

North Carolina A&T State University

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2010
2014 Smith Hall
3:00 p.m.

Senate Members Present: Taher Abu-lebdeh, Obasi Akan, Edith Archibald, Sharon Brown, Linda Florence Callahan, Horlin Carter, Pamela Chavis, Roy Coomans, Salil Desai, Julius L. Harp, John F. Humphrey, Floyd James, Khrisna Kasibbatla, Ibraheem Kateeb, Thelma King, Roland Leak, Patricia Lynch, Stephen McCary-Henderson, Wayne Moore, Janis Oldham, Robert Payne, Jr., Zhaoqiong Qin, Craig Rhodes, Michael Roberto, Kenneth Roberts, Tiffany Russell, Messiha T. Saad, Janet Seiz, Brian Sims, Derrick Smith

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by Dr. Linda Florence Callahan.

Moment of Silence

Dr. Callahan reviewed the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the April 27, 2010 meeting with attached letter from the Mathematics Department dated April 12, 2010 were approved, unanimously, after a statement from Dr. Janis Oldham noting that the letter from the Mathematics Department dated April 12, 2010 addressing Elementary Education courses (with reference to mathematics) be included as an attachment, of record, to the April 27, 2010 minutes.
- The minutes of the August 24, 2010 meeting were approved, unanimously, without any changes.

Callahan Comments

- Dr. Callahan stated that Dr. Wendy Hamblet, a senator from Liberal Studies had been involved in a car accident. She circulated a 'get well card' for signatures and well wishes. The card will be mailed to the senator.
- Dr. Edith Archibald agreed to serve as Senate secretary.
- Dr. Callahan addressed the importance of committee work and staying on target with senate goals and objectives.
- Dr. Callahan noted that the Senate needs an alternate delegate to the UNC Faculty Assembly—senators were requested to volunteer to go to the Faculty Assembly – the next meeting is November 12, 2010.
- The Senate Executive Committee met with the Provost on September 21, 2010.
- Dr. Callahan noted that the Hearing and Reconsideration and Grievance Committee members are the same faculty members that served on the respective committees last academic year.

- Photography Update: It would be good for senators to either come early or stay late (during the next meeting) and go next door to the meeting room for a photo to be placed on the Faculty Senate webpage.
- The agenda for the academic year will include State Representative Alma Adams; the new Provost, Dr. Linda Adams, and other administrators and guests.
- UNST Update – Where are we? It was noted that the clusters have not gone away or been done away with – the requirements are still in place; only the administrative structure has gone away. A number of senators expressed their surprise to learn that UNST cluster classes were still required. It was noted that, if administration approves it, departments would be allowed to substitute courses during the transition period. There was considerable discussion regarding the transition. What does the Senate want to happen? The educational policy committee is in charge of the guidelines, rules and recommendations for students who are graduating immediately. It was noted that the faculty should be in charge of the transition rather than the administration. This should be an urgent matter and the task force should be e-mailed and contacted with ideas and suggestions. Many departments are allowing students to substitute other courses in place of the clusters. A question was raised - Should there be a general timetable for recommendations and proposals to be imposed by the administration? The department chairs and the departmental faculty should be allowed to substitute courses for cluster courses. A suggestion was made to continue the discussion with the Provost. Dr. Roberto made the suggestion that ‘We propose that the administration instruct the departments across the University to advise students on substitutes for cluster requirements in the transition. Students, however, will continue to take foundation courses until the new curriculum is in place.’ Dr. Roberto added - ‘That the suggestion be discussed with colleagues and faculty within the University family and then be discussed at the next meeting.’ A motion was made to table the discussion – there were six abstentions and the majority agreed to table the discussion. A motion was made on the floor by Dr. Akan and seconded that the departments be given the authority to substitute UNST classes and that they not be held up for graduation. The motion was carried; one abstention.

New Programs and Curricula

Dr. Thelma King presented new courses offered by the department of Chemical Engineering and the department of Liberal Studies.

- There was limited discussion from the Chemical Engineering department. The programs were approved unanimously.

Guest Presenter

Dr. Lori Hunter, the interim associate vice chancellor for enrollment management. Dr. Hunter is responsible for enrollment management. She addressed the assembly on how to support the students in their studies and in the classroom. She emphasized timely registration. The Senate was to vote on the University Calendar with regard to add/drop days (end of the second day until

the end of the 5th day of classes); late registration (first week of classes) ends after the 5th day of classes. It was noted that the late registration fee is \$50.00. This fee is a deterrent only. The question was raised - should the late registration fee be raised to \$100.00. Summer registration will be on a different calendar than the regular registration. A motion was made that the changes to the calendar be accepted with the exception that the late registration fee be doubled. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Craig Rhodes discussed Faculty Work Load (the disparities within the department and between the departments, and the various work load within each department). It was noted that many faculty have numerous committee assignments in addition to the regular work load. It was further noted that the *faculty work load* topic be brought back for discussion at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

The next Senate Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010 in Smith Hall, Room 2014.

Submitted by B. Edith Archibald