

Faculty Senate Meeting
April 15, 2008
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Lee Hall Auditorium
Presiding, Dr. Maurice Holder, Faculty Senate President

Faculty Senators present at the meeting were as follows:

Officers (Present)

Dr. Maurice Holder, President
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President
Dr. Mildred Fennal, Secretary
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)

Mrs. Ernestine Holmes
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport
Dr. Raymond Hix
Dr. Kyle Eidahl
Dr. Almeta Washington
Dr. Velma Roberts
Ms. Della Daniels
Dr. Angela Thornton
Mr. Larry Wright
Dr. Kandy Woods
Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton
Dr. Matthew Powers
Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Dr. Rufus Ellis

Prof. Thomas Pugh
Dr. Robin Kennedy
Dr. Patricia Stampe
Dr. Mary Diallo
Dr. Eric Kalu
Dr. Deidre Powell
Dr. LaRae Donnellan
Dr. Joseph Johnson
Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu
Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Primus Mtenga
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud
Dr. Franklin Hamilton
Professor Rhoda Cato

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Lauren Sapp
Dr. Donald Palm
Dr. Roland Gaines

Ex-Officio (Voting) Excused

Dr. Uche Ohia

Senators (Excused)

Dr. Kinfe Redda

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m. by Dr. Maurice Holder, President of the Faculty Senate.
- II. **Opening Remarks:** The opening remarks were postponed in lieu of the President's presentation.
- III. **President Ammons:** The information shared by the President was as follows:

The President announced that FAMU has been invited to appear before the Audit Committee. At this meeting it is expected that FAMU will be commended for the University's management of the financial issues.

SACS met on March 25-27. It is expected that the final report will go to the Commission in June and a vote will be rendered. The options are extension of the probation, removal from the association, or lifting of the probation.

The Strategic Plan from 2004 will be revised. The Strategic Vision plan will be inclusive, meaning faculty will have input in charting the course of the university. All of the State Universities of Florida have been asked to submit strategic goals. Compacts are to be developed, and goals are to be projected. In this context, the President stated that "every academic unit should be recognized nationally as a leader in some aspect."

It was emphasized that the budget constraints appear to be getting worse. 5.4% is expected to be cut next year, perhaps even as much as 8%. Final issues and concerns for next year do not look promising at this time. Next year will be extremely critical for FAMU and other state universities.

- IV.** Before the agenda, prior to the approval of the Agenda, Dr. Kennedy raised the question of the thirty day rule as it applied to the suggestion for approval of the new constitution (listed on the Agenda). Article 6 was read for the senators to hear. Dr. Holder responded that the comments were duly noted. Dr. Diallo stated that the document (Constitution) distributed to the senators did not appear to be the one that was sent via e-mail. Dr. Holder agreed that the document was not the same one submitted by the Constitution Committee, and that some changes had occurred in the document. Dr. Holder and Dr. Diallo discussed the Constitution, the process and other issues surrounding the request for a vote on the document. Dr. Muchjovi stated that the document was the same one the Committee submitted except for information regarding the library and the classification of librarians found in article 3 paragraph 0.2. Dr. Kennedy offered additional issues related to the proposed constitution. Dr. Holder stated that the constitution is required by SACS, and that it must be completed and presented to the group. Dr. Worthen, the Chair of QEP, recommended that a motion be made so that the document could go to the faculty.
- V. Approval of the Agenda:** It was moved and properly seconded that the Agenda be approved.
- VI. Approval of the minutes:** It was moved and properly seconded that the minutes be approved.

- VII. Curriculum:** Dr. Roberts reported for Dr. Edington. Seventy eight (78) courses listed in the submitted document were approved by the Faculty Senate. The courses will now be presented to Dr. Palm from Academic Affairs.
- VIII. Constitution:** Dr. Muchovej reported on the Constitution. There was discussion of whether the constitution and the bylaws should be dealt with separately. It was concluded that perhaps the Faculty Senate should have a call meeting and deal with the Constitution only. It was re-emphasized that completing the Constitution was urgent and necessary. Dr. Holder asked for the absolute deadline for completing the Constitution. Dr. Friday stated that the deadline is April 25, 2008, however the end of May could be a deadline. Because the university desires to be in compliance, the Constitution needs to be done. The question arose: Is it possible to vote to approve the document with plans for revision? Dr. Worthen questioned the approval of the constitution without approval of the bylaws. Dr. Muchovej explained that it would not give the faculty the thirty days notice and still meet the deadline. Dr. Diallo explained that the original document has no changes, and if we voted on that document we would be in compliance. Dr. Sapp interjected that the rank of librarians needed to be included in the constitution. Dr. Friday moved that the Senate vote on the original document as suggested by Dr. Diallo, and add the information reflecting the status of the librarian. The motion was seconded by Dr. Worthen and the motion carried.
- IX. Teacher of the Year:** Teachers of the Year and Advanced Teachers of the Year have been selected and the names will be sent to the Provost. Dr. Diallo suggested that before a person is put on the Agenda they should be notified. There are two Professor Emeritus this year: Dr. Don Hill and Dr. Beulah Hemmingway.
- X. Assessment of Instructors:** Dr. Williams and Dr. Perry presented information on the tool to be used to evaluate programs and teachers. There was much discussion about this document. Following are some of the concerns.
- Dr. Stanford: Questioned the new additions that will evaluate instructors
- Dr. Diallo asked: How will you separate the new questions from the ones that were used to evaluate instructors?
- Dr. Kennedy commented: Is there a statement that could be used to assure that the form will not be used to evaluate teachers? The answer was not clear.
- Dr. Donnellan asked if collecting data on items 1&2 were necessary. The response was yes. It is associated with section 8.
- Dr. Palm questioned if a committee could come in and administer the document.
- Dr. Diallo asked: Where will the data go? Response: The data will go to the Deans and Chairs.

Dr. Eidahl commented that if the teacher and the class were on the evaluation the data were sent to the Deans; there would be no way to guarantee that it will not be used against the teacher.

Dr. Diallo asked; how would you separate the document? No Response.

Dr. Muchovej offered the following: "You have this and you do not know how to implement" therefore there is no guarantee that it would not be used against the teacher.

Dr. Worthen moved that the document is separated and section 8 be used to evaluate faculty as before, and that the data collecting portion of the document contain the school and/or department only. The document could not be acted upon because the quorum had been lost. The motion failed.

Dr. Worthen suggested that the Assessment and Handbook can be done at the retreat. Dr. Palm asked if Dr. Muchovej and the Committee on the student evaluation get together before the retreat. Another senator suggested that the implementation be worked on as well.

XI. Retreat: Dr. Roberts announced that the retreat will be held April 29. Tentatively the retreat is scheduled to be in Quincy at the University Farm with a bus to transport. Dr. Diallo asked if the senators could vote on if they wanted to go to the farm. Dr. Hightower asked: Why are we moving? Dr. Holder explained that we discussed going off campus so that we could have breakout sessions. Dr. Donnellan suggested that the Committee decide where we will meet. Perhaps the Committee would opt to stay close to campus, in lieu of getting early transportation. Dr. Hightower suggested that the School of Business be used.

XII. Announcements: Dr. Worthen asked that the QEP plan continue to be discussed in classes.

Dr. Singleton recommended that the handbook found in the packet needed a larger committee to review the document.

The Assessment Policy was reviewed. Attorney Linda Barge Miles was present for the review.

Dr. Sapp suggested that the Constitution Committee work with the Bylaws Committee, to make sure everything was in agreement.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Mildred D. Fennal, Secretary
Rebecca Bruce, Office Manager