

Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Lee Hall Auditorium
Dr. Bettye A. Grable, Presiding

Officers (Present)

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

Dr. Raymond Hix
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Nise Nekheba
Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Mrs. Ernestine Holmes

Senators (Present)

Dr. William Guzman
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Na’Imah Ford
Dr. Merlin Langley
Dr. Paulette Reneau
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Desmond Stephens
Dr. Jesse Edwards
Dr. Lavetta Henderson
Dr. Rufus Ellis
Dr. Violetka Tsoлова
Dr. Margaret Gitau
Dr. Ann Marie Cavazos
Prof. Joseph Grant
Dr. John Cooperwood
Dr. Maurice Holder
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Perry Brown
Dr. Angela Thornton
Dr. Carl Moore
Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Dawn Brown-Cross
Dr. Aurelia Alexander
Dr. Aretha Hill
Dr. David Guthrie
Dr. Sevilla Bronson
Dr. Elijah Johnson
Ms. Jeneice Smith

Senators (Absent)

Mrs. Marci Duncan
Dr. Jermaine Robertson
Dr. James Strohaber
Dr. Keawin Sarjeant
Mr. Sylvester Peck
Ms. Raquista Claitt
Dr. Ronald Lumpkin
Dr. Chao Li
Dr. Olivier Chamel
Dr. Clyde Ashley
Dr. Robert Richardson
Dr. Marcia Owens

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Donald Palm
Mrs. Faye Watkins

SGA (Voting) (Absent)

Ronnie Mackey, II

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Huberta Jackson-Lowman

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by President/Senator Bettye Grable. There was not a quorum present, so President/Senator Grable began by relaying information from the BOT’s called conference meeting on last night (November 17) about athletics. She informed the Senate she’d voted against the vote of “no confidence” for the athletic director. She gave reasons for her “no” vote. She

cited information from the Association of Governing Boards. She expressed concern about the Board of Trustees overstepping its authority. She posed the very sobering question of “If the Board could vote no confidence for the athletic director, would they be able to reach down and chastise faculty members?” President/Senator Grable then opened the house for additional comments. There were no speakers.

President/Senator Grable then provided the following information.

1. She discussed the roles of the University president and Board of Trustee members as defined by the Board of Governors.
2. She also announced each month the Steering Committee sends a personal notification to both the provost and the president to attend the Faculty Senate meeting.
3. The agenda for Faculty Senate meetings has been re-ordered based on input from the Steering Committee.

President/Senator Grable then opened the house for announcements.

1. Senator Latinwo reminded people to apply for the Researcher of the Year. He encouraged senators to share this information with other faculty members.
2. Senator Guzman gave information on the Committee on Committees.

At 3:20, President/Senator Grable moved to new business because there was still not a quorum present. She introduced a lists of Standing Rules that were presented by the Steering Committee. President Grable emphasized we must be able to provide data that undergirds any advice we provide to the University president. She announced a possible survey to be developed by the Faculty Senate. Dr. Muchovej was asked to discuss the Standing Rules. Prior to his coming, it was announced the Senate had a quorum and was able to discuss business.

It was moved and seconded the agenda be approved. The motion carried. The agenda was adopted.

We then moved to hear a report from interim provost, Rodner Wright. He indicated he had no written remarks. He invited President/Senator Grable to meet with him on a monthly basis. He then provided reminders.

1. Engineering School – CBT (Collaborative Brain Trust), the private consulting group hired by the BOG to study the Engineering School will release its report next week. The report will go first to the BOG and then to the legislature.
2. Assignment of Responsibilities – Is working with the colleges and schools in the development of the AoRs. He discussed some of the difficulties associated with this.

Senator Holder asked the interim provost about a resolution that had been sent from the Senate to the administration about bargaining. He asked where is the University in the bargaining process?

RESPONSE: The process is going on now.

Senator Houston talked about the role of shared governance and asked what rights does a faculty member have in the assignment of teaching responsibilities.

RESPONSE: Mr. Wright responded there should be discussion with the faculty member. He said there must be a balance, and the discussion should be collegial.

Senator Houston vented about the lack of collegiality and the need for shared governance to begin at the department level.

Senator Holder referenced the Chancellor’s Memorandum that governed the assignment of teaching loads. He also mentioned the lack of deans who attend the Senate Meeting.

RESPONSE: Mr. Wright reminded us the Senate does have a representative on the Dean's Council. He said we must instill in new deans the need to be present at this meeting.

It was moved and seconded the minutes from the October meeting be adopted. There was one correction about the misspelling of Senator Henderson's name on the Committee on Committee. There were no further corrections, the motion passed; the minutes were adopted.

Dr. Muchovej then came forward to discuss the Standing Rules and the Motion Form. He presented 13 Standing Rules which he read and explained. President/Senator Grable talked about the need for increased credibility to have increased respect.

Senator Cavazos asked if the Steering Committee will revise the Standing Rules. RESPONSE: Yes

Dr. Muchovej then presented a form that could be used for motions. He recommended a Standing Rule that would say "whenever the Senate has a significant motion, the motion must be written." This will ensure the wording be correct in the minutes.

There was then discussion about a possible Constitution Revision Committee. Senator Oriaku asked about the work that was done at the May Senate retreat. There was additional discussion and comments from the senators.

Dr. Andrew Jones from the College of Science and Technology was present and asked to be heard on this matter. He expressed concern about the homogeneous structuring of a Constitution Revision Committee.

President/Senator Grable reported she'd spoken to the University president, and she is in agreement with this item. Senator Grable then asked if the Senate was interested in moving forward with this item. The sentiment was to move forward.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Neil James presented the Curriculum Committee's report. There was one request for an e-course, and a request for program termination from the Engineering School. There was some discussion about the termination request. Dr. James answered questions and provided clarification. It was motion and seconded the report be accepted. Senator Tsoleva voted against the motion. The motion passed.

It was motioned and seconded we adjourn. The Senate adjourned at 4:20.

Submitted,

Joe A. Houston, Recorder