Franklin College Faculty Senate

Minutes of the meeting on April 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in room 213 of the Miller Learning Center, Mary Bedell presiding.

Members Present: John Achee, Maor Bar-Peled, Mary Bedell, Thomas Biggs, Brian Binder, Josh Bynum, Tom Cerbu, Katie Chapman, Brian Condie, Elizabeth Davis, Suzanne Ellenberger, Jorge Escalante, Lisa Fusillo, Chad Howe, Richard Hubbard, Maria Hybinette, Takahiro Ito, Betina Kaplan, Jain Kwon, Ming-Jun Lai, Gary Lautenschlager, Megan Lutz, Reid Messich, Silvia Moreno, Dan Nakano, Rielle Navitski, Don Nelson, Chris Pizzino, Lakshmish Ramaswamy, Mike Roden, Rohan Sikri, Leslie Gordon Simons, Jiyeon So, Steve Soper, Nanette Spina.

Proxies: Prof. Josh Barkan (for Jennifer Rice), Prof. Dan Rood (for Kevin Jones).

Members not present: Kristin Kundert, Phillip Stancil, Lianchun Wang, Sunkoo Yuh, Qun Zhao.

Guest: Lee Shearer (*Athens Banner-Herald*).

Approval of the minutes of the March 20 and April 3, 2018 meetings: Approved without corrections.

President Mary Bedell's Remarks

President Bedell began by offering her year-ending thanks to administrative specialist Sherry Gray, Senior Associate Dean Kecia Thomas, and Dean Alan Dorsey; to all of the Faculty Senators; to the chairs of the various Faculty Senate committees (Jennifer Rice, Don Nelson, Rielle Navitski, Leslie Gordon Simons, and Elizabeth Davis); and to John Knox, who has chaired two awards committees.

President Bedell announced that the election of new officers and committee chairs will be on the agenda of the first meeting of the Faculty Senate in the fall.

President Bedell then announced some late-breaking news from the Vice-President for Research David Lee, namely that he has received from the designated specialist at the University of Texas at Austin a preliminary report on the DNA analysis of the human remains found during the Baldwin Hall expansion, and that he should have news on these findings soon. [Note: a few days after the meeting, President Bedell informed the Senate via email that her statement was incorrect – Dr. Lee had received a preliminary report from Dr. Marguerite Madden on the GIS mapping project]. President Bedell also shared the news that she received a letter from University President Jere Morehead regarding the media coverage of the Faculty Senate's meetings on the Baldwin Hall issue.

Finally, President Bedell reminded Senators that this final meeting of the year will be followed immediately by Dean Alan Dorsey's State of the College Address.

Dean Alan Dorsey's Remarks

Dean Dorsey reminded members of the Senate that this is Honors week, and directed members to look at the full list of this year's award-winning faculty, staff, students, and alumni appearing in the April 16 edition of *Columns*.

Dean Dorsey also reminded Senators that commencement is coming up, on Friday, May 4. Graduate commencement, with featured speaker Prof. Denise Spangler of UGA's College of Education, will begin at 9:30 a.m. at Stegeman Coliseum; undergraduate commencement, with featured performers Charles Kelley and Dave Haywood of the band Lady Antebellum, will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Sanford Stadium.

Finally, Dean Dorsey announced a pair of staff appreciation events, the first for Franklin College staff on Mon., May 7 at 3:00 p.m. in the rotunda of the Miller Learning Center, the second for all staff at UGA on Thursday, May 10 (please visit the UGA calendar of events for further details).

Committee Reports

Academic Standards Committee. Five petitions: 4 approved, 1 declined.

Curriculum Committee. Approved: 7 new courses, 29 course changes, and 2 Bulletin changes (in Genetics and History).

Executive Committee: Nothing to report.

Committee on Faculty Affairs. Nothing to report.

Committee on Planning & Evaluation. Nothing to report.

New Business

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program – As no representatives of this program were present to explain the issue at hand, no discussion took place.

Proposed charge for the Baldwin Hall Ad Hoc Committee. The Chair of the informal Ad Hoc Committee, which formed after the March 20 Faculty Senate meeting, Prof. Chris Pizzino, explained that two issues inspired him to volunteer for the new Ad Hoc Committee, which will meet during the coming academic year. One is the role of faculty expertise in serving the local as well as national community; the other is the freedom of faculty to speak as experts. Prof. Pizzino added that some faculty he spoke with as chair of the informal Ad Hoc Committee seemed constrained; and he pointed out that UGA President Jere Morehead's letter to Faculty Senate President Mary Bedell did not refer to faculty expertise above and beyond the work of the State Archaeologist's Office. After giving Faculty Senators a chance to examine and discuss the proposed charge of the new Baldwin Hall Ad Hoc Committee, President Bedell called for a vote: 32 Senators voted to approve the statement, 0 were opposed, and 2 abstained.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Soper
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for History