

Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Tuesday, February 18, 2014
3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Dr. Narayan Persaud, Presiding

Officers (Present)

Dr. Narayan Persaud, President
Dr. Jo Ann Houston, Secretary
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Officers (Absent) (Excused)

Dr. Bettye Grable, Vice President

Senators (Present)

Dr. Mary Diallo
Mrs. Marci Duncan
Ms. Edith Carnley
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Huberta Jackson-Lowman
Dr. Na’Imah Ford
Dr. Merlin Langley
Dr. Jermaine Robertson
Dr. Carol Scarlett
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Desmond Stephens
Dr. Jesse Edwards
Dr. Lavetta Henderson
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Violetka Colova
Dr. Margaret Gitau
Dr. Ann Marie Cavazos
Dr. Nise Nekheba
Dr. Maurice Holder
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Perry Brown
Dr. Angela Thornton
Mr. Sylvester Peck
Ms. Raquista Claitt
Prof. Kandy Woods
Dr. Aurelia Alexander
Dr. Ronald Lumpkin

Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Aretha Hill
Prof. Andrew Skerritt
Dr. Uloma Onubogu
Dr. Sevilla Bronson
Dr. Marcia Owens
Mrs. Jenice Smith
Mrs. Ernestine Holmes

Senators (Absent)

Dr. Gervin Robertson
Dr. Carl Moore
Dr. Chao Li
Dr. Olivier Chamel
Dr. Angela Murphy
Dr. DeEdgra Williams
Dr. Elijah Johnson

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Deidre Evans
Dr. Lambert Kanga
Dr. Primus Mtenga

Ex-Officio (Voting)(Present)

Dr. Donald Palm
Mrs. Faye Watkins

SGA (Voting)(Absent)

Mr. Evan Bailey

The meeting was opened by President/Senator Persaud. He began by presenting issues facing the University. These include: (1) performance-based budgeting, (2) elimination of duplicate programs across institutions, (3) elimination of differential tuition and (4) no increase in funding. President/Senator Persaud reminded the Senate to be alert. He reminded the Senate about the last 60 days of the legislative session when items are inserted into the “train” bill. He encouraged members of the Senate to be aggressive advocates.

It was motioned and seconded the agenda be approved. The motion carried. It motioned and seconded the minutes of the January meeting be approved. There was one correction. Senator Donald Palm said the record should reflect he “was not clear but would get back with Senator Diallo” about the enrollment figures. The minutes were approved.

Interim President Larry Robinson was then presented. He began by discussing the matrix for the performance-based budgeting. He discussed how this is important. He reported as it stands, FAMU will receive approximately \$2.8. He then provided the following information:

- Declining enrollment – He stated the reasons for declining enrollment are accreditation and parent loans.
- Interim President Robinson stressed the need to implement the more rigorous admissions standards. He discussed the BOT’s policy on admitting profile admits. He reiterated the importance of K-12 preparation.
- Faculty Salary Raises for the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences – The BOT has asked for a plan. The accrediting body has given the University 2 years to address the issue of salaries.

Senator Latinwo asked about projects on the Fixed Capital Outlay. Interim President Robinson explained the PECO requests and the University’s need to revise our priority list, so we have a better chance of being funded. In follow-up remarks, Senator Latinwo talked about the importance of housing the sciences for STEM programs.

In final remarks, Interim President Robinson stressed the need for deans to get the word to students who will be successful in programs. He emphasized we must be aggressive in the pursuit of qualified students. He also informed the Senate that enrollment growth will not help performance-based funding. He closed by reporting that neither STEMS, performance-based budgeting nor reduced graduation have leniency on traditionally disadvantaged students.

Interim Provost Wright then addressed the Senate. He introduced Fay Watkins, Dean of Libraries. He apologized for missing the January meeting. He then presented a lengthy appeal to the members of the Senate to use Blackboard Analytics. There were questions and observations from Senators Hightower and Ford about the functioning of Blackboard. Senator Palm provided information on this issue. Interim Provost Wright promised to make sure Blackboard is fully functional. Senator Diallo talked about technology in the classrooms. She expressed concern about the lack of up to date technology in the classrooms.

Dr. Neil James presented the Curriculum Committee’s Report. It was moved and seconded the report be approved. The motion carried.

President/Senator Persaud announced information will be sent out from VP Grabble about councils.

NEW BUSINESS

President/Senator Persaud discussed the new president's contract. He then discussed composition of the Board of Trustees. He warned us to be alert to the voting patterns of the BOT in establishing policy. All senators were urged to be at the next BOT meeting.

Dr. Bill Tucker was present and asked to address the Senate. Dr. Tucker spoke about the need for greater faculty involvement.

Senator Latinwo asked for an update on the faculty meal plan. Dr. Palm reported he'd spoken to Vice President Barker.

Senator Edith Carnley asked about the plus-minus grading issue. It was reported it had gone to council.

A representative from the Student Senate addressed the Senate about bridging the gap. He expressed an interest to work with the Faculty Senate.

It was moved and seconded we adjourned. The motion passed. We adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Houston, Recorder