

Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Franklin College of Arts & Sciences
April 13, 2004
Pending Approval

1. Call to Order:

Presiding officer Nancy Felson [Classics] called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM in Room 147 of the Student Learning Center.

2. Identification of Proxies and Visitors:

Proxies: Robert Moser for Luis Correa-Diaz [Romance Language], Kevin DeLuca for Christine Harold [Speech Communications], John Culvahouse for Mitos Andaya [Music]

Absences: Barry Palevitz [Plant Biology], K.K. Mon [Physics/Astronomy], Laura Mason [History], Rebecca Engauser [Dance], Kasia Jerzak [Comparative Literature], Wendy Zomlefer [Plant Biology], Mary Eidsness [Chemistry]

Visitors: Joel Caughran [Chemistry], Don Rubin [Speech Communications], representative for the Red & Black.

Total: 33 Present, 7 Absent.

3. Approval of Minutes of previous Senate Meetings:

The Senate voted unanimously to approve the minutes from March 16, 2004

4. Remarks by Presiding Officer Nancy Felson

Nancy Felson said that because it is the last meeting of the academic year, there are many wrap-up items on the agenda. Several, notably emendations to the Bylaws and Planning Committee proposals, will probably feed into our Senate presentation at the faculty-wide meeting on April 21, 2004, where the Senate has been allotted a place on the agenda. Nancy Felson said she would be presenting the highlights of our year's efforts and taking questions from the faculty, and that she would welcome any ideas about topics to raise at that meeting. She invited Senators to attend and participate in the discussion, and she asked them to urge their constituents to attend, both to enhance communication with their Senators and to say farewell to Dean Wyatt Anderson.

Nancy Felson thanked everyone for making her job a mainly pleasurable one. She said it was a challenging year but that we did accomplish one of her major goals, namely to begin to change the climate at UGA and begin to secure a more central role in governance for faculty. How that endeavor progresses, she said, would be in large part up to the faculty. She said that Provost Mace had requested a meeting with leaders of the Faculty Senate on May 4th and that anyone who wished to join the officers would be welcome. Finally, she thanked Dean Wyatt Anderson and Associate Dean Hugh Ruppensburg for their ongoing support of faculty governance and their cooperation. She

also conveyed the gratitude of the Senate to Beth Yash, in Dean Ruppensburg's office. Finally, she thanked the officers and the committee heads for their hard work.

5. Dean Anderson's Remarks

Dean Anderson's had to cancel his remarks. Due to the late notice, Associate Dean Ruppensburg had no prepared remarks.

6. Committee Reports:

6a) Steering Committee: no report

6b) Academic Standards:

The Academic Standard's committee met on Friday April 2, 2004. The committee reviewed a total of 5 student petitions. Four petitions were approved and one petition was denied. The Committee is currently reviewing an additional 5 student petitions and will vote on these by Friday April 16, 2004. The committee also reported on the SEVIS fee commenting on federal requirements, poor funding, and the fact that the program has not received many complaints. A short and ongoing report was given regarding grade appeals and grade inflation. With regard to the latter, the chair noted that Princeton will soon vote on a proposal to limit the number of As, Bs and Cs (e.g., 35% cap on the number of As within a course). The chair also commented on the apparent widespread nature of grade inflation noting that 95% of Harvard undergraduates recently graduated with Honors.

6c) Admissions: No petitions were received.

6d) Curriculum

The Curriculum committee met on Monday April 12, 2004. The committee approved the following items:

- Bulletin revisions for the Women's Studies major and minor
- Proposed Comparative Literature and German courses for the College's literature requirement list of approvals.
- Proposed changes of the major requirements for Classic Culture, Greek, and Latin.
- Proposed creation of a French Studies track within the existing French major and minor.
- Proposed degree changes for undergraduate major in Cellular Biology.
- Proposed changes to the Anthropology major requirements

The committee also approved a total of 13 courses submitted in CAPA. During the course of the year, the committee also considered low-enrollment degree programs. All programs for which retention was requested were recommended for retention. Programs that did not request retention were recommended for deletion. Recommended for retention: MAT in Romance languages; MA in Music; MA in Greek; MA in

mathematics (non-thesis option). Recommended for deletion: MS and PhD in Biochemistry; MAT in German; MAMS in Statistics.

6e) Planning: no report

6f) Professional Concerns: no report, but the Chair noted that the committee would continue to review the Senate Bylaws (decisions regarding Bylaws will be taken up next year).

6g) Committee on Committees:

The Committee on Committees met on March 30, 2004. The Committee nominated five senators, one from each division, to serve on next year's Committee on Committees. These are: John Culvahouse [Music]; Adam Parkes [English]; Wendy Zomlefer [Plant Biology]; Mitch Rothstein [Math]; and Laura Mason [History].

