

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
North Carolina A&T State University
Academic Classroom Building (A101)
Tuesday, August 22, 2017
3:00 p.m.

Dr. Robert Cobb, Jr., Vice Chair Presiding

Senate Members Present: Phoebe Ajibade, Obasi Akan, Geleana Alston, Barbara Butler, Sungjin Cho, Robert Cobb, Jr., Angel Dowden, Sherrie Drye, Yewande Fasina, Bonnie Fields, Galen Foresman, Elizabeth Hopfer Newcomb, Luba Kurkalova, Anna Lee, Ahmed Megri, Mahour Mellat-Parast, Gregory Meyerson, Elimelda Onger, Bill Randle, Thomas Redd, Katherine Silt, Paul Stanfield, George Stone, David Tidwell, Li-Shiang Tsay, Jinsheng Xu, Yunqiu Zhang.

Departments Not Represented: Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education; Accounting and Finance; Chemical, Biological and Bioengineering; Computational Science and Engineering; Electrical and Computer Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Administration and Instructional Services; Social Work and Sociology; Journalism and Mass Communication; Political Science and Criminal Justice; Chemistry; Energy and Environmental Systems; Built Environment; Physics; Graduate College.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Robert Cobb, Jr.

A moment of silence was held for the victims and families of the Charlottesville, VA demonstration(s).

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

It was properly moved and seconded to approve the April 25, 2017 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes.

Senate Welcome and Opening Statements

Dr. Robert Cobb, Jr.

A welcome was extended to new and returning senators. New senators were given an opportunity to introduce him or herself.

Dr. Cobb initiated a discussion of the major focal points for the Senate for the 2017-2018 year. His guidelines suggested a need for the Senate body and individual committees to focus efforts on the most critical topics affecting faculty and students. If the Senate is focused (within committees and in the full body), Senate leaders can have a stronger voice to convey positions at administrative meetings.

Topics specifically mentioned included:

HANDBOOK

- The Handbook Committee is encouraged to complete required sections of the document, particularly ensuring that Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure (RPT) and Post-Tenure Review (PTR) guidelines are updated and clear.

RPT & PTR

- Processes for packet preparation and evaluation need to be clarified at departmental, college and university levels to ensure that all candidates and reviewers are well-informed of expectations and to ensure objectivity in evaluation.
- Particular attention should be paid to clarifying expectations and processes in light of university restructuring.
- It is also important to express, in writing, the frequency with which expectations and standards may be changed, who is impacted, and timelines associated with these changes. All changes must be communicated to Academic Affairs and should be made in alignment with comparable doctoral institutions.

FACULTY WORKLOAD

- Faculty expressed concern over workload balance and equity across campus. There are apparent imbalances related to teaching, advising, service, and research expectations that need to be analyzed and addressed. This will promote greater productivity and job satisfaction.
- Given the increase (actual and potential) in non-tenure track positions on this campus, special attention needs to be paid to the workload requirements for these positions. Roles need to be clearly defined and communicated to all faculty.

SENATE COMMITTEES

- Committee assignments should be clearly shared to ensure that faculty are aware of their service obligations.
- Need was expressed to revisit the type and mission of existing committees. Updates to committee organization may be required given the restructuring of the university.
- Committees should meet on a regular basis to understand their mission, focus efforts and achieve their goals.
- The Handbook and New Programs & Curricula committees need new chairs.
- Faculty Assembly delegates for 2017-2018 need to be identified.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 26, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. in Academic Classroom Building (A101)

Dr. Elizabeth A. Newcomb
Secretary