

UCA Faculty Senate Minutes of Thursday, April 28th, 2011 at 1245pm, Wingo Hall 315

Members Present (/a: absent; /aa: absent advised)

- Business Administration: Bartczak, Bradley, Moore.
- Education: Albritton/a, Copeland, Hebert.
- Fine Arts And Communication: Browne, President Burley, Castner Post.
- Health And Behavioral Sciences: Fletcher, Poole, Ray.
- Liberal Arts: Arnold, Parrack, Spivey.
- Natural Sciences And Mathematics: BrattonG, Isom, Rowley.
- At-Large Senators: Acre, BrattonD, Jones, Lichtenstein, WilsonA., WilsonJ.
- Senator For Part-Time Faculty: RungeN.
- Office Of The Provost: Provost Grahn.

I. Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2011 (attached)

MOTION to approve: Ray, 2nd Arnold

MOTION approved.

II. Shelley Mehl, Vice-President of Institutional Advancement

Comments on UCA's upcoming Night of Distinction event, Saturday 05/14/11. A chance to come together and celebrate accomplishments of our graduates. Proceeds from this year's event will also be used to raise funds for an alumni scholarship. Hoping to attract 600 people. To date, \$103,000 collected for prepaid tickets. Intention is that this will be an annual event. To tell the story about what's good at UCA. Seeking faculty input. Also, if Faculty Senate purchases a ticket for the winner of a faculty award, the Alumni Association will purchase a second ticket for that individual's guest.

President Burley: We will ask to have a faculty seat on the committee that plans the "Night of Distinction" events.

III. Remarks, President Meadors

Reminder about upcoming commencement on Saturday, 05/07/11. Appreciation for making this a very good year for UCA. The Responsible UCA Committee has already indentified almost \$1,000,000 in potential savings. Comments on percentage of UCA students who qualify for PELL grants as compared to other schools. Most schools are at 60-70%. UCA is at 42%. Less than 5% of UCA students qualify for full PELL grants. Please help to publicize UCA summer school. Among other benefits, summer school can be a time for students to earn sufficient credits to qualify for an Arkansas Scholarship Lottery scholarship. The work on Bear Hall is progressing well. Regarding our budget, now that the current state legislative session had ended, we did not get cut, but we did not receive any new money. However, this puts us ahead of probably 75% of our peers in higher education. UCA is now as financially healthy as we have been since 2002. The new MFA program in creative writing goes to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting. The Board will also consider various fee increases. Overall, with regard to tuition and fees, our cost will increase 3.97%. Beginning with Fall 2011, UCA will offer an enhanced evening program of classes.

Runge: Suggests that we promote UCA by designing a tee-shirt to publicize the fact that we are ranked as a "top 25" university. The shirt could be given to visitors, faculty, and others.

Bradley: Looking at things from the economics point of view, we should remember that the people hardest hit by the current financial environment are in the middle, and that is the group from which most of our students come to UCA. We should try to market harder to them.

Rowley: Anything new with regard to the candidacy of Dr. Robert Parrent for Vice-President of Enrollment Management?

President Meadors: An offer has been made, and we are waiting for a response from Dr. Parrent.

Parrack: With regard to the recommendation of the University College Task Force, to move UC into the College of Education, why was it not implemented? Also, [expressed] concern about morale and the effectiveness of our systems of shared governance.

[comments about the above: Meadors, Parrack, Grahn, BrattonD, Isom, Copeland, WilsonJ, BrattonG]

President Meadors: This was not a decision of central administration. The Dean of the College of Education indicated a reluctance to accept the recommendation.

[additional comments: BrattonD, Parrack, Burley, WilsonJ]

IV. Remarks, Provost Grahn

Thanks the faculty for hard work during this academic year. Pleased to see how all UCA employees have come together to support our colleagues, friends, and family who were affected by the recent weather. Our next emergency preparedness exercise will be about tornados. Please take this seriously and encourage our colleagues to participate. Thanks faculty for their participation in commencement. All are encouraged to attend commencement.

V. Jonathan Glenn, Report on Academic Planning and Assessment Committee

[full report was emailed to Senators by President Burley]

This is the first report submitted to the Faculty Senate by APAC. Summarizes the activity of the committee and thanks the committee membership.

Bradley: What action, with regard to this report, would you like to see the Senate take?

Glenn: I am asking the Senate to work with us [APAC] to move forward with this plan.

WilsonJ: So we need to have a university level assessment body?

Glenn: Yes.

WilsonJ: We can work together this summer to construct a new process. Also, this has to be completed in time for our next Higher Learning Commission visit.

Glenn: Yes, we need to get this done.

[additional comments: Bradley, BrattonG, Burley]

Bradley: Much appreciation to Dr. Glenn for a lot of very hard work.

Burley: Echoes Bradley's' comment of appreciation to Dr. Glenn.

VI. President's Report

The Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC) report draft goes to the Board of Trustees a week from tomorrow, and a link will be sent of all Senate members.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

President Burley: No report.

B. Committee on Committees

WilsonJ: No report.

C. Academic Affairs

Castner Post: No report.

D. Faculty Affairs I

Fletcher: No report.

E. Faculty Affairs II

Ray: No report.

VIII. Announcements and Concerns

A. Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 3 at 11:00 [2011-2012 Senate]

B. Other Announcements and Concerns

President Burley: Acknowledges and thanks all the Senators whose terms end with today's meeting.

President Meadors: At present, we have 288 security cameras, and we will continue to add more.

Isom: Comments on experiment with using a small points incentive to encourage students to complete online instructor evaluations. This experiment was successful with both freshmen and upper level students.

Runge: Has the Fringe Benefits Committee looked at the issue of social security benefits for part time faculty?

WilsonJ: Will speak with UCA's Associate Vice President for Human Resources, Graham Gillis, about this.

Runge: Could we hold elections for the part time faculty Faculty Senator earlier in the year?

[additional comments: Burley, WilsonJ, Runge]

Poole: Can we review the voting procedures for the Faculty Senate elections that are held within the colleges?

WilsonJ: Yes.

[additional comments: WilsonJ, Poole]

BrattonG: We are discussing topics that are really not appropriate to the business of the 2010-2011 Senate. Perhaps these discussions should be placed on hold until the 2011-2012 Senate meets on May 3rd?

President Burley: Good point. Motion to adjourn?

IX. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn: Isom, 2nd Ray.

MOTION approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 P.M.