aid is doing the Satisfactory Progress Plans, however, this may been done when it is too late.

Dr. David Jackson (History/Political Science) questioned how reinstatement after academic dismissal would actually work. He was concerned about how the prior GPA would be factored into the “reset” GPA.

Dr. Charles Magee (Agriculture) asked if the reinstatement/renewal be into a different major.

Dr. Perry stated that it would be up to the faculty to decide how to handle students interested in returning to their programs.

Dr. Shakir Addely asked if there was a way to let students know their academic status based on their term GPAs not just their cumulative GPA.

Dr. Perry responded that the current policy does put a “Warning” on freshmen but not other students. In addition, the proposed policy does not have a GPA requirement for students returning to FAMU for readmission. But they must have the A.A.

Dr. Holder stated that this was very good work but there is a need for more information based on prior discussions for the council.

Peer Institutions

Dr. Gita Pitter informed Faculty Senate that it was time again for the University to look at who the peer institutions should be. The first step was providing the Faculty Senate with current information. The current peer institutions are Howard University, North Carolina A&T, Cleveland State University and University of Texas at Arlington. The aspirational peers include the University of Louisville, George Mason University and Temple University. She distributed a form asking Senators to rank the criteria that should be considered in identifying our peer institutions and then give the forms back to Ms. Roberts or Ms. Newsome.

Announcements

Linda Barge-Miles speaking on behalf of Dr. William Hudson, Jr. asked that Faculty Senators be “customer service secret shoppers” in his unit.

Dr. Ohia stressed the importance that we remind freshmen to take the ETS (formely MAP) which is on-line. The University needs at least 600 students to complete the assessment. However, only approximately 268 students had taken by the time of the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Dr. Cynthia Davis
Faculty Senate Secretary

Mrs. Rebecca Bruce
Faculty Senate Office Manager