Savannah State University Faculty Senate

Minutes for meeting of Tuesday, Sept.4, 2012 4 PM Whiting Hall Jen Auditorium 4 PM

Senators Present: Bentley, Brooks, Franklin, Faries, Kawasha, Maynor, Metts, O’Brien, Rukmana, St. Mark, Stewart, Jordan, Wyche, Arora, Brown, Dowling, Jahmani, Ouandlous, Yoon, Dolo, Sivapatham, Li, Adeyemo, Tessema, Taylor, Johnson, Warren, Harris-Murphy, Verret

Senators Absent: Silberg, Walker, Sajwan

Senator Excused: Cox

Visitors: Jolley, Fayoyin, Purnell, Bongang, Barnette, Brannen, McMillan, Sarhan, Mustafa, Chandler

1. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Dr. Dowling at 4:05 PM.
2. Approval of Agenda- The agenda was approved without changes.
3. Approval of Minutes- The minutes of August 14, 2012 and April 24, 2012 were approved without changes.
4. President’s Report
5. The USG new travel policy went into effect on September 1, 2012. Make sure you are aware of the changes.
6. The USG Board of Regents is meeting next week to work on the new USG Strategic Plan. We will begin the process of a revised Strategic Plan for Savannah State and will be naming a Strategic Planning Committee soon.
7. We thank the SSUNAA & SSUF for raising emergency funds for students in danger of being dropped from our rolls due to financial hardships. More than 45,000 dollars were contributed by the Foundation and Alumni.
8. We currently have 4,520 students registered for Fall, 2012. We had 4,789 students at the beginning of the semester. We are budgeted for 4,700 this year. We are 32 students away from where we were with enrollment last year. The USG System asked for a definite 3% cut. The cuts will not come from faculty lines. We are looking for administrative areas from where we can take the dollars.
9. Some students who came to discuss financial aid problems were still listed as Freshmen. Some of these students had attempted more than 60 credits but completed less than 30. Other students had changed their major three times. We need a degree in General Studies or Interdisciplinary Studies.
10. The new King-Frazier Faulty/Staff Lunch Room is now open. It is located in the old President’s Dining Room next to the dining hall in the King-Frazier Student Center. The dining room is reserved for faculty and staff Monday-Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
11. The Research Scholarship Awards Banquet will be on September 20, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in the Student Union Event Room A
12. The new Faculty/Staff Welcome reception with Armstrong University will be on October 4, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.
13. The Chancellor will visit SSU on Oct.8, 2012.
14. Committee reports
15. Committee on Committees
16. Dr. Stewart will ask Professor O’Brien for an updated list of 2012-2013 Senators.
17. Dr. Faries will be appointed to chair the International Students, Program, and Services Committee to replace Dr. Han, who is no longer a Senator.
18. Dr. Stewart will email current committee chairs to inquire about non-active committee members.
19. Faculty Affairs
20. Dr, Dowling was affirmed as Chair for 2012-2013.
21. The Faculty Affairs members for 2012-2013 are: CLASS: Dr. Jordan, Dr. Mukhtar, Dr. Naniuzeyi, and Dr. Hardy COST: Dr. Adeyemo, Dr. Liu, Dr. Oh, and Dr. Zhang

COBA: Dr. Jahmani, Dr. Park, Dr. Ouandlous, and Dr. Dowling.

There are no representatives from the Library or CAS. This matter will be dealt with in the future.

