

Faculty Senate Meeting  
September 18, 2015  
Humanities and Social Sciences Building 2018

In attendance: Amber Wooten, April Sheppard, Brinda McKinney, Bruce Johnson, Cherisse Jones-Branch, Claire Abernathy, Claudia Benavides, Donna Caldwell, Fabricio Medina-Bolivar, Greg Phillips, Joe Ford (Proxy for Bill Rowe), John Beineke, Judith Pfriemer (Proxy for Debbie Shelton), Julie Isaacson, Larry Morton, Loretta McGregor, Marika Kyriakos, Matthew Bradley, Nikesha Nesbitt, ReJoice Addae, Richard Segall, Ryan Kelly, Sam Pae, Shivan Haran, Suzanne Melescue, Peggy Wright, Pradeep Mishra, Warren Johnson

Vice Chair Greg Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:53 pm following the dedication of the HSS Building. Introductions and welcome to guests and proxies.

Minutes from the previous Faculty Senate meeting, 9-4-2015, will be presented for review at our next meeting.

Election of Faculty Association Interim President and Faculty Senate Chair:

Vice Chair Greg Phillips calls for nominations.

Senator Loretta McGregor nominates Dr. Greg Phillips in accordance with Section IV C of the Faculty Association bylaws. Dr. Phillips accepts, second by Senator John Beineke.

Senator Loretta McGregor moves that the nominations be closed. Motion seconded by Senator Bruce Johnson.

Dr. Phillips excused himself for the vote and Past President Julie Isaacson oversaw the vote. Senator Loretta McGregor moves that Dr. Phillips be accepted by acclamation. Senator Donna Caldwell seconds. No discussion. The motion carried.

Chair Greg Phillips called for nominations for the recently vacated Vice Chair position. Senator Fabricio Medina Bolivar nominates Senator Shivan Haran, Senator Pradeep Mishra seconds.

Senator Bruce Johnson nominates Senator Loretta McGregor, Senator April Sheppard seconds.

Senator Donna Caldwell was nominated by Senator Amber Wooten, Senator Larry Morton seconds.

Motion to close nominations by Senator Ryan Kelly, Second by Senator Bruce Johnson.

Discussion: Do we have a quorum to vote? Asked by Senator Donna Caldwell, Past President Julie Isaacson answered yes.

Senator Ryan Kelly raised a question: Does the document mandate that we vote right here, or can the nominees make larger statements? Another question: Can it be an electronic vote? Discussion indicated the vote could be now or delayed until next meeting.

Proxy Judith Pfriemer makes a motion to delay the vote to the next meeting, Senator Claire Abernathy seconds. Motion carries with 20 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

Chair Greg Phillips thanked the Senate for the honor and privilege of serving as Chair this year. He indicated he has taken this on out of a sense of duty as a faculty citizen. He said that, despite what was said in the Senate chambers last year, there is a role for the senior tenured faculty in the Shared Governance process: To shield the untenured faculty from potential conflicts of interest and manipulation. Phillips then presented what he thought of as a professional development discussion on the Faculty Senate as Shared Governance; the text is attached and is comprised of excerpts from the Faculty Association Constitution and the Faculty Handbook (FHB). In discussing FHB section I.b.2. on academic and individual freedom, Phillips commented that it was ironic that sometimes it seems as though diversity of thought and expression of alternate views are not tolerated well on this campus. In FHB section III.a., he commented that this was addressed specifically to faculty members, but should apply to all university employees, noting that the language in section I.b.2. did refer to all members of the academic community. He then reviewed FHB sections I.b.3. and I.c. on Shared Governance, I.b.5. on the role of the faculty in Shared Governance, and I.b.8. on the role of the administration in Shared Governance. He noted that section I.b.5. indicates that "Continuing professional development ... is supported by the university;" yet professional development budgets in the university are woefully inadequate. Phillips then used FHB section I.c.5. on the Graduate Council to illustrate the alleged violation of Shared Governance that was filed last year in relation to possible changes in the dissertation requirement for the Ed.D. degree. He stated that the administration has attempted to induce a significant change in the dissertation requirement in that degree three times so far, yet the Graduate Council has yet to see the formal paperwork outlining these changes. For the time being, the dissertation requirement is being retained for the Ed.D., but almost as bad now the members of that department have had their dissertation courses raised from a minimum of 8 students to a minimum of 20, a 250% increase in advising load. Phillips stated that if his research advising load were increased by two-and-a-half times, he would be crushed under the load. He then referred to FHB section III.b.1. on Workload, and indicated that the language in this section may not be adequate to protect faculty from arbitrary increases in workload. Past President Julie Isaacson commented on the difficulty of distinguishing between what represents a senate issue vs a local department or college issue. She asked for

clarification of what specific roles are played by the Faculty Senate in Shared Governance; Phillips indicated this would be summarized in the last page. Past President Isaacson then stated that there is a specific process in the FHB to follow in cases of alleged violations of Shared Governance [I.c.2.]. Phillips returned to the examples and cited FHB section I.c.6. on Parking and Traffic, indicating that the language does not direct the committee to do anything specific in relation to proposed parking changes, only to review appeals of citations. He commented that he understands why some people are willing to purchase the new reserved parking, but even though he is getting older, has a bad back, and a heel spur that bother him occasionally, he would not be extorted into purchasing a reserved parking spot, even though that means he has to walk 3-4 times farther than before. During this discussion, Senator Shivan Haran stated that he did not think the added commentary by the Chair was appropriate, and he left the room. Chair Phillips admitted he was venting, and replied that his commentary was “fair comment.” Judith Pfriemer urged the Chair to finish his presentation so that the Senate could move on to other agenda items. Chair Phillips wrapped up his presentation.

#### Old Business

15FA01, FI Grade for Academic Integrity: Paused for additional wordsmithing, no action required today.

15FA02, Academic Hearing Committee change: Motion to approve by Senator Donna Caldwell, Second by Senator Fabricio Medina-Bolivar. Motion carries with 24 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

15FA03, Non-discrimination Policy: Discussion on making the addition of “marital status” to protected groups. Ryan Kelly asked the fate of that addition? Mike McDaniel replied: We can approve it, not approve it, or approve it with modifications.

Senator Loretta McGregor makes a motion to approve the proposal contingent on the inclusion of “marital status,” Senator Ryan Kelly seconds. Motion carries with 22 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### New Business

Mike McDaniel: The Faculty Handbook needs to be reorganized to eliminate duplications and inconsistencies, and to be more user friendly. Most changes will be formatting only, or otherwise noted. The Handbook will be taken in smaller sections at any one time to simplify the process; this piecemeal approach will result in a new Handbook. The Chancellor, Provost, and Board of Trustees are on board with this. Discussion followed.

Judith Pfriemer: ASU System is updating employee Health Benefits. The biggest issue is whether to remain a grandfathered plan or to move to become un-grandfathered? Pros and cons discussed. The presentation is attached. Action needed: Disseminate Judith's slides to our constituents and gather their opinion as to staying the way we are or becoming un-grandfathered. She needs to submit a report by October 1st. Discussion held.

15FA04, Modification of ASU Intellectual Property Policy: A new committee is being formed to consider this policy. Three committee members from Faculty Senate are needed. Senator Fabricio Medina-Bolivar, Senator Richard Segall, and Henry Torres volunteered for this task. Though Henry Torres is not a senator, he was appointed by the Faculty Senate to serve on behalf of Faculty Senate business as has been done in the past.

Senator Donna Caldwell motions to adjourn by acclamation, Senator Bruce Johnson seconds. Adjourned 5:10 pm.

Submitted by Claudia Benavides, Secretary of the Faculty Senate