Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, January 24, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in room 213 of the Miller Learning Center, Adam Goodie presiding.

Members Present: John Achee, Wesley Allen, Analisa Arroyo, Maor Bar-Peled, Mary Bedell, Thomas Biggs, Renato Castelao, Tom Cerbu, Brian Condie, Elizabeth Davis, Inge DiBella, Jorge Escalante, Ray Freeman-Lynde, Lisa Fusillo, Adam Goodie, Dan Hall, Chad Howe, Maria Hybinette, Takahiro Ito, Kevin Jones, Derrick Lemons, Megan Lutz, Reid Messich, Silvia Moreno, Nicolas Morrissey, Dan Nakano, Rielle Navitski, Don Nelson, Lakshmish Ramaswamy, Jennifer Rice, Steve Soper, Phillip Stancil, Piers Stephens, Lianchun Wang, Quin Zhao

Proxies: David Zerkel (proxy for Josh Bynum), Alex Murawski (proxy for Jain Kwon), Christopher Pizzino (proxy for Tricia Lootens)

Members not present: Richard Gordon, Richard Hubbard, Gordana Matic, Leslie Gordon Simons

Approval of the minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting: Approved without corrections.

President Adam Goodie’s Remarks

- President Adam Goodie began his remarks with a welcome. He first addressed the possibility that the Georgia Legislature would be revisiting the Campus Carry law and that this issue may be on the horizon for future Franklin Faculty Senate Meetings.
- President Goodie also discussed the next round of elections for the Senate, noting that new officers would be needed to support President-Elect Mary Bedell.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 21.

Dean Dorsey’s Remarks

- Dean Dorsey began his remarks with a reminder of President Jere Morehead’s State of the University of Address, set to be held at the UGA Chapel on January 25.
- Dean Dorsey pointed out that the GA General Assembly had reconvened on January 9 and that Governor Deal had submitted a budget on January 11. The budget included salary increases for state employees, which Dean Dorsey noted was a positive first step for the possibility of salary increases for UGA employees.
- At the November 2016 launch event for next phase of UGA’s capital campaign, Dean Dorsey observed that President Morehead had announced a goal of $1.2 billion for the entire campaign. It was also announced that the university had received $30 million from the Woodruff Foundation to help with students in need of financial assistance. Dean Dorsey also commented that Franklin College had raised $12 million for the current fiscal year and $60 million in total overall towards its overall campaign goal of $75 million.
- Finally, Dean Dorsey noted the passing of two UGA faculty members, Professor Howard Lee (Physics and Astronomy) and Professor Emerita Judith Cofer (English).
- Q&A: There were no questions.
Committee Reports:

- Academic Standards Committee: Received 5 petitions, 2 approved, 3 denied.

- Curriculum Committee: Approved 21 new courses, approved 50 course changes, approved 3 Bulletin Changes, 11 General elective course proposals, 1 degree course proposal, 1 termination of degree.

- Executive Committee: No new business reported.

- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No new business reported.

- Committee on Planning & Evaluation: No new business reported.

New Business:

- The Senate discussed the proposal to terminate Computer Science Systems Engineering Certificate. Professor Maria Hybinette from Computer Science discussed the proposal, observing that the certificate is largely irrelevant due to the ability of the Engineering program at UGA to offer this content. The proposal was approved unanimously by the faculty senate.

- Professor Jennifer Rice of the Executive Committee offered a report on the charge to gather information on UGA anti-harassment and inclusion efforts. Professor Rice noted that the committee is still in the process of collecting data but that the committee, chaired by Professor Richard Gordon, has been meeting with organizations and units on campus that support fostering inclusion and diversity. Professor Rice then called for volunteers to help synthesize the data. Professor Rice then asked if the Senate wanted to issue a statement regarding the issues of inclusion and diversity.

  The first question that was raised was whether a statement had been made at the university level. It was pointed out that no such statement had been made but that there were comments in the minutes from the last meeting of the Executive Council related to the issues of inclusion and diversity.

  One Senator asked about if and how this issue should be taken back to the departments in Franklin College. This would help to determine what is being done at the departmental level and what might be expected from Franklin College.

  Another Senator asked whether a single resource existed for disseminating information about policies and procedures related to diversity and inclusion. As a follow-up, another Senator asked about faculty obligations in the reporting of possible cases of harassment.

  Finally, the Senate returned to the question of issuing a statement on behalf of the Franklin Faculty Senate. The discussion proceeded with the resulting consensus being that no such statement needed to be issued from the Senate.

Old Business:
Meeting was adjourned at 4:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chad Howe
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Romance Languages