

Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in room 213 of the Miller Learning Center, Adam Goodie presiding.

Members Present: John Achee, Maor Bar-Peled, Mary Bedell, Thomas Biggs, Josh Bynum, Renato Castelao, Tom Cerbu, Brian Condie, Elizabeth Davis, Inge DiBella, Jorge Escalante, Ray Freeman-Lynde, Lisa Fusillo, Adam Goodie, Dan Hall, Chad Howe, Richard Hubbard, Maria Hybinette, Takahiro Ito, Kevin Jones, Kristin Kundert, Derrick Lemons, Megan Lutz, Reid Messich, Silvia Moreno, Nicolas Morrissey, Dan Nakano, Lakshmish Ramaswamy, Jennifer Rice, Steve Soper, Piers Stephens, Lianchun Wang, Quin Zhao

Proxies: Jon Swindler (proxy for Jain Kwon), Christopher Pizzino (proxy for Tricia Lootens)

Members not present: Analisa Arroyo, Richard Gordon, Jain Kwon, Tricia Lootens, Gordana Matic, Rielle Navitski, Leslie Gordon Simons, Phillip Stancil

Approval of the minutes of the August 23, 2016 meeting: Approved without corrections.

President Adam Goodie's Remarks

- President Adam Goodie extended his welcome to all. He also encouraged senators to get to know one another.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 18th.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks

- Dean Dorsey reported on the credit hour production for Summer 2016, which was up 5% compared to Summer 2015. This increase is attributed to higher numbers of online course offerings. Dean Dorsey noted that the college would continue to expand online courses and to add additional instructional staff.
- Dean Dorsey observed also that enrollment at UGA for Spring/Summer 2016 was up over Spring/Summer 2015.
- Dean Dorsey reported that there are 51 promotion/tenure cases currently under review. Senior Associate Dean Kecia Thomas is working with these cases. Dean Dorsey offered his appreciation to everyone involved on tenure/promotion committees noting their important role at the university.
- Dean Dorsey discussed a recent article published in the Athens Banner Herald (Sept. 13, 2016) regarding a \$4.6 million request related to an Interdisciplinary STEM Research Building at UGA. This request, which seeks to explore design options and to assess feasibility of the project, is now pending the Governor's approval.
- Dean Dorsey discussed the implementation of staff changes in response to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) mandated by the US Department of Labor. He announced that the UGA Human Resources has been hosting a series of forums on this topic and encouraged senators to attend.
- Q&A: Dean Dorsey was asked if \$4.6 million for a design and feasibility study is a reasonable amount.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Standards Committee: Received 13 petitions, approved 6, denied 7
- Curriculum Committee: Approved 28 new courses, approved 78 course changes, approved 1 name change, and approved 13 bulletin changes
- Executive Committee: No new business reported.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No new business reported.
- Committee on Planning & Evaluation: No new business reported.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Studio Art name change

Jon Swindler from the Lamar Dodd School of Art was present to discuss a proposed name change for the Studio Art degree. The motivations for the new name, Interdisciplinary Art and Design A.B., were addressed along with details related to changes in course design and curriculum. This proposal had already been reviewed and approved by the Curriculum Committee. The proposal was approved unanimously by the faculty senate.

- Committee Membership

President Adam Goodie provided an update on the Franklin Faculty Senate committees, focusing specifically on those for which there were still open positions. He solicited volunteers at large, one from Social Sciences on the Faculty Affairs Committee and the other from the Humanities for Planning and Evaluation. Dr. Elizabeth Davis (English) volunteered to fill the Humanities position. The discussion ended without a volunteer for the open position on the Committee for Planning and Evaluation.

- Academic Calendar

President Adam Goodie opened this discussion with a summary of the background related to this issue. He observed that UGA has been operating in a semester system in which there are 15 weeks of classes with an additional week for final exams. Most other universities, including universities in the USG system, have 15-week semesters, which include the week of final exams. Owing to the early start of this year's Fall Semester (August 11, 2016), many faculty members took note of this issue, and it is now being discussed at the next meeting of the University Council set to be held on September 21, 2016. The senate discussed the possibility of changing next year's academic calendar by making the fall semester start a week later.

A motion was made and seconded to draft a simple statement of principle. After several comments regarding the specificity of the statement, the wording was presented to the Franklin Faculty Senate for a vote. The statement read as follows:

"The Franklin College Faculty Senate strongly supports adjusting the academic calendar beginning 2017-18 to bring it more in line with calendars of other USG institutions, our peer and aspirational institutions, and to create less conflict with academically relevant summer activities of students and faculty members."

The proposed statement was approved unanimously by the faculty senate.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chad Howe
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Romance Languages