

Franklin College Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, October 18th
Room 348, Student Learning Center

Call to Order
Identification of Proxies and Visitors

Bill Barstow called the meeting to order. Seven proxies were identified (see attendance). Two visitors were present, Mitch Rothstein, and Kecia Thomas.

Members/Proxies Present: Yuri Balashov (Philosophy), William Barstow (Plant Biology), Adrian Burd (Marine Sciences), J. P. Caillault (Physics), Keith Campbell (Psychology), Stacey Casado (Romance Lang.), Jim de Haseth (Chemistry), Charles Doyle (English), Jim de Haseth (Chemistry), Mario Erasmo (Classics), Lisa Fusillo (Dance), Michael Hahn (Plant Biology), Benjamin Ehlers (proxy for Shane Hamilton [History]), Linda Grant (proxy for Joe Hermanowicz [Sociology]), Kenneth Honerkamp (Religion), Thomas Houser (Art), Sarah Blackwell (proxy for Betina Kaplan [Romance Lang]), Roy Kennedy (Music), Michael Kernis (Psychology), Jacek Gaertig (proxy for Edward Kipreos [Cellular Biology]), Asen Kirin (Art), Kristin Kundert-Gibbs (Theatre & Film), Hilda Kurtz (Geography), Roy Legette (Music), Robert Rumely (proxy for Gordana Matic [Mathematics]), Bill McCormick (Statistics), Ron Miller (English), Masaki Mori (Comp. Lit.), Kanzo Nakayama (Physics), Alberto Patino-Douce (Geology), Vladimir Popik (Chemistry), Dawn Robinson (Sociology), Bridgitte Rossbacher (Germanic & Slavic Lang), Paul Schliekelman (Statistics), Lijiang Shen (Speech), Marshall Shepherd (Geography), Pamela Voekel (proxy for John Short [History]), Eric Stabb (Microbiology), Bram Tucker (Anthropology), Robert Varley (proxy for Shuzhou Wang [Mathematics]), John Wares (Genetics).

Members Not Present: Steve Dalton (Biochemistry), David Lowenthal (Computer Science), Michael Tiemeyer (Biochemistry),

Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting on September 20, 2007
http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/minutes/2007-08/min092007.pdf

Ehlers moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Casado. Motion passes unanimously.

Presiding Officer Bill Barstow's Remarks

Barstow noted that the University Council Executive Committee was also in session on 18 Oct., and so he would report on its findings at the next Senate meeting. Deans Stokes and Ruppensburg are putting together a committee to revise the by-laws of the College.

Christine Miller, Assistant Dean for Information Technology

Christine Miller, technology reported on her office's programs, which include interaction with department heads. The Office of Information Technology has a budget of \$3.2 million, and 45 IT professionals, to maintain 1500 lab and classroom computers. Miller disburses \$1.2 million from student tech fees. The office also advises deans, oversees IT staffing and professional development, and works on information security. College services include web design, web applications, and network support. In the future, the office would like to create a college-level IT committee. As a college, Franklin faculty are involved in instructional tech and distance education, but not the college.

In response to questions, Miller indicated that her office can support websites associated with grants. They also provide desktop support for clients, including upgrades and virus protection. The SARA system can keep advising records alongside TSO. Miller's office doesn't oversee Web CT, but she knows that Sakai is being investigated as an alternative.

Committee Reports (including a report/update on University Council issues)

Committee reports.

The Academic Committee, per Prof. Hermanowicz, heard 13 petitions from undergraduates in Sept. and Oct., approving 8.

Admissions, no report.

Committees, no report.

The Curriculum Committee, per Prof. Popik, approved 16 course changes, and 19 new courses in Oct. The committee also approved 8 proposals from various departments.

Planning, no business.

Professional concerns, no business.

Steering, no business.

New Business

Prof. Mitch Rothstein reported on the University Council's discussion of the definition of faculty. This issue relates to the proportional representation on the council, as well as eligibility to vote and serve. The statutes state that "faculty with academic rank" are eligible to serve on the council, a definition that includes lecturer and instructor as well as tenure track. But other definitions include other types of employees. Last year, a review of by-laws led to inclusion of this phrase "faculty with academic rank" in many other areas, including eligibility to serve on council. This change simply affirmed the existing statutes, and yet, because this was not previously in the by-laws there had been exceptions. As a result, people who had been regarded as eligible were no longer.

