Franklin College Faculty Senate

Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in room 214 of the Miller Learning Center, Shelby Funk presiding.

Members Present: Christine Albright, Analisa Arroyo, Maor Bar-Peled, Mary Bedell, Josh Bynum, Renato Castelao, Trina Cyterski, Shanta Dhar, Inge DiBella, Husseina Dinani, Christopher Eaket, Shelby Funk, Lisa Fusillo, Kim Gilbert, Adam Goodie, Uwe Happek, Chad Howe, Natarajan Kannan, Jim Lauderdale, Derrick Lemons, Reid Messich, Nicholas Morrissey, Lan Mu, Dan Nakano, Virginia Nazarea, Patricia Richards, Daniel Rood, Mitch Rothstein, Chloe Wigston Smith, Inseok Song, Jon Swindler, Karim Traore, Sarah Wright, and Angela Yao.

Proxies: Thiab Taha (proxy for Budak Arpinar), Timothy Gupton (proxy for Richard Gordon), Vladimir Popik (proxy for Robert Phillips), Mark Werner (proxy for T.N. Sriram), John Rose (proxy for Zachary Wood).

Members not present: Budak Arpinar, Fred Dolezal, Diana Downs, Richard Gordon, Robert Phillips, Michael Roden, T.N. Sriram, Zachary Wood

Visitors: Ibigbolade Aderibigbe

Approval of the minutes of the 22 April 2014 meeting: Approved without corrections.

President Shelby Funk's Remarks

- President Funk thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as President.
- President Funk said that she hopes to have people come to Senate meetings to discuss new initiatives as well as changes in administration and administrative policy so that the Senate is aware of such business and so that Senators may accurately report back to their departments. She asked that Senators inform her about any speakers they wish to invite. She suggested that the Senate invite someone from Information Technology and also someone from the Office of Online Learning.
- President Funk encouraged Senators to forward the minutes to faculty members in their own departments so that everyone is aware of the Senate's business.
- President Funk said that she is looking forward to a productive year.

Dean Dorsey's Remarks

- Dean Dorsey welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the academic year and extended a thank you to all Senators for service in the Senate. He also thanked the new officers of the Senate: Dr. Shelby Funk, Dr. Dan Nakano, and Dr. Christine Albright.
- Dean Dorsey reported that he had attended the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Science Learning Center. The Center is funded by 44.7 million dollars from the Georgia General Assembly. It provides 122,000 square feet of instructional space to meet needs

in the sciences, especially for Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. Planning for space utilization and class schedules continues.

- Dean Dorsey reported that the Board of Regents has allocated 8.75 million dollars for the renovation of Baldwin Hall. This allocation includes an additional 1 million dollars to the 7.7 million allocated previously.

- Dean Dorsey reported that in the Spring the Franklin College welcomed a merit raise program as well as a 5.0% increase in base stipends for graduate students.

- Dean Dorsey reported that the University continues to enroll excellent students. The entering class averages a 3.9 GPA and a 1289 SAT score. These scores are the highest in the University's history.

- Dean Dorsey reported that after his term in the Provost's office, Dr. Hugh Ruppersburg returns as the point-of-contact for the Senate.

- Dean Dorsey announced two departures: Dr. Eileen Kramer, who has gone to Clemson University, and Dr. Christine Miller, who has gone to Sacramento State University. Dr. Kecia Thomas will serve as the chair of the search committee for the position of Director of Student Services, and Dr. Hugh Ruppersburg will serve as the chair of the search committee for the position of Director of Information Technology.

- Dean Dorsey reported that the search for the position of Dean of the Graduate School is ongoing. He also reported that Dr. Laura Jolly, the current Vice President for Instruction, will step down in December and that Dr. Russell Mumper has joined the University as the Vice Provost.

- Dean Dorsey reported that, although the University's budget has grown modestly, the Franklin College budget includes an almost 1 million dollar deficit in discretionary funding which is the result of redirection of funds for faculty and staff raises and increases in stipends for graduate students. This deficit will affect meritorious requests.

- Dean Dorsey reported that the task force for a more sustainable Information Technology system which was formed last year generated a set of recommendations and that he has shared that report with department heads in the College and asked them for feedback.

- In response to one Senator's question about faculty development, Dean Dorsey explained that the University's system does not permit traditional sabbaticals for faculty but that the Board of Regents' policy permits professional development leave for faculty. The discussion about faculty development is still open, although there are obvious obstacles to such a program with the University's current policy.

Committee Reports:

- Academic Standards Committee: The Committee reported that it received 17 petitions, and that it approved 12 and denied 5.
- Curriculum Committee: The Committee reported that it approved 30 new courses and that it approved 71 course changes.
- Executive Committee: No new business reported.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No new business reported.
- Committee on Planning & Evaluation: No new business reported.

New Business:

- Nominations and Elections for 2014-15: Franklin Senate Committees and Positions for 2014-15 were approved unanimously.
- The proposal to allow RELI (AFST) (LACS) 4620/6620 to satisfy the Franklin College Multicultural Requirement was approved unanimously. Dr. Ibigbolade Aderibigbe of the Department of Religion was present to answer questions about the proposal.

Old Business:

No old business was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Albright
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Classics

FRANKLIN COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT
AUGUST 26, 2014

Curriculum Description	Approved
New Courses Reviewed	**30 new courses**
Course Changes	**71 course changes**

Proposal Approved:

RELI(AFST)(LACS) 4620-6620 approved as a course to meet the FC multicultural requirement