

Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Franklin college of Arts & Sciences
August 19, 2004

1. Call to Order

Presiding Officer Douglas Crowe [Geology] called the meeting to order at 3:42 PM in Room 171 of the Student Learning Center.

2. Identification of Proxies and Visitors:

Proxies: C.B. Davis [Drama] for Antje Ascheid

Absences: Norris Armstrong [Genetics], Elois Ann Berlin [Athropology], Gert-Jan Boons [Chemistry], Rebecca Enghauser [Dance], Marly L. Eidsness [Chemistry], Christince Harold [Speech Communications], Erika Hermanowicz [Classics], Kasia Jerzak [Comp Lit], Gary Lautenschlager [Psychology], Laura Mason [History], Tom McNulty [Sociology], Barry Palevitz [Plant Biology], Amy Ross [Geography], Glenn Wallis [Religion]

Visitors: Brent Mosley [Red and Black]

Total: 28 Present, 14 Absent, 1 Visitor

3. The minutes from 15 April 2004 were approved.

4. Comments by the Presiding Officer, Douglas Crowe:

Last year was a tumultuous year. Dr. Crowe wants to build on the positive and constructive discussions with the University Administration regarding issues such a hiring and budgets. He encourages us to seek better channels of communication with the Administration. He also hopes that the Senate can be less reactionary and become a more deliberative body in our actions. Dr. Crowe encourages all the senators to make motions that are more concise, to read the by-laws, and to identify yourself when speaking.

5. Comments by Dean Stokes:

The college of Arts and Science accommodates 60% of the students in the University and thus has a major impact upon teaching at the University. Grants and contracts have increased by \$3 million. This is impressive given the fact that the college is down 68 faculty positions.

Some of the dean's goals this year include visiting every department in the Franklin College. The dean identified a number of challenges: 1) increase funding from sources other than the state including increasing funding from contracts and grants as well as an increase in fundraising, 2) increase diversity in the college, 3) build a more cohesive college by encouraging interdepartmental collaboration as well as ties to outside programs.

The dean discussed a number of major issues facing our college: 1) loss of faculty positions. Currently, the college is down 68 positions and will need \$4 million dollars of funding to fill them. Some money from tuition increases have been allocated for faculty hires. The provost offered \$585,000 for faculty recruitment. At this point, the dean could not say how any positions the college will be able to recruit. There are currently 33 critical positions to be filled. 3) Some salary savings will allow for funding for faculty travel this year.

Dean Stokes discussed a number of initiatives facing the college in the Fall Semester: 1) departments will be developing guidelines and criteria for promotion and tenure, 2) departments will be developing 5-year plans. These will be tied to the budget process. The faculty senate will be asked to aid in this process, 3) President Adams would like to meet with faculty senators on Wednesday, 22 September at 3:30 p.m. He will speak and take questions. Please send any questions ahead of time to Dean Stokes.

The dean addressed questions from the Faculty Senate:

Elham Izadi [Mathematics]: How will the University use the 5-year plan? The Dean responded that it is not yet clear how this plan will be used. The Provost will review plans and seek feedback from departments before the February deadline.

Sandra Wyld [Geology]: How did the 5-year plan originate? The Dean responded that she did not know the history of the plan. Associate Dean Ruppensburg responded that this is a practical working plan versus a plan of broader goals sought in the strategic plan.

Adam Parkes [English]: Is there a mechanism to enforce compliance of the 5-year plan? The dean responded that the incentive is that the plan will be used in the budgeting process.

Randal Hammond [Psychology]: The University of Georgia has been listed among the “best bargains” of U.S. colleges. Maybe we should become a “moderate bargain” and raise tuition. The Dean responded that factors outside of the control of the college affect the ability to increase tuition.

Alexei Kojevnikov [History]: Budget cuts are due to the shrinking state budget. If the economy improves, will the University receive increased funding? The Dean responded that she did not know if or when we will return to funding levels of the past. She noted that we can no longer depend so much on funding from the state and must seek out other sources of funding.

Anne Summers [Microbiology]: Idea of seeking endowed professorships as a way to replace unfilled faculty positions may not be very realistic.

Elham Izadi [Mathematics]: How are construction projects on campus funded? The Dean and Associate Dean responded that there are different sources of money for short-term construction projects versus continuous funding for long-term faculty positions.

Jim Coverdill [Sociology]: The best way to fill faculty positions is with tenure track positions. Will the college seek to fill missing positions with temporary faculty lines or Franklin Fellowships? The Dean responded that she is open to exploring different possibilities.

Marjanne Gooze [Germanic and Slavic Studies]: Her department is concerned about the 5-year plan and the structure of the questions such as concrete quotas for obtaining grants. Will departments be punished for not meeting these goals? The Dean responded that many departments are dealing with these questions. She mentioned that she will distill some critical details from the workshop and will work with department heads on this issue.

Elham Izadi [Mathematics]: The 15-week semester is too long. Can it be shortened? The Dean responded that she did not know the answer.

6. Committee Reports:

- a. The admissions committee was asked to review 14 student petitions for re-admissions: One in June; two in July, and 11 in August. Seven were approved and seven were denied.

7. New Business:

- a. Douglas Crowe [Geology] called for a motion to approve the committee assignments as determined by the committee on committees. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- b. Douglas Crowe [Geology] called for a nomination of Andrew Grundstein [Geography] to serve as recording secretary. Andrew Grundstein was approved by unanimous vote.
- c. Douglas Crowe [Geology] asked for Senators to state any issues of concern. The results included: budgeting, travel money, morale, faculty positions, child care, maintaining scholarly output, better relations with graduate school on foreign student admissions, bring projects of the faculty senate to completion, issue of grade inflation, space problems, 5-year plan.
- d. After adjournment, Douglas Crowe [Geology] asked that newly assigned committees assemble.

8. Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for 21 September at 3:30 in 171 of the Student Learning Center. Agenda items for the next meeting are due by 7 September.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Submitted by Andrew Grundstein, Geography