

**Franklin College Faculty Senate  
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in room 137 of the Tate Center, Marguerite Madden presiding.

**Members Present:** Ibigbolade Aderibigbe, Mike Arnold, Maor Bar-Peled, Dana Bultman, Brandon Craswell, Chris Cuomo, Shanta Dhar, Fred Dolezal, Tim Dore, Scott Dougan, Rebecca Enghauser, Christine Franklin, Michael Geller, William Graham, Christine Haase, Kelly Happe, Chuck Hopkinson, Miriam Jacobson, Jim Lauderdale, Kang Li, Marguerite Madden, Jan Mrazek, Kanzo Nakayama, Marta Patiño-Douce, Michael Robinson, John Rose, Mitch Rothstein, Nick Rynearson, Jake Short, Chris Sieving, Richard Suplita, Saral Surakul, Susan Tanner, Karim Traore, Stefaan Van Liefferinge, Rheeda Walker, Lianchun Wang.

**Proxies:** Yehua Li (for Xiangrong Yin.)

**Members not present:** Joshua Barkan, Nicolas Lucero, Patricia Richards, Adam Sabra

**Visitors:** None

**Approval of the minutes of the 24 January 2012 meeting:** Approved without corrections.

**President Marguerite Madden's Remarks**

- President Madden updated the Senate on developments related to the undocumented students ban from the University System of Georgia's institutions. A proposed Georgia State Senate bill (SB 458) which is far more restrictive than the current Board of Regents policy, was to be discussed during the week. The SB 458 would ban undocumented students from all USG public institutions. Dr. Madden pointed out that at the January 31 House Higher Education Committee Hearing on the topic, Chancellor Huckaby stated that the concerns leading to the HB 59 proposal (e.g., undocumented student receiving undue benefits from the State to the detriment of Georgians and lawful residents) were properly addressed by the current Board of Regents policy, and asked the Legislature to allow the Board of Regents to continue addressing this issue through existing policy. The House Higher Education Committee did not vote on HB 59 and no date for it to be voted on has been published.

**Dean Ruppensburg's Remarks**

- Dean Ruppensburg announced that he would be discussing the coming year's budget proposal with the Provost. Three scenarios were prepared: a 2% cut scenario, a "flat" scenario and a 2% increase scenario. The 2% cut would entail a \$1.53 million reduction that would sacrifice travel, recruitment, hourly and part-time workers and departments' operating budgets, without any lay-offs. In the flat scenario, \$1 million would be available

for recruitment which could be translated into 15 faculty lines. The 2% increase scenario could be achieved through a modest tuition increase and the restoration of formula funding. The 2% increase scenario would restore 10% of operating budgets, allow recruitment to continue and provide for salary increases. The budget proposals will be given to the new Dean.

- There will be no raises this year, since self-funded raises could not be found. A raise is in next year's Governor's budget. World events in the financial market as well as GA tax revenues could have an impact on raises.
- The Provost increased the Odyssey Seminar compensation to \$3,000.
- Dean Ruppensburg discussed two articles (sent to Senate members by e-mail). One of the articles refers to the Hope and the Zell Miller Scholarships, and the other focuses on trends in future funding for Research Universities.
- There is pressure to change the Hope Scholarship from being merit based to being need based; the Zell Miller Scholarship will be awarded on merit. The impact of the change to Hope could be significant; the University strongly favors merit.
- NSF and other sources of external funding will be decreasing in the future so it is expected that the number of research universities that will be supported by these funds will also shrink, potentially from about 250 funded universities to approximately 60. Promotion and tenure guidelines will not be relaxed because of the change. New sources for funding should be found and tapped.
- An internal space survey is being carried out in preparation for a similar review next year by the Board of Regents.
- Honors Day will focus exclusively on students this year. Colleges are to prepare lists of the top 1% students based on academic performance and service activities.
- College-wide graduation ceremonies of different types have been attempted with various levels of success in the past. There will not be a college-wide ceremony this year. In its place, Dean Ruppensburg urged departments to host recognition ceremonies for graduating students.
- Recruitment is still under way. Dean Ruppensburg expects it will turn out successful for departments in the process of recruiting top level candidates.
- Candidates for the Franklin College Dean position are visiting Campus. Dean Ruppensburg emphasized it is important for Senate members to meet with them and express their opinions.

## **Old Business**

### **Recent Dismissal of the State Climatologist and Assistant State Climatologist.**

- President Madden indicated that a resolution regarding the recent dismissal of the State Climatologist and Assistant State Climatologist is being drafted. The draft will be brought for revision and possible vote by the Faculty Senate in next month's meeting. David Stooksbury and Pam Knox (former State Climatologist and Assistant State Climatologist, respectively) indicated they prefer not to present a FS resolution if approved to the University Council, and thanked Senate members for their support. They were both invited to attend the FS meeting next month when the resolution will be discussed. Pam Knox will try to attend this upcoming meeting, but David Stooksbury cannot attend due to class conflicts.

**Committee Reports:**

- Academic Standards Committee: Received 6 petitions, approved 6, denied 1.
- Curriculum Committee: Approved 20 new courses and 15 course changes.
- Executive Committee: No new business reported.
- Faculty Affairs Committee: No new business reported.
- Planning and Evaluation Committee: Revised the Strategic Planning documents submitted by Departments to identify common themes that recur across disciplines. A document that will compile visionary goals is in preparation and it will be presented to the new Franklin College Dean in July. The Committee expects this report to be ready by May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Marta Patiño Douce  
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Geology

**FRANKLIN COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2012**

<b>Curriculum Description</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>New Courses Reviewed</b>	20 new courses
<b>Course Changes</b>	15 course changes
<b>No proposals approved this month.</b>	