The by-laws committee then examined the definition of faculty. 1700 faculty have "academic rank," including 680 in this college. Under the most inclusive definition of

faculty, including librarians, research specialists, et al., this number would rise from 1700 to 2900. To address this issue, the by-laws committee added members, raising its total to 9 people, including different kinds of employees. The committee met once and discussed various options. If the number of faculty rises to 2900, this would change the formula for apportioning seats in the council.

In response to questions, Rothstein noted that various units have their own classifications. For example, the 300 public service agents distributed around the state could be faculty. One option would be to devise a third professional category alongside faculty and staff, for employees who do not have contact with student.

Rothstein clarified that within the possible jump from 1700 to 2900 defined as faculty, the Franklin College would rise by 168 out of the additional 1200. The College of Agriculture, by contrast, has 250 faculty with academic rank, and more than 400 without. Adopting a broad definition of faculty but then limiting consideration of curricular matters to faculty with academic rank would be one way of opening up the university council while retaining control of that aspect.

Expanding the definition of faculty to include 2900 people would decrease the College's representation on the council proportionally, and create a group too large to meet in any room on campus (if 1 in 20 is eligible).

The university council can recommend a change in the definition of faculty, but the decision rests with the administration.

(1) Center for Research and Engagement in Diversity (RED). Please see proposal below:

http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/proposals/Red_Proposal_Fall07.pdf

http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/proposals/Red_Proposal_Appendix_A.pdf

http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/proposals/Red_Proposal_Appendix_B.pdf

Center for Research and Engagement in Diversity. Kecia Thomas of the dean's office presented a proposal to establish this center, to encourage diversity, outreach, learning, and well-being. The Center has four goals: to stimulate programs in interdisciplinary research, through the RED workshop. 2, to address the diversity related needs of the university, the local community, and the state. The Center conducts research on behalf of various institutions, and researchers include their own research questions in these surveys as well. 3, to develop the next generation of diverse and socially engaged scholars, through grants to students. 4, to support the diversity mission of university, creating a

climate of inclusion.

In response to questions, Prof. Thomas indicated that this research is already underway but granting official “Center” status would promote the value of research on diversity. Thomas would likely serve as director, but as she already has a position in the dean’s office, this would not require any major changes in administration. If approved today, this proposal would then go to the University Council.

There are parameters for being a center, which this proposal meets. (Institutes fulfill a teaching mission, which this group does not.) The proposers include four University professors whose current projects address race, gender, and sexuality. The center would not be an advocacy mission. As a center the researchers could assess the climate of working environments for minorities. This could include departmental assessments, and strategies for recruiting minority graduate students. The proposal does not request further funding from the College or University. The proposers have raised \$15,000 this fall for graduate students and other research projects, and the center would not be a financial burden to the university.

Dean Ruppensburg stated that the investment in the Center would be small compared to benefit it would bring to the University.

Prof. Keith Campbell made a motion to endorse the creation of the center, seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

The following item on Graduate Faculty Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Call for Agenda Items for the Wednesday, November 14th meeting at 3:30 in 348 SLC. Submit agenda items by Monday, November 5th to Michael Hahn (Steering Committee Chair): hahn@ccrc.uga.edu

Meeting adjourned.
Minutes submitted by Benjamin Ehlers.

Tabled until the next meeting:
(2) Graduate Faculty Discussion (Bram Tucker). Please see discussion items below:

Graduate Faculty Status Discussion:

Graduate Faculty Status within the Graduate School. Why are emeritus professors and academic professionals excluded? Why do tenure-track and tenured faculty have to go through the laborious process of appointment and reappointment?

Rules of appointment/reappointment to the graduate faculty,

<http://www.uga.edu/gradschool/faculty/procedures.html>.

And the Graduate Faculty bylaws:

<http://www.uga.edu/gradschool/faculty/bylaws.html>

Agendas and supporting materials are posted on the Faculty Senate website at http://www.franklin.uga.edu/fac_staff/govern/index.htm.

Online copies of the Bylaws, Policy and Procedure manual, and minutes of previous meetings are also posted on that site.