

Auburn University at Montgomery Faculty Senate Minutes

September 16, 2011

Library Tower, 10th Floor

1. Senate Business

A. Roll Call

Senate Officers and Senators: Ioimo, Deravi, Kaufman, Hamilton, McKenzie, Lan, Byron, Morton, Young-White, Schaefer, Willis, Severance, Winemiller, Gantt, Beuk, Terry, Ward, Ragland, Kim

Ex-officio: Dyess

Guests: Wyatt Wells, Jacques Fuqua

B. Approval of Minutes of July 8, 2011, meeting

- Motion for by Severance, seconded by Young-White. The minutes as modified were approved unanimously.

C. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be October 14, 2011, at 9:00 AM in the East Room of the Library Tower, 10th Floor.

2. Administrative Reports

A. Chancellor – John Veres

- Complimented the Secretary for the specificity of the minutes
- We have settled on a site for the new residence hall. It will be south of North Commons and east of the West Courtyards. The entrance to North Commons may move deeper into the campus. AUM Housing would like to change the entrance so to control the flow of students into the parking lot. At a meeting in November 2011, we will go to have the final design of the plan approved.
- Salary increases were sent out for the first time in years. The average increase was 3%. An additional, one-time salary supplement of 2% was also passed at the Board of Trustees Meeting.

B. Provost – Jeffery Elwell

- Last report, enrollment is down 8.07%, which is 61 graduate students and 463 undergraduate students.
- Eliminated the lowest category of provisional students.
- An outside firm is contacting all students who were accepted at AUM but did not enroll. Like to know why they did not enroll and where they went, if they went anywhere.
- Fall 2011 there is a new Bridge Program. 138 total provisional students started last Fall and had three semesters under their belts.

- Summer 2011 Bridge Program had 44 students, 20 were successful (45%). This is double the success rate of before, but not good enough. 18 of 24 students who were unsuccessful did not pass a single course. Starting next Fall there should be a handful of provisional students.
- This does not mean an end of remedial classes on campus. There will be fewer English 0100 and 0101 courses, but Math 0700 and 0800 are still in demand.
- We are looking at retention. There is a Blackboard component that may be used to look at this issue. Jenny Good is looking at retention for part-time and full-time students. We have 3% fewer graduate students and part-time graduate students this Fall.

Discussion

Kim: For our Chinese students, do we require them to have insurance? Do other schools require their international students to have insurance?

Veres: They really are a learning community where Dr. Ho represents them. The average GPA at AUM is 2.67, for our Chinese students it is 3.25. Academically, the Chinese students are succeeding well. Only one student was sent back for academic issues, and another one was sent back for behavioral issues. We are doing things to help our international students. We began to cover student health insurance for the Chinese students. We have adopted a parent program, Central Alabama Assistance of the Chinese (CAAC), and it helps. We wish the average student profile at AUM looked like the those of our Chinese students. If you have any ideas, please speak with Jacques Fuqua.

Young-White: Are all students required to take the College Success course?

Elwell: No

Young-White: What about transfer students?

Elwell: I'm not sure.

Veres: There has been discussion of making the course mandatory for transfer students.

C. Past President – Nelya McKenzie

- No report.

D. President – Ralph Ioimo

- We have formulated and staffed all committees at this point. I will back out of the appointment phase and turn it over to the chairs of the committees.

- When I put out calls for faculty to serve on committees, I did get many responses from some schools. Those faculty members who responded first were appointed.

3. Old Business

A. Smoking Policy – Ioimo

- Regarding the Smoking Policy that was discussed last year, we spoke with the Chancellor, and we looked at Baptist East’s policy at the time. We had a lot of support from the Senate at the time. The concern was that if we were to follow Baptist East’s policy, there would be a lot of policing put on AUM’s faculty, and faculty did not want to be policing or act like the police. I ask that we take another look at Baptist East’s policy and look at other policies.

Discussion

Veres: We need a policy. The policy that was attached was an example. We need to get feedback from the Staff Council, from the Student Government Association, and the Faculty Senate. All three need to get together, for a policy committee, and create a policy. It is a national trend. We need a policy, but we’re not sure what it needs to say. We need campus consensus. We need a workable policy to protect those who want to be protected from second-hand smoke. Given the amount of money we have used to improve the appearance of the campus, we should implement a policy.

Elwell: What happened to the committee?

Deravi: It was pushed to the Welfare Committee.

Veres: We need an ad hoc committee that would have all groups. We need to involve faculty, staff, and students.

Deravi: I agree. 99.9% are in agreement with a smoke-free policy, but the responsibility of the faculty to police the campus bogged down the policy.

W. Blake: Campuses at University of Kentucky are tobacco-free. There was one campus that did have a designated smoking area, but now it wants to be 100% free.

Young-White: Any plans that we have need to contain some governance. We can’t have a non-smoking policy without having a responsibility to enforce it.

Ioimo: Do we need to make a motion to form a committee?

Morton: I motion that we formulate a committee to have a tobacco-free campus policy.

