

Faculty Senate Meeting

North Carolina A&T State University

Smith Hall Room 2014

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

3:00 p.m.

Linda Florence Callahan, Ph.D., President Presiding

Senate Members Present: Taher Abu-lebdeh, Elizabeth Barber, Diane Birch, Shearon Brown, Linda Florence Callahan, LeAnder Canady, Horlin Carter, Sr., Betty Chapman, David Chen, Robert Cobb, Roy Coomans, Dwedor Ford, Samuel Garren, Tony Graham, Wendy Hamblet, Julius Harp, Floyd James, Ioney James, Kenrett Jefferson-Moore, Ibraheem Kateeb, Adriana Laboy, Roland Leak, Gary Lebby, Valerie McMillan, Ademe Mekonnen, Radiah Minor, Francene Moore, Janis M. Oldham, Robert Payne, Jr., Deborah Prentice, Xiuli Qu, Michael Roberto, Kenneth Roberts, Jerono Rotich, Messiha Saad, Brian Sims, Derick Smith, Lijun Wang, Hong Wang.

Departments Not Represented: Sociology and Social Work, Computational Science and Engineering, Human Development and Services, Manufacturing Systems.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Linda Florence Callahan, President Presiding

A moment of Silence

Approval of the Minutes (March 27, 2012)

Minutes were approved and seconded.

Recognition for Outstanding Service: President Callahan was given a standing ovation and presented with a plaque for her years of service and leadership for the Faculty Senate. Senate Vice President Dr. Elizabeth Barber made the presentation on behalf of the Senate. Barber thanked Callahan for her leadership, dedication, and achievements during her term as Senate President.

Callahan thanked the Senate and said she was honored to have served as Faculty Senate President for the past five years.

Callahan Comments

- Overview of Agenda
- 2012 Commencement Ceremony: Despite much early controversy from students about limited seating at graduation, due to security concerns around the First Lady's visit, the criticisms seem to be abating, according to Dr.

Callahan, in response to an (April 22) editorial in the Greensboro *News and Record* by “Miss A&T” Jasmine Gurley, noting the historical significance of having Michelle Obama at A&T’s ceremonies. Callahan asked faculty to continue to share with students the historical significance of the visit to NC A&T. The article was distributed to senators. There will be a security sweep prior to Coliseum doors opening at 7:30 a.m.; faculty should plan to arrive between 7:30 and 7:45. The platform party will arrive at 10 a.m. For security reasons, the exact time of the First Lady’s arrival had not been released. Dr. Callahan suggests bringing a snack and water, and keeping purse sizes to a minimum. No backpacks will be permitted. The ceremony will follow the usual format.

- General Education Pre-requisites – Despite published reports to the contrary, Callahan reminded senators that the issue regarding pre-requisites for Math and Foreign Language had not been approved by the Senate and has never been brought before the Senate for deliberation. Callahan said that Provost Winsor Alexander had told the Deans in person and in writing that the Departments were to follow the established and published University policy of accepting Ds as passing for General Education courses. Specifically, students are permitted to move to the next general education course in Math and Foreign Language if they make at least a D in the course.

Speaking on behalf of the Math Dept., Dr. Janis Oldham said the department supports the idea of requiring a “C” in MATH 101 in order to proceed to MATH 102 since the department is held accountable for the DWF rates in Math.

Math and other departments are free to pursue policy changes by having ideas vetted and brought up for consideration. However, citing Provost Alexander, Callahan said individual departments and colleges are not permitted to unilaterally change campus-wide policies such as the General Education Requirements. Thus, the established policies are to be followed throughout the University.

- New General Education Council: will replace the General Education Committee in effect this past year, headed by Mary Smith and Scott Simkins.
- Faculty Handbook Committee – Dr. Tony Graham will become the new chair of the Faculty Handbook Committee.
- Possibility of a Faculty Senate Retreat in May: Dr. Callahan will send out an email survey of interest in a retreat, in collaboration with the new President Elect.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes – Dr. Callahan/Dr. Scott Simkins. A vote was taken on the General Education Learning Outcome descriptions. It was moved and passed

that description #2 under Scientific Reasoning be deleted, since ethical study of scientific ideas is not covered in every science course.

