



FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

Faculty Senate Meeting

Agenda

January 16, 2024 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lee Hall Auditorium & Via Zoom

Presiding: Dr. Jamal Brown, Faculty Senate President

Secretary: Dr. Jian Jones

- I. Call to Order- 3:12pm** **President, Jamal Brown**
- II. Approval of the Agenda** – January 16, 2024, agenda- 1st motion Dr. R. Hightower, 2nd Dr. D. Osborne, motion carries.
- III. Approval of Minutes** – November 21, 2023, meeting minutes- 1st motion Dr. E. Orioku, 2nd by D. Osborne, motion carries.
- IV. Opening Remarks** **President, Jamal Brown**

Dr. Brown- Happy New Year senators. It is so good to see faces today. As I was driving up, I got about 2.5 hours in of listening to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. During one of the speeches, he talked about the historic Pettis Bridge march, in heat and tiredness, their souls were rejuvenated. How can someone in a dark place, see so much light? As we think of Dr. King, I hope that as faculty, we take our work to a new level. *Dr. Brown starts to sing “We shall Overcome”. Welcome to the meeting Senators.
- V. Faculty Senate Announcements** **Ms. Tenele Dennard, Coordinator**
Ms. Dennard- Good afternoon, all. A review from November meeting; we thanked everyone for submitting funds to faculty senate for homecoming funds, etc. We will be creating a foundation account instead of a CashApp account. Happy New Year everyone.
- VI. SGA Announcements** **SGA Vice President Jeffrey Francis**
Elijah J. Hooks- Office of Student Body President; We stand firm and committed to the expressed interest of the student athletes on the Football team regarding the selection of the next football coach. We stand firm in the decision and will rally behind them. We will hold our first student senate meeting on tomorrow. In February we will hold Spring election; January 24th Rally in Tally, will send out more information so that faculty senate can participate. Thank you.

University Administration Remarks

Dr. Larry Robinson, University President

Dr. Allyson Watson, Provost

Dr. Watson- Good afternoon to the world’s most awesome faculty. Several updates: First time in college cohort 2023-2024, the faculty have really left an indelible impression on this class, have worked with them in person and through email, or visiting the LLC meetings; They have truly enjoyed being at FAMU; Fall-Spring retention of freshman we are at 90.05%, 90% of the fall admittance returned this spring. We are happy with that and look forward to striving forward. The number of students above 2.0 is 91.2% above 2.0 compared to 85.6% (last year). I applaud you for keeping up with these students. Fall GPAs (thank you for submitting on time while you appreciated the extra days away) 3.1 compared to 2.92 (last year); much better academically. I would like to stand on Trustee President Brown’s shoulders with the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s legacy. We have the MLK Convocation upcoming, with our very own COO Dr. Donald Palm as the keynote speaker. We hosted the kick-off at CK Steele with keynote by Dr. Tiffany Packer of CCSAH; please congratulate her when

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you see her; The upcoming Florida Board of Governors (BOG) meeting; there is a council of academic Vice Presidents and I meet with them bi-weekly to monthly, and that consists of all of the Provosts across the Florida State University System; we are going to have our BOG meeting 1/24/24 at Florida State University. Dr. Robinson brought the opportunity to host Amazon Career Choice; we are a noted partner in the largest global commerce enterprise in the country. We are embarking upon the future of the workforce, as Amazon employees can attend FAMU as a student up to \$5,000 a semester online or in person in their Amazon uniform; see famuedu/amazoncareerchoice for more information; We will be highlighted at the BOG meeting. Crystal Cole is a FAMU Alum and Amazon executive and will represent FAMU and Amazon with remarks; Retirement parties show me our commitment. I attended Dr. Charles McGee's retirement party. In attendance, were many administrators. Your peer accomplished (we teach students, not courses) the US Department of Agriculture renaming a scholarship in his name. Every contribution goes to a student in Charles McGee's name. First class of 19 students was in fall 96, first graduate was in year 2000 (May). In fall 2001, the program received BSE accreditation; between May 2000 and August 2023 they graduated over 80 students. The USDA could name almost every key leadership position in the agency as FAMU alum. Dr. McGee credited Dr. Humphries for going out and speaking to engineers— which none of them looked like him. In the 88-year history of the US Department of Agriculture and All Natural Resources Conservation Science Agency, only 6 African-American Engineers have ascended to the level of state conservation engineer. 4 of 6 are graduates are our FAMU BSE. 12 of our base engineers have received a PhD. You all are among the best and brightest; If you have been here for some time, you have invested in this university. Start thinking about your content specific areas and think about a protégé that you can pass the torch on to; I had a chance to visit the EESI program (Educating Engineering Students Innovatively) led by Dr. Charmaine Caldwell from the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering; We launched the first provost professorship. We selected 2 from 6 eligible candidates. Our inaugural Provost-Professors including Saungaylia Randolph and Reginald Ellis; We know that the work of the deans have is an undertaking. By creating communication opportunities for directors, faculty, and associate deans, this will leverage more opportunity. This initiative will be hosted by Dr. Lewis Johnson; Today we have the NIFA office with us and our president was on that committee. We are responsible for over 24 million dollars in investment in our university and I want to acknowledge them; Dr. Kincey, was acknowledged for assessment work; I also want to acknowledge Dr. Jennifer Collins for the first-year experience; You all know that we have the Carnegie R1 classification on our horizons, post-doctoral fellows do not count in the stats, however, we are attempting to create a white paper from the post-doctoral identity at FAMU. We have to have 70 PhD graduates a year for R1 classification and that includes the College of Education with a Ph.D.; I am open for questions. *Question from the floor:* Right now, we are struggling to support the students that we brought into the College of Pharmacy. They are doing work in research. How are we going to support the students? *Dr. Watson:* The structure that we need in place is what we need more of. We need to work with the Thurgood Marshall Fund and prepare a proposal for our needs. This will help you to identify needs to assist PhD researchers. We also need more opportunities for writing. The goal is to have funded research that will lead to a doctorate. We also need an infrastructure to support students. But we need lab technicians and researchers that help to off set the cost of tuition. We need to look at how our international students are funded to offset the load of academic funding. In addition, the Dean of Graduate Studies has put together a formulaic approach to determine which schools have a specific amount for recruiting.

