

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
North Carolina A&T State University
Academic Classroom Building Auditorium (A101)
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
3:00-5:25 p.m.

Brian Carey Sims, President Presiding

Senate Members Present: Alfredo Aquirre, Ronnie Bailey, Sherrie Cannoy, Robert Cobb, Yoko Crume, Lauren Davis, Samuel Garren, Tony Graham, Julius Harp, Gwendolyn Highsmith-Quick, Floyd James, Ioney James, Ibraheem Kateeb, Dukka KC, Roland Leak, Patrick Martin, Stephen McCary-Henderson, Ademe Mekonnen, Radiah Minor, Elsie Moore, Hany Nakhla, Janis Oldham, Michael Roberto, Jerono Rotich, Brian Sims, Vanita Vactor, Jane Walker, Lijun Wang, Patricia Whitfield, Sheila Whitley, Kenneth Williams.

Departments Not Represented: Liberal Studies; Political Science; Chemical and Bioengineering; Electrical Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education; Management; School of Nursing; Leadership Studies; Army ROTC; Air Force ROTC

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Brian Carey Sims, President Presiding

A Moment of Silence

Dr. Sims acknowledged the recent passing of Professor Tom Smith, husband of Faculty Senate Vice President Dr. Elizabeth Barber. Condolences were extended to the family.

Approval of Minutes

The September 24, 2013 minutes were approved.

Senate Welcome and Remarks

Dr. Brian Sims

Dr. Sims greeted everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He stated that the Senate remains excited about making new connections. He stressed the importance of meaningful communication links. He stated that past faculty senate administrative office intern Kaih Reed along with fellow members of the Aggie Media Group have worked out a proposal to enhance the Senate's general public relations and media branding. Dr. Sims presented the Aggie Media Group's proposal to the Senate. Additionally, Dr. Sims stated that he is working to establish an even broader relationship with the Student Government Association (SGA). He and the President of the SGA are working on several collaborative efforts. In other discussion, a concern about the design and layout of the University's current business card and letterhead was brought to Dr. Sims' and the full Senate's attention. Dr. Sims noted that an upgrade of the business card and letterhead is in line with branding. This concern will be given further discussion and follow-up.

It was noted that there are ongoing discussions with the administration regarding faculty parking. Dr. Michael Roberto and Dr. Samuel Garren agreed to assist Dr. Sims with coordinated faculty energy on faculty parking specifics.

There is continued work on the faculty four document, the course renumbering process and the faculty workload document. University Business and Finance Administrative invitations will be extended to the Senators/faculty to join the University Printing team for school/college department printing input/discussions.

New Programs & Curriculum Report

Dr. Sheila Whitley

Dr. Sheila Whitley brought to the floor the packages discussed in their committee meeting of October 11, 2013. All proposals were approved unanimously. They are as follows:

- 1) English – 2 new courses
- 2) Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education – 2 course changes; 3 new courses; 1 Curriculum Guide with General Education Requirement
- 3) Family and Consumer Sciences – 23 course changes; 1 new course; 1 new concentration; 5 revised curriculum guides
- 4) Natural Resources and Environmental Design – 2 course changes; 1 curriculum guide with General Education Requirements
- 5) General Education Task Force – 9 inclusion courses

UNC General Education Update

Dr. Scott Simkins

Dr. Scott Simkins, Director of the Academy for Teaching & Learning, gave a UNC General Education Council update. The Council is a group of UNC system-wide faculty and administrators appointed by UNC President Tom Ross and charged with completing a comprehensive review of general education programs across the UNC system. Dr. Simkins is A&T's representative on the Council. Dr. Simkins acknowledge receipt of the ranking of the University's general education outcomes and thanked the faculty for their hard work. E-portfolio requirements are being discussed. Continued faculty involvement is expected. A faculty "Townhall" meeting is being planned for November. The "Townhall" meeting is important for providing feedback on additional recommendations that need to go forward. By March or April, 2014 the UNC Board may be ready to vote. Faculty will be provided with additional information on the "Townhall" meeting.

Faculty Driven Initiative

Dr. Solomon Bililign

Dr. Solomon Bililign, Professor in the Department of Physics, gave an overview on Interdisciplinary Research and Education. He included in his overview approaches to interdisciplinarity and the role of faculty and administration; the faculty led funded effort bio-geometry project; the faculty initiated funded center – ISETCSC; misconceptions about interdisciplinary programs; definition of terms – multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity; why

interdisciplinary programs; barriers to interdisciplinary research; barriers to interdisciplinary research and education; barriers to interdisciplinary research and training; what can be done; role of leadership in interdisciplinary research; and a Proposal to Establish an Earth System Science and Engineering Institute (ESSEI) at NCAT - its goals and why or why not at NCAT.

Faculty Salary Equity Study Update

Dr. Michael Roberto

Dr. Scott Jenkins, Institutional Research, is in the process of cleaning data. Dr. Jenkins will report back to the Senate with reference to findings. The Faculty Salary Equity Study Subcommittee is preparing to make presentations at all divisions/schools/colleges. The presentations will include the Committee report as well as the report of Dr. Jenkins. Dr. Roberto noted that it appears that the work of this Committee is just beginning. He presented a schedule of Senate-college/school meeting dates for information.

Student Government Association (SGA) President's Report

Mr. Gitory Bartell

Mr. Bartell, SGA Parliamentarian, represented the SGA on behalf of President Canisha Turner. Mr. Bartell extended thanks and appreciation to the Senate for the SGA invitation to present at the Senate meeting. He gave highlights of SGA activities, i.e., talks with the Chancellor, desserts with the college/school deans, dissemination of voter registration information, speeches on tuition, involvement with the entrepreneurship fair, Homecoming 2013, and student leadership preparatory sessions. Senators were asked to please call the SGA office for additional information or assistance.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Next Senate Meeting: November 26, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in Academic Classroom Building (A101)

Mrs. Nina R. Ingram
Administrative Assistant
Recorder