

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, October 21, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm in room 248 of the Student Learning Center, Joe Hermanowicz presiding.

Members present: Yuri Balashov, Steve Dalton, Charles Doyle, Mario Erasmo, Ray Freeman-Lynde, Michael Hahn, Joe Hermanowicz, Christopher Hocking, Philip Holmes, Charles Hopkinson, Thomas Houser, Roy Kennedy, Kristen Kundert-Gibbs, John Lynch, Ron Miller, Masaki Mori, Kanzo Nakayama, Ron Orlando, Vladimir Popik, Diana Ranson, Dawn Robinson, Paul Shliekelman, Marshall Sheperd, Eric Stabb, Roger Stahl, Mike Tiemeyer, Bram Tucker.

Proxies: Loris Magnani for J. P. Caillault; Bill McCormick for Gauri Datta; Marjanne Gooze for Christine Haase; Bethany Moreton for Shane Hamilton; Steven Grossvogel for Batina Kaplan; Mark Farmer for Edward Kipreos; Robert Rumley for Gordana Matic; Michael Kwass for Jake Short.

Visitors: None.

Members not present: Wayne Coppins, Kelly Dyer, Michael Kernis, Hilda Kurtz, David Lowenthal, Shuzhou Wang, Mark Wheeler.

Approval of the minutes from the Aug 26 meeting: Ron Orlando moved, Eric Stabb seconded. Unanimously approved.

Presiding officer Joe Hermanowicz's remarks:

1. Discussed the recent college wide faculty meeting with Dr. Arnett Mace, held 15 Oct.
2. Discussed news from University Council, including the childcare initiative, plans for the women's center, journal cancellations due to budget cuts, changes to TRS due to budget cuts, and changes to health insurance premiums.
3. Informed the senate that Maureen Grasso, dean of the Graduate School, has accepted the senate's invitation to speak with the senate about graduate student stipends.

Dean Stokes' Remarks:

1. Discussed recent meeting with the Dean's Board of Advisors.
2. Discussed the recent college wide faculty meeting with Dr. Arnett Mace, held 15 Oct.

Committee reports:

Steering committee: Committee chair Tom Houser discussed the results of the committee's October 9th meeting (see minutes attached). Two petitions were considered. The first petition was about the building in which the Institute for Women's Studies is housed. The committee decided to distribute information about this petition at the senate meeting, but not place the item on the agenda. The second petition, about new TOEFL requirements for graduate teaching assistants, was submitted under "new business" below.

Professional concerns committee: Committee chair Paul Shliekelman presented the results of this committee's discussions of four concerns from the recent poll: (1) potential changes in teaching loads, (2) more flexible teaching schedules, (3) rising enrollment, and (4) maternity leave (see minutes attached). The committee had passed an internal motion that issues (2) and (3) were not currently actionable because they were being dealt with at other administrative levels with outcomes as of yet unknown.

Planning committee: Michael Hahn spoke for committee chair Jake Short, and asked the senate for clarification on how to act on the issue of graduate faculty status. The presiding officer provided the requested clarification.

Curriculum committee: Yuri Balashov spoke for committee chair Hilda Kurtz. The committee has approved 18 new courses and 7 course changes (committee report attached).

Academic standards committee: Committee chair Mike Tiemeyer reported that they have received 5 requests for course substitutions for graduation requirements; 3 were denied, 1 was approved, and 1 is pending.

Admissions Committee had not met and had no report.

The Committee on Committees (Dawn Robinson, chair) is searching for a final member of the Awards Committee from the physical sciences. Otherwise this committee had no report.

New Business:

Mark Farmer presented a recent memo (24 Sep) from David Knox, Director of Technological and Academic Initiatives at the Graduate School, regarding a new standard for TOEFL scores for international teaching assistants that must be satisfied before the teaching assistants can be in contact with students.

In response, Ron Miller offered the following motion:

“Motion to recommend to Dean Stokes as our representative to other administrative units that the new policy regarding the TAST/TOEFL requirements as stated in David Knox's memo dated 24 Sep stating a minimum score of 26 TAST/IBT TOEFL or 50 TSE/SPEAK before being in contact with students be temporarily suspended until we have more information about the validity and retroactivity of this policy due to the financial implications for graduate students and current and future instructional staffing needs.”

The motion was seconded by Charles Hopkinson and unanimously approved by the senate.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bram Tucker, Secretary and Senator from Anthropology

Steering Committee of the Franklin College Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2008

1. The committee reviewed request concerning Womens Studies building. Decided to make info available at Senate meeting.
2. The committee added request concerning TORFL Speak Test as new business on the agenda for Oct. 21 meeting.
3. Approved and forwarded proposed agenda for Oct 21 meeting.

During the last Faculty Senate meeting, our committee was assigned four issues to consider:

1. Potential change in teaching loads
2. More flexible teaching schedules
3. Rising enrollment, class sizes
4. Maternity leave provisions

The committee approved the following motion with a vote of 4-0:

"We conclude that there is no productive action that can be taken by the Faculty Senate on issues #1 and #3 at present. However, we recommend that the Senate monitor issue #1 (potential increases in teaching loads) and be prepared for quick action if necessary"

We passed the following motion 4-0:

"We recommend Senate consideration of the feasibility of offering more flexible teaching schedules. In addition to the current schedule times of MWF 50 minute and TR 75 minutes, these may include MW or WF 75 minute class meetings or a 150 minute evening class."

Current maternity leave policy:

<http://www.franklin.uga.edu/deans/hruppers/absence.htm>

FRANKLIN COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
September & October 2008 Approvals

Curriculum Description	Approved
New Courses Reviewed	18 new courses
Course Changes	7 course changes
Proposals Approved: Anthropology Major & Minor Changes Art – Areas of Emphasis English major, minor, and areas of emphasis Genetics major changes New prefix – ISCI, Integrated Science	