7. Old Business: no items.

8. New Business:

8a) Elections from the floor list of the returning senators can be found at http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/returning04.pdf

Doug Crowe[Geology] was nominated as Presiding officer for next year and, after a second nominee declined, he was unanimously approved. Elois Ann Berlin [Anthropology] and Jaxk Reeves [Statistics] were nominated for Protem. The Senate elected Elois Ann Berlin by a close majority vote. The secretary will be nominated and chosen at the first meeting of the next year.

8b). Election of next academic year's Committee on Committees and Awards Committee

The senators reviewed the resumes of the candidates (available at http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/bios.pdf) and then voted on members, one from each division. The following candidates were selected: Fine Arts: Richard Neupert; Languages and Literature: Martin Kagel; Biological sciences: Jim Porter; Physical sciences: Scott Shaw; Social sciences: Vicky Preston.

8c) Report from the President's Faculty Advisory Committee: Don Rubin [Speech Comm]

The Faculty Advisory Committee provides for the orderly voicing of suggestions to the higher administration regarding matters of concern to the University community. Optimally, although this rarely appears to happen in Arts & Sciences due to the absence of a formal reporting mechanism, the Committee provides a channel for communication between the faculty and the administrative officers of the University. The President usually meets the panel on Thursday, between press conferences and the University

Council Meeting. Consequently, the content of most of the meetings is simply a reiteration of material presented at the two other meetings. The President and Provost do make time for the committee members to bring up faculty concerns and offer advice. For the most part, however, the Committee hears clarifications or defenses of policies that have already been decided. There are four members from Arts& Sciences on this committee. The Senate recommends that, in the future, one of the four make a formal report at Senate meetings.

8d) Information Item: winners of election to the University Council (Professional Concerns).

The 11 new members of the University Council are: Janet Frick [Psychology]; William Barstow [Plant Biology]; Richard Dunham [Drama]; Diane Edison [Art]; Alan Pryzbyla [Biochemistry]; Lanny Webb [Art]; Nancy Felson [Classics]; Catherine Jones [Romance Languages]; Jim Anderson [Chemistry]; Thiab Taha [Computer Science]; and Kirk Willis [History].

8e). Information Item: Suggested changes to the proposed [Promotion and Tenure Guidelines](#) (Faculty Senate ad hoc committee) ([attachment](#)).

Nancy Felson called for general approval of these recommendations in support of the work of the ad hoc committee on P & T Guidelines set up last year. She thanked Elissa Henken, who chaired that committee last year and came out of 'retirement' to review the proposed Guidelines. The Senate unanimously approved the work (with 2 absentions).

8f). Presentation by the Planning Committee: some immediate proposals and assessments: Elois Ann Berlin ([attachment](#)).

In response to the charge by the Senate to draft a statement regarding faculty governance and faculty morale, the Planning Committee offers a preliminary report that takes into account the rationale statements accompanying the first poll, extracting from them some constructive proposals. The Committee sees a continuing need to examine the procedures of governance, with a focus on timely faculty input. It recommends using the government structure already in place, but fine-tuning it according to the guidelines of the AAUP. Next year's Senate will take up this charge.

8g) Discussion of recent layoffs. There was some discussion regarding recent layoffs within the ALP and local radio station. Some senate members expressed concern that faculty were not made aware of these layoffs before the local media. Some worried about the impact on the College, especially regarding the training of foreign graduate students. The decision was made to further research this issue in order to understand the specific conditions surrounding the layoffs and the possible implications to the College. Since this was the last meeting, and the issue could not wait until the following year and remain

a concern, Nancy Felson [Classics] was charged with investigating the issue (with help from interested parties) and preparing a statement regarding the layoffs. Giving Nancy Felson this charge was voted on with 3 opposed, 2 abstain, majority vote approval.

Nancy Felson invited other senators to join her in presenting an overview of the year's activities of the Senate at the general faculty meeting of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences on April 21, 2004. She asked for an informal endorsement of the 15 minute presentation, which the Senate gave, with one asstention, after some discussion,

8h) Comments on suggested changes from the Chemistry Department ([attachment](#)).

9. The Senate officially thanked Dean Wyatt Anderson and Associate Dean Hugh Ruppensburg and Nancy Felson for their extremely hard work. Nancy Felson thanked the officers, Robert Rumely and B. Randy Hammond, and the committee chairs and all the senators for their cooperative spirit in a challenging year and expressed her appreciation of the Deans and Beth Yash.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Submitted by B. Randy Hammond [Psychology]