

AGENDA
UCA Faculty Senate
C
Thursday, April 24, 2008
Wingo 315, 12:45 p.m.

- I. Approval of minutes from April 8, 2008 (attachment 1)
- II. Guest: Dr. Brad Teague, UCA Athletic Director
- III. President's report
 - A. Election results
 - B. Handbook Committee
 - C. Correspondence
- IV. Committee reports
 - A. Executive Committee
 - 1. Report: Meeting with President Hardin
 - 2. Report: Accomplishments this session
 - B. Committee on Committees
 - 1. Nominations: Based on recommendations from the Provost, the CoC nominates Pamela Ashcroft (HBS) and Kurt Boniecki (HBS) for two at-large positions on the Institutional Review Board.
 - 2. Reminder: Complete service surveys
- V. Announcements and Concerns
 - A. Next meeting: Tuesday, April 29, 2008 (11:00 am)
 - B. Faculty concerns and announcements
 - C. Other
- VI. Adjournment

Attachment 1: Minutes from April 8, 2008

UCA Faculty Senate
Tuesday, April 8, 2008
Wingo 315, 12:45 p.m.

President Powers called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. Present were Powers, Boniecki, Johnson, Parrack, Wilmes, Wiedmaier, Holden, Rospert, McCullough, Craig, Seifert, Christman, Lichtenstein, Jones, Ray, Schaefer, Runge, Interim Provost Atkinson. Advised Absence: Bell, Bradley, Hebert, Young, Lance, Castro, Mehta.

I. Approval of minutes from March 11, 2008. Senator Schaefer moved approval of the minutes with second by Senator Ray. Motion passed approving the minutes.

II. President's report

A. Provost search update. The search committee is bringing individuals from a "short list" to the campus during the current week for brief acquaintance visits. From those names the committee will select a list of finalists for a lengthier visit to campus. On the second visit, there will be an opportunity to meet the finalists; there will be an open meeting with the faculty. Summaries of the candidates with vitae will be available on a web location soon to be announced. The pool has improved considerably from the last report to the senate.

B. Faculty Senator at-Large Election Results. Art Lichtenstein and Cathy Acre were elected during the at-large election cycle. Cathy Acre won a run-off election. The turnout for the initial vote was good.

C. College Faculty Senator Elections. President Powers pointed out that because of the unusual Spring semester schedule, we would be in violation of by-laws to hold college elections April 18, the earliest that they can be done. Senator Parrack moved with second by Senator Ray to suspend the rules to enable a one-time suspension of the by-laws for later college senator elections than normally contemplated by the by-laws. Motion to suspend the rules passed. Then Senator Parrack moved with second by Senator Boniecki to enact a one-time suspension of the bylaws to enable the vote to occur on Friday, April 18, with absentee balloting the two previous days, April 16 and 17. Balloting will occur in college locations in accordance with past practice. Continuing college senators are designated the election officials and are responsible for organizing, publicizing, and supervising the college election in their respective colleges. College senators are also responsible for conducting a second but simultaneous election to elect a college representative (one from each college) to the Honors discussion panel. Motion passed.

D. Correspondence. Conversations with Registrar Tony Sitz are continuing concerning how distance education credits will work. President Powers will have a report on this discussion at the next senate meeting.

III. Committee reports

A. Executive Committee. The committee is still pushing for dedicated funding and a salary-pool-driven formula for faculty development. After discussion with President Hardin the discussion will now move to Vice President McLendon and to Executive Vice President Barbara Anderson, to determine available budget.

B. Committee on Committees: Vice-president Boniecki has sent notices to deans' offices notifying each college of prospective vacancies in slots on various university committees, for which where colleges are responsible to hold elections to fill their respective slots. These elections have traditionally been held at the beginning of an academic year; the Committee on Committees is encouraging colleges to hold the elections before the end of the current academic year, in order that university committees will be able to consider University business from the outset of the next academic year, rather than having to wait many weeks to begin business, while elections are conducted.

C. Academic Affairs: Academic progress of athletes. There is still no progress on obtaining reports of what ought to be readily available data.

