

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**North Carolina A&T State University**  
**Academic Classroom Building auditorium (A101)**  
**Tuesday, November 26, 2013**  
**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Brian Carey Sims, President Presiding**

**Senate Members Present:** Alfredo Aquirre, Elizabeth Barber, Sherrie Cannoy, Robert Cobb, Lauren Davis, Tony Graham, Wendy Hamblet, Gwendolyn Highsmith-Quick, Ioney James, Dukka KC, Roland Leak, Patrick Martin, Stephen McCary-Henderson, Ademe Mekonnen, Radiah Minor, Janis Oldham, Michael Roberto, Brian Sims, Jane Walker, Sheila Whitley, Kenneth Williams, Wanda Williamson.

**Departments Not Represented:** Chemistry; English; Physics; Political Science; Sociology and Social Work; Visual and Performing Arts; Chemical and Bioengineering; Civil, Architectural, and Agricultural Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education; Natural Resources and Environmental Design; Management; Human Performance and Leisure Studies; Human Development and Services; Electronics, Computer, and Information Technology; Applied Engineering Technology; Library Services; Army ROTC; Air Force ROTC.

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

**A Moment of Silence**

**Approval of Minutes**

The October 22, 2013 minutes were unanimously approved.

**Strategic Priorities for Faculty**

**Dr. Brian Sims**

Board of Trustees Report - Priority for the year is to translate into the language of the strategic priorities what faculty members are already accomplishing in their departments and their research. The Senate Annual Report seeks to document what faculty members are accomplishing. Please collect this information from your departments, according to each of the priority goals, and report it to President Sims. It was noted that faculty are missing from the columns of the Strategic Priorities document; hence recognition and compensation for their contributions are put in question. Report especially after-hours, weekends, and evening programs and office hours that serve non-traditional needs. Dr. Mekonnen noted that faculty needs and happiness factors are missing as a university priority; he reports his office to be so cold as to be uninhabitable at this time of year. Moreover, he suggested, faculty should elect their own department chairs on a more regular basis, rather than continuing the authoritarian tradition of extended fiefdoms over faculty. Scott Jenkins confirmed that "Digital Measures" can be used to collect faculty accomplishments data as well.

**Starfish Presentation****Ms. R. Artis/Dr. S. Jenkins**

GA mandated early alert system be in place. A&T has volunteered to be part of a pilot program for Starfish. This program tracks all subsections of A&T student population for academic progress and provides records of “flags,” kudos, and communications between faculty and students. Faculty must use Blackboard (BB) for this system to work, so all faculty members are instructed to use BB at least for syllabi and grades. A flag generates emails to student, her advisor, and the appropriate support services on campus. Be sure your advisee lists are up to date in Aggie. Students should complete profiles in Starfish, and faculty should upload photo, profile, office hours, etc., including personal information, such as hobbies. Dr. Minor noted that this program was rolled out this year with no information to the faculty. Training is coming in spring, Ms. Artis noted. The concern was raised that professors could be held responsible for students who do not follow through on remedial procedures put in place for them. Senators are asked to check which faculty members are using BB in their departments.

**Blackboard Demonstration****Dr. Sherrie Cannoy**

Postponed until January meeting

**Faculty & New Gun Legislation****Police Chief Glenn Newell**

Chief Newell again explained that the new law refers only to “Concealed Carry” permit holders, allowing them to keep their firearms locked securely in their vehicles, even in campus property. No firearms may be carried on campus under any circumstances.

**New Programs & Curriculum Report****Dr. Sheila Whitley**

Senators moved to pass the curriculum packages but not the concentration changes, until further discussion has been had on the changes that require Deans to okay a concentration number code before usual faculty approval processes submit a proposal for new concentrations.

**Gen Ed Core Comp/Faculty Assembly Report****Dr. Brian Sims**

Dr. Sims asked for approval of the Core Competencies priorities already approved by other universities in the system. To maintain our university’s unique voice, a clause was added to confirm our prioritization of written communication among the two core competencies (written communication and critical thinking). The motion was carried successfully.

**Nominations Committee Report****Dr. Floyd James**

Hearing and Reconsideration Committee

**Honors Program****Dr. Michael K. Cundall, Jr.**

Honors Program Chair told of successes of Honors students and made a plea that professors supply new courses. He asked that faculty contact him if they wish to teach an Honors course.

**Faculty Driven Initiative****Dr. John O’Sullivan**

W.K. Kellogg Foundation Challenge: Addressing Issues of Food Justice

Dr. O’Sullivan explained that he is retiring but made an appeal that faculty become involved in Food Justice matters that he had begun. He hopes A&T will become an anchor institution in the

movement toward food justice, connected for the long term to make a difference. Watch for Small Farm week in March.

### **Adjournment**

**- Next Senate Meeting: January 28, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in Academic Classroom Building (A101)**

*Professor Wendy C. Hamblet*  
*Secretary*