Savannah State University Faculty Senate

Minutes for meeting of Sept. 5, 2017 Jordan Building Torian Auditorium 4 PM

Chair present: Dr. Dozier

Senators present: Walton (VPAA/Provost), Cannonier, Toney, Wu, Alexander, Deloach, Hamilton, Mallard, D. Bell, Halpin, Lewis, O’Brien, D.Thompson, Tedrick, Muche, Moore, Brannen, Cunningham, Mudrinich, Rivera, Linden, Bhuiyan (replacing Trammel), Sivapatham

Ex-Officio: Fayoyin, Hardy, Jolley, Kropiewnicki, M. Moore, Mustafa, Sarhan, D. Smith, F. Williams

Excused: Trammel

Visitors: Tavossi, Scipio, Bryant, Harris, Silberg, Stowe, K. Walker, Yount, Tuggle, K. Jordan, Iancu

1. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Dr. Lewis at 4:08 PM. A quorum was present throughout the meeting.
2. Approval of Agenda- The agenda was approved.
3. Approval of Minutes (from August 3, 2017) The minutes were approved.
4. Swearing –in of new Senators- Dr. Cunningham was sworn in.
5. President’s Report (See attached sheet for the majority of the report). Additional comments are recorded here.
6. Georgia Southern University will have an Armstrong campus in Savannah. We plan to collaborate, especially in the areas of Business and Engineering.
7. Armstrong has had a Liberty County campus for years. This is primarily for the military and veterans community. We want to be part of the Liberty County campus. Our offerings of Forensic Science and Homeland Security could benefit the Liberty campus.
8. Social Work is working on having weekend courses at the Liberty campus.
9. Please see your Deans and Department heads if you wish to teach some courses at the Liberty campus. We will begin to offer courses there beginning in the fall of 2018.
10. We will be expanding our programming in Savannah on weekends and evenings as well. We need to reach more non-traditional students. We have 90% traditional students.
11. Dr. K. Walker will work with Dr. Hardy on the Honors Program. We have 43 new honors students. They take their Honors courses together. A GPA of 3.5. is required to be an Honors student. Prof. Walker will create an Honors Advisory Board.
12. Hurricane Update (Mr. Jolley)
13. The Emergency Response and Planning team met to discuss Hurricane Irma. We will continue to monitor the situation. We usually try to evacuate students three days ahead of the projected impact.
14. Enrollment and other topics (Mr. Jolley and Dr. Walton)
15. Enrollment is currently 4, 351 students, which is about the same as last spring but is 700 fewer than last fall.
16. There is a revenue shortfall of $2.7 to 3.2 million.
17. There are about 30 more students still in the pipeline.
18. Every 100 students represent a loss of between $300,000 and 400,000.
19. We have $4.5 million in faculty and administrative vacancies this year. We have a cushion for this year unless there is another fall in enrollment in the spring.
20. We can only make critical hires.
21. Travel will be permitted if it is critical.
22. Reinstatement ended Friday but students can be reinstated at the discretion of the professor.
23. Some students who are not reinstated now can take mini-semester courses.
24. Having more internships might help us retain students.
25. Some of our students come to SSU for the HBCU experience for two years and then go back home, often to Atlanta. CAS and Deans may know more about why some students did not return.
26. On the Student Affairs side, we are bringing three successful alumni to speak with students about entrepreneurship.
27. Provost Search (Dr. Walton) Dr. M. Moore is the Chair of the search. E-mails to committee members will go out tomorrow.
28. Dr. Yount will lead the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development.
29. Dr. Walton will ask Deans to recommend members of the Task Force to work on the Promotion and Tenure sections of the Handbook.
30. Dr. Alexander is taking on the Early College Program. Enrollment in that program is up.
31. Homecoming Plans and Organization Fair (Mr. Stowe-Director of Student Life)
32. This week is campus activities week. The Organization Expo is Thursday at 6PM on the Circle. Students can learn about academic and social clubs. This may help with retention.
33. Homecoming is Oct. 7. From Oct.1-Oct. 7, there are at least ten events, including step shows, fashion shows, and worship services.
34. On Oct. 1 at 5 PM, there is an ecumenical worship service.
35. Tuesday of that week will feature a residential halls step show.
36. The fashion show is on Wednesday
37. On Thursday, there is the Coronation of Mr. and Ms. SSU.
38. There is a parade on Friday. On Friday night, there is a Homecoming pep rally.
39. The football game is Tuesday at 2 PM against Hampton.
40. On Thursday of Homecoming week, there will be the crowning of the Alumni Queen in the Library at 5 PM.
41. Another activity is an essay contest sponsored by the QEP.
42. Formation/Membership of Senate Committee (Dr. Lewis)
43. Dr. Lewis has been working with Prof. K. Walker from her list of committees and with Dr. Toney to get the committees operational.
44. Dr. Lewis would like to update the list of committees and their membership on the Senate web site. He will work on this with Jason Saunders.
45. The list of committee membership will be sent to Deans for approval and suggestions.
46. Dr. Lewis will assign a convener so committees can meet by October.
47. In most cases, Committee Chairs must be Senators.
48. Non-Senators can be on most committees except for Faculty Affairs, NPCC, and the Committee on Committees
49. Report on Comprehensive Program Review (Dr. Scipio)
50. All undergraduate programs must do a review every seven years and graduate programs every ten years.
51. There are 14 programs which will need to do a review.
52. Program review reports needs to be submitted by Oct. 20. Department Chairs and Deans need to review the reports before they are submitted to Academic Affairs.
53. On Nov. 6, the reports then go to the Academic Program Review Committee, a subcommittee of the Faculty Affairs Committee.
54. The final revised resubmission is due to Academic Affairs by Dec. 1.
55. Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment can assist but not write the reports. Program coordinators and faculty must prepare the reports.
56. One of these fourteen programs is on the low productivity list.
57. Update on Institutional Academic Technology (Dr. M. Moore)
58. Live Text is being used for Assessment. We are looking at a new tool called Compliance to do Program Review, Strategic Planning, etc. In March, our Live Text licensing software expired.
59. There was software purchased by Title 3 which expired in the middle of the year. There was also software purchased by individual departments. Therefore, Dr. Moore was not aware of all of the software.
60. Digital Measures expired in the middle of our five year review.
61. Smarthinking was purchased under the QEP and Academic Affairs.
62. Whom do students go to if they have problems with Smarthinking and Live Text if their log-ins don’t work? The support person is the Help Desk.
63. Support for Smarthinking- That is an online software and you can purchase technical support. That support was never part of IT.
64. We are trying to bring IT matters to one central area.
65. Until Dec. 30, Dr. Yount will do technical support for Smartthinking and Dr. Linden will do technical support for Live Text.
66. A comment was made that were just getting the hang of using Live Text and it seems sudden to change to something else.
67. The strategic component of Live Text will probably be retained.
68. The Assessment licensing part of Live Text is separate.
69. Announcements
70. The SSU Library has moved to a new system called Alma and will help students and faculty with the transition.
71. The general faculty meeting will be on Sept. 12 at 4 PM.
72. We would like to have an Undeclared Majors Week from Sept. 18-25. There would be one day for CLASS, COBA, COST, SOTE, and Interdisciplinary Studies.
73. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin O’Brien- Recording Secretary