D. Faculty Affairs I: No report.

E. Faculty Affairs II: Investigation regarding payroll technicalities. The committee distributed an informative calendar with information on payroll dates and the characteristics of particular payrolls—for example, on mid-summer payrolls, how many days would be included from the first summer term and how many days from the second summer term. Of particular note is the fact that on August 29 payday, the check will be for only one-half month (technically, 1/18 of contract salary). This calendar, after one last check with HR, will be sent to the faculty as a service of the Faculty Senate. The committee noted that this calendar applies only to "nine-month faculty" except that summer is also included for those with summer teaching contracts; there are 24 contract days in Summer I and 25 contract days in Summer II 2008.

IV. Announcements and Concerns

A. The next meeting of the senate is 12:15 p.m., Thursday, April 24, 2008. The organizational meeting of the "new Faculty Senate" will have to be in April due to the very early occurrence of final exam week this year. The apparent date is 11:00 – 1:00, Tuesday, April 29 (the 12:15 – 1:30 TTh exam period). Senator Craig moved to suspend the by-laws to call this special meeting of the Faculty Senate earlier than the

May date contemplated in the by-laws, with second by Senator Seifert. Motion to suspend the by-laws and call the special meeting passed.

B. Senator Craig will be going part-time the next academic year, and so there will need to be a special election to fill that vacancy from the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences (two years remaining). The election will be held simultaneously with the election for the normal rotational vacancy. College senators are responsible for notifying the HBS faculty and conducting the election in tandem with the other two elections (see above).

C. Senator Christman: Where are the records kept regarding the record of advancement of Lecturer appointments? HR does not have those records. [Provost: the records are kept in the Office of the Provost.] Because the issue is one of a conflict between equity and advancement monies for Lecturer appointments, the Provost noted that concerns regarding any conflict of equity with advancement monies will be responded to by the Provost, if a concern is submitted to the Office of the Provost.

D. Senator Runge: Has there been any response from HR on social security options for part-time faculty? [President Powers: for both this issue and the issue of parking permits, HR is looking at it and a response will be forthcoming from HR. Good luck.]

V. Adjournment

Motion by Senator Christman with second by Senator Ray to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 1:30 p.m.

Attachment 2: Faculty Handbook Issues

Item 1: Correction of typo regarding time of service

In Chapter Three, II, D, 3. Procedures for Advancement (p.12) the Faculty Handbook reads,

“During the fourth year of continuous service, a lecturer/clinical instructor/laboratory instructor I is eligible to be considered for advancement to level II status provided programmatic needs justify continuation of the position.”

In the text above “fourth” should instead read “sixth” to be consistent with the description of the position in section D, 2 (p.12).

The time in service requirement was changed in prior edits of the Faculty Handbook however, this section was overlooked.

Item 2: Action concerning the question of early consideration for promotion (tenure)

From the Faculty Senate minutes of January 24, 2008:

Senator Mehta delivered the following statement to the Faculty Senate, conveying concerns of several NSM faculty members:
“I believe several faculty, including myself, would like to see the Faculty Handbook changed to allow early consideration for promotion (maybe tenure). Any thoughts?” [from a concerned faculty member]

The request for review of Faculty Handbook language concerning “time in rank” for eligibility for tenure and promotion was referred to the Faculty Handbook Committee.

The Faculty Handbook states in Chapter 3, VII, D (p.19):

To be eligible for promotion to assistant professor, a faculty member shall have been an instructor for at least one year. For promotion to associate professor, a faculty member ordinarily will have been an assistant professor for at least six years, including any years' credit toward promotion granted with the initial appointment. For promotion to professor, a faculty member will have been an associate professor for at least six years. Years in rank shall mean

The Faculty Handbook committee discussed the matter at length. Ultimately, the committee decided to recommend no change in current language for the following reasons:

1. Current language in the handbook does permit credit at time of initial appointment for accomplishments elsewhere (p.19).
2. A shorter period of service does not allow adequate time for appraisal of ability to work in a departmental and collegial setting (p.16).

3. A shorter period of service does not allow adequate time for appraisal of teaching and counseling students as stated in the descriptions of faculty ranks (p. 16).
4. A shorter period of service does not allow adequate time for appraisal of university service (p. 19).

All page numbers refer to the November 2007 approved version of the Faculty Handbook.