

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 PM in room 214 of the Miller Learning Center, Shelby Funk presiding.

Members Present: Christine Albright, Maor Bar-Peled, Mary Bedell, Renato Castelao, Trina Cyterski, Inge DiBella, Fred Dolezal, Shelby Funk, Kim Gilbert, Adam Goodie, Richard Gordon, Natarajan Kannan, Jim Lauderdale, Derrick Lemons, Reid Messich, Dan Nakano, Virginia Nazarea, Robert Phillips, Jeremy Reynolds, Daniel Rood, Mitch Rothstein, Chloe Wigston Smith, Inseok Song, T.N. Sriram, Jon Swindler, Karim Traore, Zachary Wood, and Sarah Wright.

Proxies: Brandon Craswell (proxy for Josh Bynum), Tina Harris (proxy for Analisa Arroyo), Arthur S. Hopkins, Jr. (proxy for Mu Lan), Jamie Kreiner (proxy for Husseina Dinani), John Miller (proxy for Budak Arpinar), Tina Salguero (proxy for Shanta Dhar), and Jerry Shannon (proxy for Angela Yao)

Members not present: Budak Arpinar, Analisa Arroyo, Josh Bynum, Shanta Dhar, Husseina Dinani, Diana Downs, Christopher Eaket, Lisa Fusillo, Uwe Happek, Chad Howe, Nicholas Morrissey, Mu Lan, Michael Roden, and Angela Yao

Approval of the minutes of the 23 September 2014 meeting: Approved unanimously without corrections.

President Shelby Funk's Remarks

- President Funk reported that concerns were voiced at the last meeting about travel funding and announced that Fred Dolezal and Esra Santesso would be addressing the senate regarding these concerns.
- President Funk announced that Fred Dolezal and Chloe Wigston Smith would be speaking to the senate about issues with the Athena system and that Jonathan Hardy of Franklin College's Office of Information Technology would be speaking to the senate regarding the implementation of LANDesk.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks

- Dean Dorsey introduced Sherry Gray, who will serve as Debbie Goswick's successor and who will work with Dr. Hugh Ruppensburg as the senate's point-of-contact.
- Dean Dorsey reported that the UGA Foundation has purchased a 20,000 square foot property near Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. to serve as the UGA Washington House. The facility has space for 32 students to live in residence and rooms for meetings and classes. The Provost has offered to defray costs of events held at the house in the spring. Anyone interested in holding an event at the facility should send the Dean a proposal.
- Dean Dorsey announced the upcoming Spotlight on the Arts, to be held November 6-14, 2014, and encouraged faculty to attend performances and to encourage their students to attend performances.

