

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**North Carolina A&T State University**  
**Academic Classroom Building (A101)**  
**Tuesday, October 27, 2015**  
**3:00 p.m.**

**Tony Graham, President Presiding**

**Senate Members Present:** Fafanya Asiseh, Temeka Carter, Angel Dowden, Albert Esterline, Yewande Fasina, Bonnie Fields, Dwedor Ford, Galen Foresman, Roger Gagnon, Tony Graham, Gwendolyn Highsmith-Quick, Lewis Jackai, Floyd James, Alvin Keyes, John Kizito, Roland Leak, Z Li, Robert Li, Jianzhong Lou, Patrick Martin, Stephen McCary-Henderson, Ademe Mekonnen, Mahour Mellat-Parast, Gregory Meyerson, Elizabeth Newcomb, Ceola Ross Baber, Octavious Spruill, Lewis Waller, Hong Wang, Sheila Whitley.

**Departments Not Represented:** Chemistry; Mathematics; Political Science; Sociology and Social Work; Visual and Performing Arts; Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering; Computational Science and Engineering; Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education; Business Education; Electronic, Computer, and Information Technology; Graphic Design Technology; Army ROTC; Air Force ROTC.

**The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tony Graham, President Presiding.**

**Senate Welcome**

**Dr. Tony Graham**

Dr. Graham extended greetings and thanked everyone for their presence. He gave an overview of the agenda, noting that presentations would be made by guests Provost Joe B. Whitehead, Jr., and Professors Nicholas S. Luke and Karen L. Hornsby.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was properly moved and seconded to approve the September 22, 2015 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes. The motion carried.

**Provost Update**

**Provost Joe B. Whitehead**

Provost Whitehead provided an update of the University's restructuring initiative. He reported that he is in possession of the Internal Committee's report. The next step is to provide a response to the Committee as well as the deans. The internal report will be posted to the website on tomorrow, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Town hall meetings are scheduled for next week; one on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. and the other one on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Meeting announcements are forthcoming. Faculty will have an opportunity to provide feedback at these meetings. Chancellor Martin and Provost Whitehead will make a report to the Board of Trustees at its November 2015 Board Meeting. Provost Whitehead extended thanks to the Restructuring

Committee and Co-chairs, Dr. Gwendolyn Highsmith-Quick and Dr. Thomas Redd for their hard work. The Provost noted that he is impressed with what is going on across campus.

In other communication, the Provost stated that Chapter 4 of the Handbook needs extensive work; however, the one issue on term limits will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its November meeting. Additionally, the Post Tenure Review policy changes have been addressed and will be on the November 2015 Board of Trustees agenda as well.

#### **Town Hall Meetings Dates/Times/Facilitators**

**Dr. Tony Graham**

The Faculty Senate Town Hall meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> have been restructured and rescheduled to be held in conjunction with the Provost's Town Hall meetings addressing the recommendations of the Restructuring Committee.

#### **Learning Management System (LMS) Evaluation Committee Report -Dr. Nicholas S. Luke**

**Dr. Karen L. Hornsby**

Dr. Luke and Dr. Hornsby serving as co-chairs of the University Management System Evaluation Committee reported the Learning Management System Evaluation Committee charge to evaluate a variety of commercially available learning management systems, including Blackboard, to determine which ones are best suited for the campus. The Committee's goal is to be very transparent. The Committee wants everyone to be informed and know what is going on. The Committee is in the process of establishing a website on the University's homepage. Meeting minutes and agendas will be posted to the website. Faculty and students will be asked to respond to a series of surveys. Dr. Luke and Dr. Hornsby provided the Committee's evaluation timeline, a listing of LMS Committee members and contacts. They stressed that input is encouraged from all faculty.

#### **Faculty Assembly Report**

**Dr. Roland Leak**

Dr. Leak reported that the Faculty Assembly held its regular meeting on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the same day that a special Board of Governors meeting took place to elect a new President of the UNC System. He noted that there was some chatter in the Faculty Assembly expressing displeasure with the lack of information leading to the election.

Additionally, Dr. Leak brought to the attention of the Senate information on an Academic Affairs Fellowship Program that is being developed at UNC-GA. Only two applications per campus can be submitted through the Provost's Office. Interested faculty are encouraged to follow-up with this fellowship opportunity.

#### **New Program and Curricula Report**

**Dr. Sheila Whitley**

Dr. Whitley brought to the floor two proposals that were discussed in their committee meeting on October 14, 2015. It was properly moved and seconded that the proposals be approved as presented. The motion carried. The proposals are as follows:

1. Waste Management Institute. Four (4) new undergraduate courses; and one (1) Undergraduate Certificate Curriculum Guide – Waste Management Certificate

2. General Education Task Force: One (1) inclusion course: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
– Global Learning: HIST 206

### **Committee Reports**

Dr. Graham thanked standing committees and chairs for ongoing committee work. He called for reports. The following reports were made:

Educational Policy – Dr. Floyd James is the new chair. The committee charge has been reviewed. The committee is now reviewing the plus/minus grading. Dr. James asked senators to provide the Educational Policy Committee feedback with thoughts and concerns as related to the plus/minus grading policy.

Welfare – Dr. Meyerson reported that the Welfare Committee is currently without a chair; however, committee members met on October 8<sup>th</sup> and spent most of their time discussing the course workload policy. Further discussion on this policy will take place at future meetings.

Academic Calendar. The Calendar Committee is available to receive faculty discussion and concerns related to the academic calendar. A Faculty Concerns Form will be posted on the Faculty Senate AggieConnect website which serves as one means of communicating issues and concerns to the committee.

Handbook – Dr. Dwedor Ford reported that the Handbook committee met on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. They are waiting on edits from the Provost on chapter four. The entire Handbook is up for review. The review should be completed by the Handbook Committee by the end of the spring semester.

Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee has met. The charge was reviewed. The Committee addressed senate term limits and will make a recommendation referral to the Handbook Committee. A nominee for Senate secretary is scheduled to be brought to the Senate at the November 2015 meeting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 17, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in Academic Classroom Building (A101)

*Nina R. Ingram*  
*Recorder*