

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

Brian Carey Sims, President Presiding

Senate Members Present: Ronnie Bailey, Elizabeth Barber, Terrall Bryan, David Chen, Robert Cobb, Keith Coleman, Yoko Crume, Paula Faulkner, Dwedor Ford, Samuel Garren, Tony Graham, Floyd James, Ioney James, Ibraheem Kateeb, Dukka KC, Thelma King, Roland Leak, Gary Leppy, Patrick Martin, Stephen McCary-Henderson, Valerie McMillan, Radiah Minor, Elsie Moore, Janis Oldham, Mahour Parast, Brandis Phillips, Michael Roberto, Jerono Rotich, Messiha Saad, Brian Sims, Hong Wang, Lijun Wang, Patricia Whitfield, Sheila Whitley, Kenneth Williams.

Departments Not Represented: Chemistry, Liberal Studies, Visual and Performing Arts, Energy Environmental Systems, Chemical and Bioengineering, Industrial and Systems Engineering, Army ROTC, Air Force ROTC.

The Senate meeting was called to order by President Sims.

Silent Meditation

Approval of Minutes

February 26, 2013 Senate minutes were approved.

UNC Strategic Plan

President Tom Ross

President Ross gave an overview of the UNC Strategic Plan. He started by giving the historical perspective of how a long-term plan is expected every 5 years. But for the most part, the plan had been handled quietly by GA until the UNC Tomorrow which really reached out under Bowles' leadership and went on listening tours across the state. The plan this time was not intended to be as expansive as the UNC Tomorrow, but extensive efforts were made to be inclusive with representation from faculty, staff, students, administrators, business community, and legislators. They wanted a shorter timetable because they knew state government was about to make a change. Of the 170 legislators, 100 have one term or less experience with about 40 brand new.

He defended higher education.

He said 26 percent of the state's population has a bachelor degree or higher. The educational attainment goal is to increase to 32 percent in the next five years. An educated population lower social welfare needs, reduce need for jails, provide more students who are school ready, have more volunteers who are civic engaged, have a healthier population, and it adds to the quality of life.

Higher education is to serve the people of the state.

In response to questions he addressed the issue closing universities to cut the budget and the issue regarding a lack of state support for a liberal education such as gender studies. Closing universities would be short sighted and would not get a 100 percent savings. The state population is expected to continue to increase from about 10 to 13 million by the next census. The students will need to go some place. If they go to another university in the state, that university will need more facilities, more police, faculty and staff. The citizens of the state have invested billions of dollars in facilities. How could these facilities be maintained? Many jobs would be lost. Some would move from the state for employment. It would negatively impact these communities, and business and services provided to those communities. It would slow the goal of educating more of the general population.

On the question of liberal education. He said the value of higher education is more than a job. He said: We need broad based education. We need people who can think, write, speak and work on teams. We need people who are creative and innovative. The broad based liberal education is the core of American system of higher education.

He concluded that portion by saying we need to educate the legislators.

His presentation was well received.

(President Ross' notes taken by Professor Linda Florence Callahan.)

New Programs and Curricula Committee Report

Dr. Sheila Whitley

Dr. Whitley brought to the floor the packages discussed in their committee meeting of March 12, 2013. All proposals were approved unanimously. The proposals are as follows:

- 1) Journalism and Mass Communication – 3 curriculum patterns with general education requirements
- 2) Accounting and Finance – 2 curriculum patterns with general education requirements
- 3) History – 2 curriculum patterns with general education requirements
- 4) Mathematics – 3 curriculum patterns with general education requirements
- 5) Architectural Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 6) Civil Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 7) Computer Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements

- 8) Computer Science – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 9) Electrical Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 10) Industrial and Systems Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 11) Mechanical Engineering – 1 accelerated BS/MS program with general education requirements
- 12) Management – 3 curriculum patterns with general education requirements
- 13) Human Performance and Leisure Studies – Undergraduate – 1 course change
- 14) Human Performance and Leisure Studies – Graduate – 1 course change
- 15) Curriculum and Instruction – BS Elementary Ed – 1 curriculum pattern with general education requirements
- 16) General Education Task Force – 1 inclusion course

Handbook Committee Report

Dr. Tony Graham

Dr. Graham noted that the Committee has reviewed sections of the Handbook against the version that is on the website. There are some variations. Moving through chapters and appendices – A&B are not anywhere on the university website. The review should be concluded at the April meeting. All findings should be presented at the next Faculty Senate meeting. The Handbook Committee welcomes suggestions and input.

