

Minutes
UCA Faculty Senate
Thursday, January 22, 2009
Wingo 315, 12:45 p.m.

President Boniecki called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. Present were Boniecki, Parrack, Seifert, Ray, Jones, Castner-Post, Lichtenstein, McCullough, Powers, Wiedmaier, Lance, Isom, Schaefer, Mehta, Rospert, Johnson, Acre, Holden, Moore, Fletcher, Castro, Albritton, Hebert, and Nilu Runge and Provost Grahn.
Absences: Bell.

I. Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2008. (see Attachment 1 of the Agenda)

Senator Lance moved to approve minutes with second by Senator Ray. Motion passed approving the minutes with no corrections.

II. Budget Q & A: President Tom Courtway and Bunny Adcock.

President Courtway gave an overview of this year and next year's budget. He said that he will come back to the Senate as many times as needed so that the faculty is informed. Bunny Adcock presented a cash flow analysis he developed in order to better understand University revenue and expenses. Departments across campus are doing a good job of keeping expenses down. President Courtway says we can probably only count on about \$2 million more from the State. We will need to continue with this very tight budget for the next couple of years.

Question- Senator Johnson: What is the status of those Wachovia funds?

Response- Bunny Adcock: There is about \$1.7 million left and we get payments when they sell off portions, but it has slowed down considerably.

Question- Senator Moore: Why is so much of funding in category B, and is the same thing going to happen next year?

Response- President Courtway: 1) We are going to work to make sure this doesn't happen again. 2) There was reluctance in the legislature to put that growth money in our base (category A).

Question- Senator Castro: There is a rumor that there will be 1% pay cut for faculty. Is this true?

Response- President Courtway: I haven't said that.

Question- Senator Castro: Will travel money be available for faculty working towards tenure and promotion?

Response- President Courtway: The provost will work to make sure that faculty gets the support they need. The Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) will have a lot of input in this area.

Question- Senator Castro: If we ever have a surplus, will faculty ever get more than a COL raise?

Response- President Courtway: Nothing is off the table but I can't say what will happen.

Question- Senator Castro: What's happened to the capital campaign money?

Response- President Courtway: Most of that is restricted for scholarships and other expenses.

Comment- President Courtway: I am looking at all options- No layoffs but times are really tough.

Question- Senator Powers: Does concurrent enrollment benefit us?

Response- President Courtway: That topic is under debate and we are looking at that very closely.

Question- Senator Parrack: Have you considered selling naming rights for buildings?

Response- President Courtway: Yes, we are actively pursuing all avenues of giving.

Question- Senator Albritton: You said you will be purging classes in February for lack of payment? Will this impact our revenues?

Response- President Courtway: This is a different step but a necessary step and we will be better off in the long haul. Students won't be able to access transcripts if they haven't paid. \$1.7 million is still out from Fall '08, \$5 million left will probably never be able to be collected.

Comment- Senator Albritton: Probably should send another notice to remind students about the February deadline.

Question - President Boniecki: In regards to athletics, are we continuing to transfer the max \$1.1 million to athletics?

Response- President Courtway: Yes, we probably will. Next year we will get \$400K from the Southland Conference so that may offset the 1.1 million.

Question - President Boniecki: Will the \$400K be deducted from the 1.1 million?

Response- President Courtway: That will have to be decided by the next president and the BOT.

III. President's Report.

A. Update on presidential search (see Attachment 2 of the Agenda):

First meeting occurred Thursday, January 6; established procedures and responsibilities of committees; debated content of ad for *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Dr. Farris suffered a stroke and passed away this past week. Additionally, the other co-chair- Jerry Manion- was hospitalized and can no longer serve. J. Gillian will serve as interim chair until the BOT can appoint another chair. The ad that went to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* is attached (see Attachment 2). Next meeting is February 2. The current plan is to meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

B. Admission statistics for 2008-09 entering freshman class (see Attachment 3 of the Agenda):

Comment- Senator Castro: How does the coding work? What is the definition of a "special circumstance?" Senator Castro had several questions that she forwarded to President Boniecki. He will investigate these matters further.

C. Committee Charges:

1. Faculty Affairs II: *Investigate concerns regarding the Miss University of Central Arkansas pageant, including the funding source and appropriateness of the event, and present a report and/or position statement to Faculty Senate.*

IV. Committee Reports.

A. Executive Committee: No report.

B. Committee on Committees: Senator Parrack moved to suspend rules with second by Senator Johnson. Motion passed approving suspension of rules.

Senator Parrack moved that new IRB and IACUC committee structure changes be approved- they are federally mandated- with second by Senator Seifert. Motion passed approving the committee structure changes. The committee changes will be forwarded to the Faculty Handbook Committee.

C. Academic Affairs: No report.

D. Faculty Affairs I: No report.

E. Faculty Affairs II: No report

V. Announcements and Concerns.

A. Faculty Concerns and announcements.

1. Senator Seifert presented the following faculty concern:

Section IV.D of Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook (p.47) describes UCA's phased retirement program. Paragraph 1 of this section states that the program is "...available tofull-time tenured faculty members..." This implies that phased retirement is not available to faculty holding Lecturer rank/status. I've been asked whether the phased retirement program could be extended to lecturers. I think this is a good idea, and I'd appreciate it if you could bring this issue to the appropriate Senate committee.

President Boniecki: We will forward this to the Faculty Handbook Committee.

2. Senator Castro: What is the status of the academic misconduct policy?

President Boniecki: Still has not made it out of the Council of Deans

3. Senator Johnson presented the following faculty concern in regards to the recent e-mail regarding academic advising shifting responsibility to Faculty:

In view of the strong pressure coming from the State in terms of academic success, for the Academic Advising Center to abandon its focused attempts on probationary students seems exactly the wrong way to go. We all understand the problem, of course, but what Academic Advising has laid out here will be very hit-or-miss. For example--tutoring offered by departments? HAH! What resources? What graduate students? NONE. What faculty member will take time away from research? NONE. In fact, WHAT informed knowledge by faculty of the ins and outs of probation and suspension?

This is another example of UCA trying to be all things to all people with no resources. We can assign the job to some faculty, perhaps, with reduction in research expectations, or reduction in teaching load, but the institution may be unwilling to make that trade-off.

President Boniecki: The Executive Committee will discuss this issue.

B. Next Meeting: February 10, 2009 at 12:45 p.m.

V. Adjournment: Senator Seifert moved to adjourn meeting with second by Senator Ray. Motion passed approving adjournment at 2:28 p.m.