1. The Faculty Handbook calls for the Faculty Affairs committee to select seven members of the Faculty Affairs Committee to serve on the University Post-Tenure Review Appeals Committee. The following names were put forward: Dr. Adeyemo, Dr. Dowling, Dr. Jahmani, Dr. Jordan, Dr. Liu, Dr. Oh, and Dr. Ouandlous. This list was accepted by the Senate.
2. The Faculty Handbook calls for the Faculty Affairs Committee to select twelve members, of which four must come from the Faculty Affairs Committee to serve on the University Academic Program Review Appeals Subcommittee. The following names were put forward, Dr. Berry, Dr. Franklin, Dr. Hardy, Dr. Cecil Jones, Dr. Liu, Dr. Metts, Dr. Mukhtar, Dr. Parnell, Dr. Ouandlous, Dr. Yonpae Park, Dr. Stewart, and Dr. Zhang. This list was accepted by the Senate.
3. The Faculty Handbook calls for the Faculty Affairs Committee to select a group of faculty from among its members to serve as an Evaluation Subcommittee. The following names were put forward. Dr. Adeyemo, Dr. Jahmani, Dr. Mukhtar, Dr. Dowling, and Dr. Park. This list was accepted by the Senate.
4. Salary adjustment/raises- This issue was briefly discussed and was deferred.
5. Scheduling
6. The issue was raised that the Faculty Affairs Committee made the recommendation to the Faculty Senate during the 2011-2012 year that the University adopt alternative scheduling (MW, TR, MWF, M(evening), T(evening), W(evening), R(evening), and weekends
7. It was pointed out that weekend and evening classes create situational hardships for faculty with respect to having early morning classes following evening classes and for those faculty members teaching on the weekend. How many class preps should a faculty member have?
8. The Committee was informed by the VPAA that scheduling issues were under discussion and that issues including those previously mentioned were under consideration.
9. Textbooks- A Committee member raised the issue of requiring students to purchase a textbook. The Chair will check with the University Legal Counsel regarding the legality of such a requirement.
10. Workload- There was a discussion of what constitutes workload. Several issues were raised- the number of preparations, the number of credit hours taught, the length of faculty teaching day (8:00 AM class on the same day with a 7:30 PM class), and the number of credit hours produced by a faculty member during the semester. The VPAA said that these matters could be reasonably addressed. The discussion will be continued.
11. Executive Committee
12. Salary Study on Salary Equity for Faculty- the Executive Committee will meet with Dr. Crow on this matter. There should be a study of how similarly ranked faculty are paid at benchmark institutions. Direct all comments and suggestions on this matter to Dr. Metts.
13. Committees should meet twice a semester and keep minutes of all meetings.
14. We have a budget shortfall. Mr. Jolley said we should be able to operate with the current number of students. There were no questions for Dr. Jolley regarding the budget.
15. Athletics Committee
16. This administrative committee does not seem to be in the new handbook.
17. Dr. Dozier said that she wants to have a Presidents’ Athletic Advisory Committee and that faculty can serve on an Athletics Subcommittee to specifically deal with academic matters regarding athletes.
18. Dr. Verret suggested a committee of five members.
19. The Executive Committee will email a recommendation.
20. Desire 2 Learn .
21. Dr. Bentley asked for a report on Desire to Learn (the new online course system) at the October meeting. Ms. Fayoyin will do the report.
22. Dr. Jordan asked how many online courses a faculty member could teach per semester. Departments and colleges have been asked to deal with this in the past. This is part of the Faculty Affairs workload discussion.
23. All Senators should bring news from Senate meetings back to their departments and report on the Senate at their department meetings.
24. Remind departments to send to the Executive Committee notification of replacements for Senators.
25. Kudos to the air-conditioning functioning in Herty and Jordan and the quick response of Physical Plant to install paper towel dispensers in rest rooms within a week.
26. Health Care- Dr. Best will be asked to come to the October meeting to report on health care changes. There will be a 10% increase in health care premiums and changes to the policies themselves.
27. Parking Committee
28. Dr. Lewis and Dr. Rafacz are faculty representatives on this committee. The Parking Committee has not met this year. The Executive Committee was asked to send these two names to Mr. Jolley.
29. Mr. Jolley distributed a report of parking income and how the money is being spent. He included a list of State Institutions which charge a parking fee and those which do not.
30. The report lists revenue sources from parking fees: 4270,399, resident students decals: $36,460, Commuter students: $41,645, faculty/staff: 29,768, and reserved; $18,685.
31. Fiscal year 2012 projects include conversion of tennis court to lot: $60,452.44, improvements to FLLC Parking Lot: $27,778.248, and improvements to Satellite Lot at Stadium: $60,000
32. Fiscal year 2012 Operations are Parking Enforcement Staff: $58,200 and Operating Supplies: $41,080.
33. Other Business
34. Dr. Faries was elected to serve on the Food Services Committee.
35. Dr. Jordan was sworn in as a new Senator by Dr. Dozier.
36. Announcements
37. Rock ‘N Roll Marathon- Please let Dr. Clark or Mr. Steffen know if you are interested in serving on this committee.
38. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin O’Brien- Recording Secretary of the Faculty Senate

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