Meeting Minutes

University of Central Arkansas Faculty Senate

October 8, 2013

**Attendance:**

College of Business: Jim Downey (2014), Kaye McKinzie (2015), Don Bradley (2016)

College of Education: Shoudong Feng (2014), Alicia Cotabish (2015), Jud Copeland (2016)

College of Fine Arts and Communication: Lanette Grate (2014), Garry Craig Powell (2015), Christian Carichner (2016)

College of Health and Behavioral Sciences: Melissa Shock (2014), K.C. Poole (2015), Alexandra Marshall (2016)

College of Liberal Arts: Clayton Crockett (2014), Phillip Spivey/Jacob Held (2015), aa-Chris Craun (2016)

College of Natural Science and Mathematics: Charles Watson (2014), Rahul Mehta (2015), Ben Rowley (2016).

At Large Senators: Brian Bolter (2014), Doug Isanhart (2014), Debbie Bratton (2015), Art Lichtenstein (2015), Kim Eskola (2016), Amber Wilson (2016)

Part-Time: Deb Forssman Hill (2014)

I. Call to Order

A. Welcome to our new Part-Time Senator: Deb Forssman Hill

II. Comments: President Courtway

1. The university has hired two new lawyers. The Associate General Counsel and Compliance Officer will be Kandi Hughes. She will start working October 21, 2013. The General Counsel will be Warren Readnour. He will start working October 28, 2013.

III. Comments: Provost Runge

1. Avid week is this week, October 7-11.
2. There will be a panel discussion on Academic Vitality at 1:40pm today in the College of Business Auditorium.
3. There will be an ice cream social today at 3pm on the lawn of McAlister Hall.
4. There will be a Board of Trustees meeting on Friday, October 11, 2013, at 10am. The main topic of discussion will be the Greek Village.
5. Saturday, October 12, 2013, is Family Day, Bear Facts Day, and there is a home football game.
6. Arkansas State Supreme Court oral arguments will be held at UCA on Thursday, October 10, 2013, at 9am in Reynolds Performance Hall. Arkansas State Supreme Court Justice Jim Hannah will speak in the Student Center Ballroom at 1:40pm the same day on the topic of integrity.
7. There will be a proposal to replace the Retention Committee with the Student Success and Retention Council. This will go through the process of the Faculty Handbook Committee and the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees.
8. The Provost presented three memorandums from himself to President Courtway on the addition of seven non-tenure track positions in the College of Fine Arts and Communication. These include three in the Department of Writing, three in the Department of Communication, and one in the Department of Mass Communication and Theatre. Faculty Senate has five days to respond and bring a recommendation to the President. The President will make the final decision in consultation with the Provost. President of Faculty Senate Watson declares that a special senate session be held on Thursday, October 10, 0213 at 12:45p.m. to consider only this issue. It will be a single agenda item meeting. Any special or additional speakers’ names need to be given to Senate President Watson by 5pm tomorrow (Wednesday, October 9, 2013).

IV. Approval of Minutes from September 26

1. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted--Senator Copeland, second Senator Mehta.
2. Passed unanimously.

V. Report: UCA Foundation: Shelley Mehl, VP for Advancement and President of UCA Foundation

A. Shelley Mehl distributed several handouts including UCA Development Annual Plan Fiscal Year 2013-2014, UCA Foundation Endowment and Net Asset History, and UCA Foundation Funds.

B. She stated that the Foundation has 19 Board members whose mission is to identify, cultivate, solicit, and steward gifts to the UCA Foundation in support of UCA.

C. Their goal is to eventually be able to award $1 million each year in student scholarships (last year was $600,000).

D. Academic Programmatic Support and Faculty Salary Supplements is listed as number two on special projects list (behind private scholarships for students).

VI. Consideration of List of Nominees from Committee on Committees for Standing University Committees

1. Motion to suspend rules to consider the distributed list of nominations--Senator Bradley, second Senator Rowley.
2. Passed unanimously.
3. Questions/discussion about Diversity Committee, University Library Committee, and Discretionary Scholarship Program for Students with Exceptional Circumstances.
4. Motion to accept list of nominees as adjusted-- Senator Bolter, second Senator Powell.
5. Passed unanimously.

VII. Consideration of Revision to UCA Diversity Statement: Ronnie Williams, VP for Student Services and Institutional Diversity (The Executive Committee supports a revision to the Diversity Statement. Two options are offered for consideration. Following discussion, the Executive Committee proposes to table action until Senators have an opportunity to discuss options within the colleges.)

A. Mr. Williams presented two options for the Diversity statement: expand the statement to include gender identity and additional wording or to exclude the language that specifically identifies all groups.

B. Jacob Held responds that the best option is to enumerate gender identity and sexual orientation. This will provide needed protection to these groups. Stated he would also like to see this language to be added to the non-discrimination policy.

C. Senator Bradley and Senator McKinzie offered to send the Diversity Statement of the College of Business to all Faculty Senators. President Watson will send this to the Senate.

D. Motion to consider the Diversity Statement at the next scheduled meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2013, and to make a recommendation at this same meeting--Senator Bolter, second Senator Bradley.

X. Adjournment

A. Due to time constraints, President Watson declared the meeting adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting will be October 24, 2013.