- Dean Dorsey reported that the search for a Director of Student Academic Services is ongoing and that 2 out of 3 candidates have visited UGA. The third candidate is due to visit this week, and the University hopes to have a new Director in place soon.
- Dean Dorsey reported that the search for a Director of Information Technology is ongoing. The position has evolved into Executive Director of Information Technology, and the committee is currently reviewing applications.
- Dean Dorsey reported that the search for the position of Dean of the Graduate School is ongoing and that four finalists have visited UGA.
- Dean Dorsey reported that finalists will visit UGA during the week of October 27 as part of the search for the Vice President of Instruction.
- Dean Dorsey reported that, in the recent past, the Provost's Office has provided travel funding for both domestic and international travel, with the expectation that the College would contribute towards faculty travel requests. With this system, individual departments were not provided with a travel budget. When meeting with Department Heads in the spring, a majority of Heads indicated that they would like travel funding placed in their budgets. Dean Dorsey reported that in FY 14 travel funding was provided to 268 faculty in the Franklin College. Out of roughly 800 full-time and 630 tenure-stream faculty, those funded constituted about 40%. The cost to the College was \$140,000, and the total cost for faculty travel was \$379,000. Provost Whitten wants to see more international travel as part of increasing UGA's visibility on a global scale, and she has changed the travel policy so that her office will fund international travel. Domestic travel will be funded by schools and colleges. Her office will provide up to \$2000 for international travel, but that amount must be matched by schools and colleges. The cost-share mechanism works out so that the Provost's Office provides 50%, the Dean's Office provides 25%, and the remaining 25% is made up by other sources such as Foundation funds or First-Year Odyssey funds. Departments now receive \$350 per tenure-stream faculty member, and those funds are under departmental control. The College will not know exactly how much we've spent on travel until the end of FY15, but it will have sent \$212,000 to departments in two installments. In addition, it will have spent \$100,000 for the College's portion of the cost-share for international travel. It appears that roughly \$500,000 will be spent between the Provost's Office and the College's portion. So, Dean Dorsey expects that more money will be put into faculty travel this year than last year. It is not the case that travel funding has been cut; the difference is in how it is allocated. The Dean would like to devote more money to faculty travel, but, as he explained at the beginning of this academic year, the College started the fiscal year with a deficit due to faculty and staff raises and the general credit-hour funding model.
- In response to a senator's question about travel funding to departments, the Dean said that the dollar amount is administered across the board to departments according to the EFT of faculty members.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Standards Committee: example--Received 2 appeals, and both were denied
- Curriculum Committee: No new business reported.
- Executive Committee: No new business reported.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No new business reported.

- Committee on Planning & Evaluation: The committee is still waiting to receive data and will prepare a report when possible.

New Business:

- Fred Dolezal and Esra Santesso of the Department of English (representing Department Head Jed Rasula) voiced concerns regarding the travel policy. Dr. Dolezal pointed out that there are concerns across the departments in the College. First, it is unclear how faculty members who are outside of the tenure-stream fit into the new system for allocation. Some departments have Lecturers and Academic Professionals, for example, in their allocations, and others do not. The new policy for international travel does not provide for these faculty members, so there is already a conflict in policy at the departmental and university levels. Second, the funding for international travel is limited to one trip per faculty member per year. This seems counterproductive for a major research university. Third, Dr. Dolezal voiced concerns over the distinction between international and domestic travel. Those who present research at domestic conferences are severely disadvantaged with this system. Fourth, it seems that faculty in areas which do not normally receive grant money are disadvantaged when it comes to matching funds for travel. Faculty in the sciences, for example, often have travel funds as part of research grants whereas faculty in other areas do not have access to such funding. These are questions we'd like the Provost to consider.
- Dr. Dolezal invited the senate to openly discuss the issues. One senator pointed out that funding is available to scientists when grants are readily available and that many scientists would probably be willing to share such funds with their colleagues. Grant sources are drying up, however. Another senator pointed out that we should conduct a survey of departments to determine what exactly is happening regarding faculty travel. Another senator pointed out that we have a system in which Assistant Professors are competing with full Professors for travel funds and asked why these two groups should be at odds. A senator pointed out that the most prestigious conferences in many fields are held in the United States and have large international involvement. In fact, the best opportunity for raising UGA's visibility on the international level is at these domestic conferences. A senator reported that the Department of Statistics sets aside a portion of its general funding for faculty travel; there is a committee within the Department which reviews proposals for travel funding. A senator reported that the Department of Religion is receiving \$8700 less than in previous years and that the focus on international travel motivates faculty to apply to international conferences more than domestic conferences, leading to a greater financial burden. A senator noted that the "pie is supposed to be bigger" in general at a top research university. A senator said that it seems we are leaving money on the table which could be used for important domestic travel. In response, Dean Dorsey said that the new policy has come down to the College from above and that the College has had to respond to it. He would consider increasing funding for travel, but he notes that the money will have to come from another area. President Funk suggested that it might be helpful to invite the Provost to a senate meeting. The decision was made that Dean Dorsey himself would discuss the concerns of the faculty with the Provost.

Old Business:

- No Old Business was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Albright
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Classics