Follow up: There is some conversation that we can have privately about what we think we can do to solve our own problems within our college.

Dr. Watson: Thank you for sharing that. I want to thank you for coming to the small meetings and sharing concerns.

Dr. Brown- Dr. Robinson arrived and we wanted to acknowledge Dr. Robinson, he received the Excellence in Education Leadership award at the Leon County MLK Day celebration.

Dr. Robinson- This is the legislative season. We have a 40 something odd million dollar proposal in front of them. It will be good to be on the same page as the session moves on. This starts with you, student success and faculty development are the focus. We want to keep you aware of that. BOT meets next week; the session will start early this year and rotate; Dr. Weatherford told us that we are over halfway the way we *were last year* for external

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funding. Our expenditures were over 66 million dollars, you are doing a great job and I commend you; We saw a record number of students applying to FAMU. We have seen a 3.2% increase since last year. 147% increase overall. We are concerned about the decline of transfer students as state community colleges is on a decline overall; For graduate student enrollment, there is a 7.3% increase 266 (this year) versus 248 (last year). The two-year average was a 33.7% increase. We do more with EGG, but we also fund students through external funding. My research advisor (when I was a graduate student) had a research grant, I was supported through research grants. We have not used the TA model, yet as I would rather have faculty in front of students. In general, we need to look at the funding method that we use to fund graduate students in particular; Numbers increasing in applicants, academic profile is increasing as well. A year ago, average of 4.0, enrolled was 3.9. 4.04 for those admitted at this time. FAMU would not have been an option for me with that GPA. Standardized test scores are a little more constant, quality of students with a 22 ACT math score and average this year is 24. I am playing attention to English, but math gives us hope; I want you to know that we had a very productive meeting about the next football coach. They have directed me in terms of how we want to proceed- form a committee; We are losing ground on retaining and recruiting athletes. In the motion passed today, we need to involve the faculty senate. Your representative has been selected to represent faculty senate. I am humbled by the award. I mentioned during the ceremony, that I was a teenager- 13 years old, in Memphis when Dr. King was assassinated. I felt as guilty as you could imagined that I had something to do with it. I carried that burden with me until I turned that guilty into helping people-- realizing how to assist in carrying on Dr. King's dream. I am fulfilling the dream, and this is a pleasure.

X. Continuing Business

a) Curriculum Committee

Dr. Kyle Eidahl

Document sent via email on 1/16/24, however see below:

The January 2024 report of the Curriculum Committee to the Faculty Senate contains 9 new courses and 1 program modification. These requests were approved by the committee at its January 10, 2024 meeting. The committee recommends approval of all the requests by the Faculty Senate.

Course Change Requests from the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering

Course/Program Name Description of Request

1 ECH 5706 - Electrochemical Engineering Science New Course

2 ECH 5834 - Chemical Engineering Materials New Course

3 ECH 5838 - X-ray Structural Characterization of Materials New Course

4 EEL 4735 - Advanced Digital Hardware New Course

5 EEL 5766 - Advanced Digital Hardware New Course

6 EGN 1500 - Digitech I New Course

7 EGN 1501 - Digitech II New Course

8 ESI 5556 - Digital Transformation for Systems Engineering New Course

9 ESI 5617 - Data-Driven Informatics for Intelligent Systems New Course

Course Change Requests from the School of Business and Industry (SBI)

Course/Program Name Description of Request

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1 BS in Health Science General Program Modification

State of Florida has revised the Gen. Ed requirement; dropped sociology as one of the required state Gen Ed. social science courses and added the first part AMH 2010 American History into that list. We have to modify course descriptions to stay within the state requirement.