New Program and Curricula Committee – Dr. Brian Sims. Dr. Sims reported that the New Programs and Curricula (NP&C) Committee met on March 9, 2012 from 3:30-6:00 pm and on March 10th from 3:30 to 6:00 pm in Room 360 New Science Building. The committee members in attendance included Drs. Elizabeth Barber, Shelia Whitley, Hong Wang, Ram Mohan, Messiah Saad, Brian Sims, Ms. Shearon Brown, and Ms. Elsie Moore. The committee reviewed, discussed and approved curricula changes submitted by the Departments of: Journalism & Mass Communication; Curriculum & Instruction; Sociology & Social Work; Human Development & Services; Natural Resources & Environmental Design; Family & Consumer Sciences; Electronics, Computer and Information Technology; Graphic Communication Systems & Technological Studies; Construction Management & Occupational Safety & Health (3) ; Accounting; Applied Engineering Technology; English; Electrical & Computer Engineering; Computer Science; Industrial & Systems Engineering; Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering (2); Bioengineering; Chemical Engineering; Biological Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; and Computational Science & Engineering.

Dr. Sims reported the following to the Senate and recommended approval:

- 1) Journalism & Mass Communication – Minor in Journalism & Mass Communication
- 2) Curriculum & Instruction – 1 new course; 2 course changes
- 3) Sociology & Social Work – 2 new courses
- 4) Human Development & Services – 2 new courses; 4 course changes
- 5) Natural Resources & Environmental Design – Renaming of ‘Natural Resources’ degree & associate concentrations; proposed new concentration
- 6) Family & Consumer Sciences – 2 course changes; 2 new courses; changes to program requirements in Food & Nutrition Sciences
- 7) Electronics, Computer and Information Technology – Propose change to required credit hours for graduation; curriculum guide revisions
- 8) Graphic Communication Systems & Technological Studies – 24 course changes; 3 new courses; change to required credit hours for graduation; curriculum guide revisions
- 9) Construction Management and Occupational Safety & Health (Construction Management) – 3 course changes
- 10) Construction Management and Occupational Safety & Health (Occupational Safety & Health Program – Curriculum Guide Revisions
- 11) Construction Management and Occupational Safety & Health (Geomatics Program) – 10 course changes; 2 new courses; Curriculum Guide Revisions

- 12) Accounting – 1 course change; 6 new courses; new Accounting Concentration in Master of Science in Management Program
- 13) Applied Engineering Technology- 11 course changes
- 14) English – Minor in English
- 15) Electrical & Computer Engineering – 7 new courses; 2 course changes
- 16) Computer Science – 1 new course; 2 course changes
- 17) Industrial & System Engineering – 15 course changes; 4 new courses; increase in credit hours for graduation
- 18) Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering – 32 course changes; 1 new course
- 19) Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering – 9 course changes; 2 new courses
- 20) Bioengineering – 2 course changes; change to required credit hours for graduation
- 21) Chemical Engineering – Change to required credit hours for graduation
- 22) Biological Engineering – change to required credit hours for graduation
- 23) Mechanical Engineering – 2 new courses; 7 course changes
- 24) Computational Science & Engineering – 1 new course; 1 course change; revised catalog entry for M.S./Ph.D. in Computational Science & Engineering
- 25) Mechanical Engineering - Package approved during the March 2012 Senate Meeting; held over due to departmental revision delays) – 42 course changes; 12 new courses; 12 course deletions

In addition, the Senate voted to approve the following existing courses for inclusion on the new General Education Curriculum, in the ‘Student Success’ student learning outcome category – CUIN 102 “Introduction to Teacher Education 1” and MATH 105 “Seminar for Freshmen and New Mathematics Majors.”

All curricula proposals were passed unanimously.

Plus-Minus Grading System – Dr. Floyd James. Vote was taken with the results: 23 for; 6 against; 4 abstentions. The new plus/minus grading system was thus passed, to take effect in the fall of 2013.

Faculty Assembly Report – Dr. Janis Oldham. The state assembly met on April 20 in Chapel Hill. There was no quorum so they only discussed several current matters of concern, including grievance issues on campuses across the system and quality control concerns in online education. Dr. Oldham felt that A&T may currently be contravening the state system code (Code 607; Policy Manual Procedures 100.1, 101.32) by appointing (versus electing) grievance committee members. Dr. Oldham recommended posting on the A&T faculty webpage clear instructions for filing grievances, with step-by-step procedures. She noted that the question of what types of

matters should be directed to the Grievance Committee or to the Hearing and Reconsideration Committee is far from clear to faculty.

Senate Elections – Dr. Floyd James

- Officers- Brian Sims was elected as the new Senate President
- Grievance and Hearing and Reconsideration- Committees members were elected as reinstated.
- New General Education Council- 3 representatives were elected: Dr. McMillan (Family & Consumer Sciences); Dr. Wang (Management); Dr. Moore (Library).
- Faculty Assembly Delegates- 4 new delegates/1 alternate were elected: Karen Hornsby (History); Radiah Minor (Animal Sciences); Floyd James (Chemistry); and Brian Sims, Senate President Elect (Psychology) - delegates. Elizabeth Barber (Leadership Studies) – alternate.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Professor Wendy C. Hamblet
Secretary