

UCA Faculty Senate Minutes of Thursday, October 22, 2009, 12:45 P.M., Wingo Hall 315

President Parrack called the meeting to order at 12:45 P.M.

Members Present

- Business Administration: Bartczak, Bell, (Moore: Absent Advised).
- Education: (Albritton: Absent Advised), Copeland, Hebert.
- Fine Arts And Communication: Burley, Castner-Post, (Rospert: Absent Advised).
- Health And Behavioral Sciences: (Fletcher; Absent), (McCullough: Advised Absent), Poole.
- Liberal Arts: Parrack, Spivey, Castro.
- Natural Sciences And Mathematics: Bratton G, (Isom: Absent), Seifert.
- At-Large Senators: (Acre: Absent Advised), Bratton D, (Jones: Absent Advised), Lichtenstein, (Ray: Advised Absent), Schaefer.
- Senator For Part-Time Faculty: Runge N.
- Office Of The Provost: Provost Grahn.

I. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2009 (attached pdf: senminutes101309)

MOTION: Copeland, 2nd Hebert; APPROVED unanimous

II. President's Report

A. Correspondence and Updates

1. Academic Integrity Workgroup

President Parrack: The Academic Integrity Workgroup is working diligently; document to be distributed for feedback before next Faculty Senate meeting and placed on agenda for that meeting.

B. Report on Capital Campaign—Shelley Mehl

Mehl: Explanation of the organization and activity of the UCA Office of Institutional Advancement and Development. Includes development, alumni services, publications, and special events. Additional detail available at <<http://www.uca.edu/development/>>
Presented a report on the UCA Centennial Campaign. Began July 2004. Ended December 2009. President Meador's goal is to raise, by 2019, \$12,000,000 per year. UCA needs to get the word out to our alumni and friends that we are past our troubles and back on the right track. Most of the new Foundation funds that have been created are intended to support UCA's academic side. Distributed examples of Development Office publications, fliers, brochures, etc. General question and answer discussion ensued. Gifts may designated for particular purposes and can be set up so that the original intent of the gift may not be changed. Distributed list of UCA Foundation fund accounts.

Hebert: What determines which new funds are created?

Mehl: This is driven by the wishes of the donors who contributed the money to set up the fund.

Mehl: Working to make online giving less cumbersome.

Copeland: Were endowed scholarships included on the distributed list of funds?

Mehl: Yes.

Copeland: Perhaps set up a virtual community of online giving.

Mehl: Excellent idea and will pursue.

III. Committee Reports.

A. Executive Committee

President Parrack: The Executive Committee met with Provost Grahn on Tuesday 10/20/09. State mandated budget cut this fiscal year for UCA is approximately \$1,160,000.

Provost Grahn: Still determining exactly what this will mean for Academic Affairs Division. Academic Affairs represents the largest portion of the UCA budget. Whatever budget adjustments are made for this fiscal year will help us prepare for what will become base budget reductions in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The Arkansas State Code requires that any mid-course budget adjustments in one fiscal year become part of the base budget for the following fiscal year. Also, we should be prepared for a possible second round of fiscal year 2009-2010 budget cuts in January or February 2010.

President Parrack: Met recently with UCA's Interim Vice President of Finance, Dr. Alan Russell, in preparation for the upcoming Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

Provost Grahn: We did a good job in fiscal year 2008-2009 with regard to our budget problems. Had we not imposed that level of fiscal responsibility on UCA, we would be in a much more difficult situation now. So far, this fiscal year, we have not had to draw on our credit line.

B. Committee on Committees

Burley: With minor exceptions, all committee positions have been filled.

C. Academic Affairs

Schaefer: In process of calling a meeting.

D. Faculty Affairs I

Bratton G.: No report.

E. Faculty Affairs II

President Parrack [for Ray]: No report.

IV. Announcements and Concerns

A. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 12:45 pm
(Faculty Senate meetings typically take place on the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month during the academic year, except during vacation periods and finals week.)

B. Other Announcements and concerns

Copeland: Appreciation from College of Education for the improvements made with regard to traffic dangers on Farris Road.

Burley: A stoplight is going in at Donaghey Avenue and Robbins Street.

Schaefer: [Concern from constituent]

"A recent decision by the Administration concerning the future of the Honors College should raise concern among all faculty regarding the impact that this decision will carry not just for Honors but also for other academic programs on campus.

Briefly, as I understand it, the decision was made to limit the number of scholarships available to Honors to fifty-two per entering class. Since by the nature of things, Honors students when admitted virtually all qualify for scholarship, this decision has the effect of cutting the entering class, as it existed under previous policy, by almost fifty percent. The Administration had already cut the entering class by one-third before this action.

I have already heard expressions of concern over this policy from non-academic professionals in Little Rock whose high school children were considering coming to UCA for its Honors College. Believe me when I say that the word is already out in Little Rock.

There are clear justifications for concern by the University regarding scholarship policy and the percentage of budget spent on scholarships. There is no need to review that background. The consequences for academic majors need careful consideration, however, since every single Honors student majors with some academic department on campus.

The Faculty Senate worked long and hard to develop a resolution of appointment, promotion and tenure issues in Honors. The Faculty Senate should be proud of that work. We worked so long and hard because the faculty clearly valued the contributions that Honors makes to the quality of campus life.

There follow some statements that I believe to be true. I called and quizzed Director Scott regarding these items. Director Scott did not call me.

Item: Honors students comprise four percent of the UCA student body. In non-religious student organizations, Honors students comprise two-thirds of the leadership.

Item: The Honors program has produced over one thousand senior theses during its existence.

Item: Eighty percent of Honors students in a recent survey state that they chose to come to UCA because of the Honors program. Of those eighty percent, two-thirds say that their intent otherwise was to go out-of-state.

Item: All or virtually all of national post-graduate awards (from Rhodes down) have been won by Honors students.

Item: Not only undergraduate research but unique programs of social justice and civic engagement and of international travel-study have been a hallmark of Honors' history.

Item: Certain academic departments derive substantial numbers of their majors from Honors students.

To lose substantial numbers of Honors enrollment, as the present policy envisages, will be to lose substantial amounts of the above-listed benefits to the University.

The faculty have not had an opportunity for meaningful engagement in the scholarship discussion. Scholarship policy is clearly an element of shared governance. An independent review of scholarship policy, beyond what the existing Scholarship Committee has been able to provide, is needed. I urge the Faculty Senate to engage the Administration regarding the nature of its scholarship decisions and to undertake a comprehensive review of scholarship policy at UCA.

Thank you very much."

Bratton G: Aren't Honors College scholarships being cut at the same rate as other scholarships across campus?

Schaefer: The concern is more about the way in which the decision [to make the cuts "across the board"] was made.

V. Adjournment

MOTION to Adjourn: Copeland, 2nd Bell. APPROVED unanimous; 1:45 P.M.