Dr. Brown- vote to accept report as a slate- motion made by Dr. Osborn, 2nd by Dr. L. Parsons, motion carries to accept report as a slate.

b) **Executive Council**

Dr. Kyle Eidahl & Dr. Daniel Osborne

Dr. Eidahl- Great things moment- FAMU Football team defeated BCU, Prairie View A&M and Howard University; University advancement has raised 13.5 million; looking to replace People Soft with ERP, upcoming presentations, Robert Seniors will provide us with change; The BOG has concerns of antisemitism on campuses. Gov. DeSantis directed SUS institutions to transfer to Florida schools to feel safe. ~690 students registered to graduate. We had a hefty commencement.

c) **Dean's Council**

Dr. Kyle Harris & Dr. Arlesia Mathis

Dr. Mathis- On Behalf of Dr. Harris and myself, I will provide highlights from the Dean's Councils meeting held on Jan 12, 2024 (no meeting held in December); ***copy of detailed report can be found in your email***; MLK Convocation and Championship Celebration; BOG Meeting Jan 25-26; SACSCOC Report March 1st; Office of International Education and Development- developed 6 new international partnership, passport fair 2/26 (passports will not be free); The Harambee Festival 2/24 at Cascade Park, 11am to 7pm; Office of Continuing Education, new certificate programs (insurance adjuster's certificate and lifelong learner's program); Academic Advising and Freshman Studies (digital Rattler iPad distribution 1/16-18, Academic Success Forum 1/20, Freshman Forum 1/24; Office of Admission, enrollment is up 8% spring 2024 compared with spring 2023.

XI. New Business

a) **University Policies Committee**

Dr. Valerie White

Religious Holidays

Dr. Nigel Edwards, Ed. D, *Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs/Administration & Assessment*

Posthumous Degrees and Memorial Certificates

Dr. Reginald Perry, *Interim Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs*

Here on behalf of the academic policy committee directed by Attorney Shira Thomas. I was tasked with looking at the Posthumous degree, and we need to make sure that the policy matches the practices. May be requested for students who have completed 75% of degree. If the student is less than 75% but have completed more than 25% are eligible for a memorial certificate. For information purposes only.

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b) Curriculum Revision (*Continued*)

Dr. Sundra Kincey, *Associate Provost
Academic Program Quality, SACSCOC
Institutional Liaison*

- Dr. Kincey- Good afternoon, General Education Reform (2015-Spring 2024) will take items 1-5 2024-2025 and there after 1) MAC X105 College Algebra or 2) MAC X311 Calculus or 3) MGF X130 Mathematical Thinking or 4) STA X023 Statistical Methods or 5) A math course for which one of the above general education core course options in Math is a direct prerequisite.
Electronic vote before the 2/5 meeting to prepare the 5-year report. Dr. Eidahl, moved to allow for an electronic vote, Dr. Osborne 2nd, motion carries, information will be sent to faculty.
- Awarding Academic Credit Policy- You already have a statement on how we award academic credit here at the university through the registrar's office. This policy now codifies what we're doing in that statement and in practice procedures that should be coming forth in the February meeting. I have a request to make a special electronic vote.
- Distance Learning Policy- We are now implementing a distance learning policy which is in your packet today. The language in the policy is consistent with the requirements of the Florida Board of Governors and the organization that codifies distance education policies and procedures across the southern region.
- SACSCOC Fifth-Year Report- the 5th year report has 22 standards that will be assessed along with the quality enhancement plan and one action item pertinent to faculty related to the standard on program coordinator.

c) Spring 2024 Faculty Senate Updates

President, Jamal Brown

Dr. Brown- Striking scholars roll call, at the BOT meetings... I give the report, I wanted to capture highlights in between visits, senators to fill out a Qualtrics survey (to include research grants, projects, etc.) and the outcome of keeping this information in the form gives us access to share great things at sessions come through. Ms. Dennard explained the fundraising efforts. Limited range with E&G funds, thus had a meeting with Mr. Bailey and the Provost's office regarding the ability to purchase items for other needs. Faculty polo shirts is the first fundraiser. Flyer has gone out for the Institutional Research Award, the new date is 1/18/24. Please make sure that you encourage colleagues to apply for this award.

Dr. Owioke- on behalf of athletes and FAMU faculty, don't discourage the athletes in your class. It is important for us to encourage students. Thank you for the reports that you sent to us. All football players were eligible to compete due to the hard work with the students.

d) Alma Mater

XII. Adjournment- 4:41pm

Notes: Committee assignments to be sent to faculty senators.

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