Franklin College Faculty Senate

Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM via Zoom, Benjamin Britton presiding.

Members Present: Christine Albright, Toyin Alli, Mark Anderson, Adam Barb, Kelly Black, Benjamin Britton, Clifton Buck, Liming Cai, Joel Caughran, Pilar Chamorro Fernandez, Carmen Comeaux, Maduranga Dassanayake, Vince Du, Rebecca Gose, Le Guan, Dan Hall, DeLoris Hesse, Peter Hoffer, Steve Holland, Christin Huggins, Joe Kellner, Emily Koh, Kendall Marchman, Rodrigo Martini Paula, Emily Mouilso, Vasant Muralidharan, Richard Neupert, Chris Peterson, Amy Ross, Alexandra Shapiro, Matthew Shipes, Anne Summers, Cynthia Suveg, Andrea Sweigart, Justine Tinkler, Alberto Villate-Isaza, Michael White, Sarah Wright, Hang Yin

Proxies: Suzanne Birch for Laurie Reitsema, Alexander Fyfe for Frans Weiser

Members not present: Imi Hwangbo, Bernd Schuttler

Guests: None

Approval of the minutes of the May 3, 2022 meeting: The minutes were approved with no corrections by a vote of 30 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

President Benjamin Britton's Remarks:

President Britton welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate and thanked the Senators for their service. He encouraged everyone to read the agenda thoroughly before each meeting of the Senate. He requested that all members of the Senate change the titles displayed over Zoom to include "Senator" after their names.

President Britton reminded everyone of the protocols for meetings of the Senate held via Zoom. Senators should keep their video cameras on, share any links or files in the "chat" box, and keep any discussion about the topic at hand to actual speaking rather than using the "chat" box. Voting will be done with the "raised hand" function, and President Britton will count the votes and make sure there is a quorum for each vote.

President Britton indicated that he soon would be reaching out to the Chairs of the various committees and thanked Sherry Gray for her service to the Senate.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks:

Dean Dorsey thanked Benjamin Britton for his service as President of the Faculty Senate. He welcomed everyone and indicated that he was looking forward to a great 2022-23 academic year.

Dean Dorsey announced several changes in the Dean's Office. He reminded everyone that he had planned to step down as Dean to return to the faculty of Physics/Astronomy in Summer 2022 but the search for his replacement had not concluded successfully. The same Search Committee, chaired by Dean Matthew Auer from SPIA, will continue the search this academic year. The plan is to have interviews and on-campus visits before Thanksgiving Break, and the expectation is to announce a new Dean in December 2022 or January 2023. The start date for the new Dean will be determined later.

Associate Dean Michelle Momany has announced her plans to step down and return to the faculty of Plant Biology. Dean Dorsey hopes to announce a search for her replacement soon.

Dean Dorsey announced several changes in UGA's administration. Marisa Pagnattaro has been appointed Vice President for Instruction, effective June 1, 2022. Margaret "Meg" Amstutz has been appointed Dean of the J.W. Morehead Honors College, effective August 1, 2022. Martin Kagel has been appointed Associate Provost for Global Engagement, effective August 1, 2022. Finally, there will be a search for a new Vice President for Academic Affairs. The position is currently filled by Usha Rodrigues, who has been serving as Interim.

Dean Dorsey offered updates on buildings. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 24, 2022 for Phase II of the ISTEM building, which will provide 60,000 square feet of space for research. Together, Phase I and II provide 120,000 square feet for research, 60% of which is used by the Department of Chemistry and 40% of which is used by the College of Engineering. The Georgia General Assembly has approved $49,000,000 for modernizing Science Hill. Phase I will focus on the old Chemistry building, and Phase II will focus on Biological Sciences. The Holmes-Hunter Academic Building will be renovated with a gift from the Woodruff Foundation and with support of the Board of Regents. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2023, and renovation should take 18-24 months.

Dean Dorsey announced that UGA has a record-breaking first-year class of 6200 students. In anticipation of the large class, Franklin College received funding the central administration to hire additional instructors. Hiring has been successful, and Dean Dorsey thanked everyone who helped with recruiting.

Dean Dorsey announced that the Franklin College awarded over 3000 academic degrees in FY 2021, which was a record. There are no figures yet for FY 2022, but the numbers do show that enrollments for the College continue to be strong.

Dean Dorsey reminded the Senate of the Board of Regents' changes to annual evaluations and the post tenure review process, announced in October 2021. Work is ongoing to bring UGA into compliance with USG expectations. There have been a number of committees established for this purpose, but some work will have to be carried out at the unit level this fall. Associate Dean Tom Mote will contact department heads with general guidance, deadlines, and target dates for implementation. Department heads have already been informed of this at their recent retreat.

Dean Dorsey invited the Senators to ask questions; there were no questions.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: The Committee reported that they were scheduling a meeting to discuss proposed changes to the by-laws and that they expect to have more information at the meeting in September.

Academic Standards: The Committee reported that they had 9 appeals, 8 of which were approved and 1 of which was denied.

Curriculum Committee: The Committee reported that they are working to institute a more streamlined process for their work. The Committee currently receives CAPA items through a web engine, and the items appear without explanation or evidence of support from a unit. Other items are received via email. One result of the current process is that the Committee and then the Senate are often voting on items which may never have been voted on at the unit level. The Committee

would like to improve the process for their work by implementing a web engine to deal with the non-CAPA items and, possibly, by amending the by-laws. One option in addition to maintaining the status quo is shifting the Curriculum Committee out of the Senate and making it a standing committee in the Dean's Office (which would allow it to draw from a larger faculty base and become more diverse). Such a standing committee could make decisions independently from the Senate, or it could turn its decisions over to the Senate for final approval. The Chair of the Curriculum Committee would like to see units voting on items first and prefers that a standing committee send items back to the Senate for final approval.

Faculty Affairs: There was no report from this Committee.

Planning and Evaluation: The Committee would like to meet with Dean Dorsey for guidance on how the Committee might serve Franklin College more broadly. The Committee is open to suggestions regarding this matter and will have more to report in the future.

New Business: There were 3 elections at the meeting. The election of President Elect Peter Hoffer was approved by a vote of 34 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The election of Senate Secretary Christine Albright was approved by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The election of the members of the Senate Committees for AY 2022-23 was approved by a vote of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Old Business: None

Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine L. Albright
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for the Department of Classics