

Franklin College Senate
Minutes of the Meeting of 12 October 2006

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm in 100A, Old College.

There were 39 attendees including 4 proxies and 5 visitors.

Sarah Blackwell (Romance Languages), Adrian Burd (Marine Sciences), J. P. Caillault (Physics and Astronomy), Keith Campbell (Psychology), Steve Dalton (Biochemical and Molecular Biology), Noel Fallows (Romance Languages), Shelby Funk (Computer Science), Michelle Garfield (Dean's Office), Michael Hahn (Plant Biology), Shane Hamilton (History), Joe Hermanowicz (Sociology), Sujata Iyengar (English), Gary Lautenschlager (Psychology), Roy Legette (Music), Fiona Liken (Curriculum Systems), Gordana Matic (Mathematics), Bill McCormick (Statistics), Ron Miller (English), Masaki Mori (Comparative Literature), Dawn Robinson (Sociology), Brigitte Rossbacher (Germanic & Slavic Languages), Adam Sabra (History), Lijiang Shen (Speech Communication), Marshall Shepherd (Geography), Mike Tiemeyer (Biochemical and Molecular Biology), Bram Tucker (Anthropology), John Turo-Escobar (Music), Bill Vencill (University Curriculum Committee), Sally Walker (Geology), Scott Weinberg (College of Environmental Design), Richard Winfield (Philosophy).

2. The faculty present approved the minutes from the September 2006 meeting.

3. Presiding Officer Anne Summers welcomed the senators and gave an overview of the meeting topics.

4. Dean Stokes' Comments:

- Although starting salaries are competitive regionally, correction of salary compression for the higher ranked faculty is a serious concern of senior administration.

- Dean Stokes is setting aside a portion of the current budget for MMTR for several buildings/departments.

- The re-dedication of the recently renovated Old College building will take place on Friday afternoon, 13 October, and all are invited to the reception on the North Quad in front of the building.

5. Reports of Standing Committees

There were no reports.

6. Old Business:

Keith Campbell (Psychology) reviewed and expanded his findings on the rationale for the changes in the System's contributions to the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP; see also minutes of 14 September, 2006 meeting). Dr. Campbell was unable to find an exact agreed protocol for making yearly adjustments in the System's contribution to the ORP. Dr. Campbell offered a resolution requesting a response on this matter from the Board of

Regents and the governing body of the Teachers' Retirement System. Discussion ensued in which many expressed concern for the confusion and lack of transparency on this issue. The resolution was adopted by a vote of Yes (21), No (1), and Abstain (1).

Dean Stokes expressed concern that if forwarded immediately this resolution might confuse the initiative/resolution on the same topic recently sent forward by the University Council. Dr. Campbell moved to defer forwarding the resolution for 4 months, pending the outcome of action in response to the University Council's resolution. Anne Summers (Microbiology) offered a friendly amendment that during this interval the resolution would be open for updating and other revisions as appropriate. The amended motion was seconded and adopted by a vote of Yes (21), No (4), and Abstain (0).

7. New Business:

Elham Izadi (Mathematics) introduced visitors from the University Council William Vencill (Crop & Soil Sciences), Noel Fallows (Romance Languages), Fiona Liken (VP Instruction), and Scott Weinberg (College of Environmental Design) who, along with Franklin College Associate Dean Michelle Garfield, briefly reviewed and then answered questions concerning the proposed revision in the General Education Curriculum. Chief concerns expressed in the ensuing discussion were that departments in the Social Sciences division of the College might suffer some loss of clientele with the diminished hours required for such courses in the new curriculum. The presenters acknowledged this possibility but noted that departments are encouraged to submit courses for inclusion which might meet other requirements in addition to Social Sciences (e.g. diversity, environment, etc) and also to review and possibly revise their major requirements in light of the new General Education Curriculum.

Call for agenda items for the November 16, 2006 meeting at 3:30 in 100A Old College. Please submit agenda items by November 3 to Sarah Blackwell (Steering Committee Chair): blackwel@uga.edu

8. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.