Deravi: I second.

Discussion

McKenzie: Who will be responsible for appointing the committee?

Ioimo: The Rules Committee could take it on. Jennifer Dyess will head a sub-committee to look into the development of a policy

Schaefer: Does the policy include smokeless tobacco?

Ioimo: Yes, tobacco-free.

- Ioimo called the question, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

A. Calendar Committee – Wyatt Wells

- We are working hard to make as boring and routine a committee as possible. The calendar is what it is. We have to stick fairly close to Auburn’s calendar because of the Seamless program and the number of joint programs. Auburn’s calendars are becoming funky – 14 ½ week semesters, the graduation date hops around. We have the same general breaks and exam periods as Auburn. We have 30 meetings for a 15-week semester; 18 meetings for a 9-week summer semester. We tried to push back the start of Summer term as far as possible. (Draft of Calendar is attached).

Discussion

Young-White: For Fall 2013, are the dates on the calendar for Thanksgiving Monday-Thursday?

Wells: We should include 11/29/13, Friday, as well

Ioimo: We will vote next meeting on the calendar.

B. Immunization Policy – Ioimo

- This is not something that Faculty Welfare addresses, but we should look at a policy because it would affect campus. We want to take a look at a support policy for immunization

Discussion

Elwell: Jacques Fuqua started in February, and he noticed that we didn’t have anything in place for international students, which should be fairly standard.

In Alabama, K-12 students must show immunization records for public and private schools. Most students in Alabama should have immunization records.

Fuqua: This is simple and straight-forward. If we have an outbreak of a disease, and the media starts to ask questions, we need to prove our due diligence. We want to implement a policy by Fall 2012 and have the Administration's Office and the Registrar's Office begin to track and check students. We would begin with the entering class of 2012 and move forward, and those students who do not graduate in four years will be caught up.

Elwell: Can students self-select to get immunized?

Fuqua: Yes, they will not be excluded. Everything is in place: the Health Center is ready to get software to track the process.

Willis: If our goal is disease immunization, and we say students only, then what about faculty?

Terry: Nursing faculty all must be immunized

Hamilton: This is a valid point that Susan Willis brings up. Faculty should be tested annually for tuberculosis.

Ward: Should the policy include staff?

Deravi: We have a lot of returning students who can't find doctors, so what should be done?

Hamilton: Once you have titers drawn, your full immunization record will be shown.

Deravi: Is the intent of this policy a campus-wide policy?

Fuqua: No, but it is refreshing. Perhaps this is a progressive approach.

Wells: A certain percentage will never get immunized. We have to get something in place now. We can add in faculty and staff later.

Ioimo: Make a motion in support of the proposed immunization policy.

- Ward motioned in favor, and Young-White seconded. The motion carried.
- Fuqua inquired about a more expansive policy, and Ioimo said for Fuqua to bring back a policy that covers faculty and staff and that the Senate will examine it.

C. Diversity Courses – Timothy Spraggins

- Postponed to next meeting

5. Announcements

- Faculty Council meets at 11:00 AM in Goodwyn 109.

6. Adjournment

- Deravi made a motion to adjourn, Young-White seconded.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:57 AM.

Proposed Academic Year 2013-2014 Calendar

Fall 2013

| | Full Term | 1 st Half Term | 2 nd Half Term |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Classes Begin | Aug. 12/13 (M/Tu) | Aug. 12/13 (M/Tu) | Oct. 7/8 (M/Tu) |
| Labor Day | Sept. 2/3 (M/Tu) | Sept. 2/3 (M/Tu) | |
| Thanksgiving | Nov. 25-29 | | Nov. 25-28 |
| Last Day of Class | Dec. 2/3 (M/Tu) | Oct. 2/3 (W/Th) | Dec. 2/3 (M/Tu) |
| Reading Day | Dec. 4 (W) | | |
| Exams day of classes | Dec 5, 9-10 (Th, M-W) | | Last day of classes Last |
| Commencement | Dec. 14 (Sat.) | | |

Spring 2014

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|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Classes Begin | Jan. 6/7 (M/Tu) | Jan. 6/7 (M/Tu) | March 3/4 (M/Tu) |
| MLK Day | Jan. 20/21 (M/Tu) | Jan. 20/21 (M/Tu) | |
| Spring Break | March 10-14 | | March 10-14 |
| Last Day of Classes | April 28/29 (M/TU) | Feb. 26/27 (W/Th) | April 28/29 (M/W) |
| Reading Day | April 30 (W) | | |
| Exams day of classes | May 1, 5-7 (Th, M-W) | | Last day of classes Last |
| Commencement | May 10 | | |

Proposed Summer 2014 Schedule

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|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Classes Begin | May 28/29 (W/Th) | May 28/29 (W/Th) | June 30/July 1 (M/Tu) |
| Classes End | July 28/29 (M/Tu) | June 25/26 (W/Th) | July 28/29 (M/Tu) |
| Exams | Last Day of Classes | Last Day of Classes | Last Day of Classes |
| Commencement | August 2 | | |