

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, August 26, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm in room 248 of the Student Learning Center, Joe Hermanowicz presiding.

Members present: Yuri Balashov, J. P. Caillault, Wayne Coppins, Charles Doyle, Kelly Dyer, Mario Erasmo, Ray Freeman-Lynde, Shane Hamilton, Joe Hermanowicz, Christopher Hocking, Philip Holmes, Thomas Houser, Roy Kennedy, Michael Kernis, Kristen Kundert-Gibbs, Hilda Kurtz, David Lowenthal, John Lynch, Ron Miller, Masaki Mori, Kanzo Nakayama, Ron Orlando, Vladimir Popik, Diana Ranson, Dawn Robinson, Paul Schliekelmen, Marshall Shepherd, Eric Stabb, Roger Stahl, Mike Tiemeyer, Bram Tucker, Shuzhou Wang, Mark Wheeler

Proxies: Bill McCormick for Gauri Datta; Marjanne Gooze for Christine Haase; Maor Bar-Peled for Michael Hahn; Adrian Burd for Charles Hopkinson; Susan Quinlan for Betina Kaplan; Mark Farmer for Edward Kipreos; Stephen Barry for Jake Short

Visitors: David Schiller, Music

Members not present: Steve Dalton, Gordana Matic

Approval of the minutes from the Apr 17 meeting: Mario Erasmo moved, Adrian Burd seconded. Unanimously approved.

Presiding officer Joe Hermanowicz's remarks:

Dr. Hermanowicz welcomed new and returning senators, then discussed Franklin College Faculty Senate operating procedures, including meeting times, calls for agenda items, bylaws, committee organization, attendance policy, and Robert's Rules of Order. The mission of the Faculty Senate is to make educational policy and to serve as an advisory body to the Dean of Franklin College.

Dr. Hermanowicz informed the senate that the bylaws are being revised by a special committee who started this project during the last academic year. Eventually the new bylaws will be presented to the faculty at large within the college and put to a vote.

Dr. Hermanowicz encouraged senators and our departmental colleagues to attend three open forums scheduled with University President Michael Adams, to discuss salary compression (17 Sep, 9:00-10:30 am, N100 Art Bldg) and budgetary concerns (Sep 5, 3:00-4:30 pm, Masters Hall, GA Center; Sep 17, 10:30 -12:00, N100 Art Bldg).

Dean Stokes' Remarks:

After welcoming new and returning senators and expressing enthusiasm for the role of the Faculty Senate for the Franklin College, Dean Stokes first shared good news, then discussed budget cuts.

Good news included: (1) the successful conclusion of the University's Capital Campaign, which raised around \$54 million from private donors, far exceeding the program's initial goals; (2) the dedication of the new Lamar Dodd School of Art Building, scheduled along with a UGA Arts Festival, a showcase of art from all fields, 4 – 8 Sep 2008.

Budgetary cuts are a result of a 6% cut to total operating budget, or \$5.5 million, requested by the Chancellor of the Board of Regents. As a result, the College will do almost no recruiting this year, departmental operating budgets have been dramatically reduced (a new 20% cut on top of a previous 15% cut), and travel funds are eliminated. No faculty or staff have been laid off and no teaching assistantships cancelled (and ultimately no leaves or “Faculty Development Assignments” cancelled by the Provost). The Dean has been asked to prepare a budget based on a proposed 6 to 8% cut for next year as well, and will prepare an impact statement detailing how this potential cut would affect the College.

In response, the faculty discussed concerns about whether raises will be delayed (she has no current information), whether teaching loads will be increased (the Dean has received a memo stating that a university committee will reevaluate EFT across the campus), and why travel authorities must be approved by the Provost and are increasingly difficult to obtain (there has been an open records request for travel).

Committee reports:

Dawn Robinson, Chair of the Committee on Committees, proposed the new roster of committees and committee chairs and a new secretary, Bram Tucker. The motion was seconded by Eric Stabb and passed unanimously.

Committee reports were submitted by Charles Doyle, former chair of the Admissions Committee (Attachment 1) and Vladimir Popik, former chair of the Curriculum Committee (Attachment 2).

New Business:

1. Poll of the Senate: Presiding Officer Joe Hermanowicz had previously emailed the senators a request that each senator, on behalf of and with feedback from their department, list three major concerns that they would like to see the Faculty Senate address during the coming year. Time was provided to complete the poll and turn in anonymous forms.

2. The Curriculum Committee had received two petitions (this information presented by Associate Dean Ruppensburg in place of Vladimir Popik, former chair of the Curriculum Committee, who left the meeting early). The first petition was to terminate the graduate degree of Master of Arts in Teaching. The Curriculum Committee had discussed this petition and voted to approve it. The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the petition.

3. The second request to the Curriculum Committee was that the course Music 2050, the History of Jazz, be approved as fulfilling the Franklin College multicultural requirement. The Curriculum Committee had discussed this petition and voted to approve it. The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the petition.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bram Tucker, Secretary and Senator from Anthropology