It was reported that Dr. Sims has discussed with the Provost the difficulties that one encounters while navigating the website in search of the Faculty Handbook page. The page may be taken down temporarily to fix the problems.

Senate Going Forward

Dr. Brian Sims

The two (2) resolutions passed by the Senate at the February meeting were met positively by the Provost's Office. Additional fact finding and reading of governance documents from other universities should be ongoing. A Senate Faculty Forum on faculty governance is scheduled for Monday, April 8th and a Senate Faculty Forum on Faculty Evaluation of Administrators is scheduled for April 15th.

Dr. Sims has been invited to serve on a Board of Trustees Committee where he will be able, as Faculty Senate President, to speak for the faculty through academic affairs reports.

Dr. Sims reported that with respect to the parking concern that he has met with Vice Chancellor Pompey but there is currently no update. It was noted that the parking concern should be approached smartly.

Department of History Search Update

Dr. Michael Roberto

Members of the Department asked faculty senate to step in.

Dr. Karen Hornsby and Dr. Woods from History presented before the Senate.

Dr. Woods: Speaking for himself, stated the following: Over the last year, process of changing the name of the department to department of history and philosophy. Feb 26-7 Dr. Hornsby learned that a position announcement for chair was posted, open only one month, no one including the chair knew about this – we knew our current chair would be stepping down at the end of this year. An assoc. chair sent email to dean about concerns. Assoc. Dean David Aldridge apologized for not letting us know about the announcement of the search. Dr. Aldridge to give input on the announcement and evaluation rubric for that search – odd because once posted an announcement can't be changed. Asked him to cancel search, change department name, then re-announce the position. Dean said chair search would go on, name change tabled until a chair was in place. Highly irregular – issues of faculty governance.

Raises issues about shared governance – how this university selects and appoints chair – handbook says nothing about this. Imperative that the Senate and University set some guidelines on naming chairs.

Dr. Hornsby: On process for name change, stated the following: A year ago, Dr. Cole spoke with Political Science, the last department to change name on campus – curriculum change process in Oct, 2012. Dean's office pulled our request out of the curriculum packet. Dean said she was not against the name change, but wanted a more lengthy justification – formed a subcommittee, put together 4-page justification for name change. We put that forward, were told the response would be timely, then told the new chair would decide about this. Very odd to us in philosophy.

Dr. Roberto noted that the Department acted in good faith to reach across the campus and join with philosophy. Can't ask faculty to be responsible and then have administration arbitrarily check up on that without justification. This is why we need a document on shared governance so we can address these things. We are just presenting a case.

The following questions/statements were made:

Dr. Garren – How was the search committee formed?

Dr. Woods - None has been named. Two (2) external and four (4) from our department to be on it.

Dr. Meyerson – Dean appoints people from inside and outside the department; however, the dean does not know enough about the department to do this. The departments should choose the members to head its own committee. What is the rationale for how the dean sets this up?

Dr. Woods – what is legal and what is the right thing to do? Who knows better than we do what is right for our department?

Dr. Roberto – noted dean stated that Faculty Senate needs to come up with a process.

From a senator – would it be possible to do a quick survey of all departments where these things are going on?

Dr. Sims – not a bad idea but not the best way to use our time – we need clear guidelines. We need to put our wonderful minds together to get policies in place.

Faculty Salary Update

Dr. Michael Roberto

A preliminary report will be made at the April meeting. Data shows quite a bit of inequality from one college to another.

Other Business/Announcements

Senate Open House: Faculty Senate Intern Miss Reed reported that the Faculty Senate Open House will be held on Wednesday, April 24th from 2-5 p.m.

The Golden Aggie Leadership Awards program is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 3 p.m. in Harrison, with reception following in Stallings. Awards given to A&T faculty & staff. Nominate peers, colleagues, students – multiple awards in each category. Seeking faculty to serve on selection committee. Contact syrwin@ncat.edu or call 285-4930 for information.

New policy from UNC GA – academic integrity procedures – guidelines in athletic department regarding what is a course and how are grades given out to athletes?

Update to +/- grading system – cabinet recommends that we might want to omit last sentence. No issues with faculty member being the person to assign the grade – just wanted that sentence omitted. Add to our rubric for point values – to flesh out our description of each category.

-Next Senate Meeting: April 23, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in Academic Classroom Building (A101)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

*Professor Elizabeth Barber
Senate Vice President
Recorder*