

Faculty Senate Meeting  
Tuesday, February 17, 2009  
3:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M., Lee Hall Auditorium  
Dr. Maurice Holder, Faculty Senate President, Presiding

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Faculty Senators present at the meeting were as follows:

Officers (Present)

Dr. Maurice Holder, President  
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Vice President  
Mrs. Jeneice Smith, Secretary  
Dr. James Muchovej, Parliamentarian

Senators (Present)

Mrs. Ernestine Holmes	Dr. Bidhan Saha
Dr. Raymond Hix	Dr. Narayan Persaud
Dr. Joseph Johnson	Dr. Mary Diallo
Dr. Ngozi Ugochukwu	Dr. Kandy Woods
Dr. Gwendolyn Singleton	Dr. Arthur Washington
Dr. Edward Jones	Dr. Kinfe Redda
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud	Dr. Roscoe Hightower
Dr. Charles Magee	Dr. Velma Roberts
Dr. Larry Wright	Dr. Lekan Latinwo
Dr. Elizabeth Davenport	Dr. Ebenezer Oriaku
Professor Beth Lewis	Dr. Deidra Powell
Dr. Marcia Owens	Dr. Ashvini Chauhan
Dr. Frances Stallworth	Dr. Maurice Edington
Dr. Kyle Eidahl	Dr. David Jackson
Dr. Rufus Ellis	Dr. Charles Ervin
Professor Rhoda Cato	Dr. Renee Reams
Dr. Angela Thornton	Mr. Sylvester Peck
Professor Thomas Pugh	Dr. Matthew Powers
Dr. Hudson Nwakanma	Dr. Clyde Ashley
Ms. Linda Williams	Dr. LaRae Donnellan
Dr. Michael Abrams	Dr. Janet Marshall

Ex-Officio (Voting) (Present)

Dr. Donald Palm  
Dr. Lauren Sapp  
Mr. Roland Gaines  
Dr. Uche Ohia

Senators (Excused)

Mrs. Almeta Washington

## **I. Call to Order**

The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order at 3:15 by the President of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Maurice Holder

Dr. Joseph Johnson asked to make a few remarks before Dr. Holder's opening remarks. Dr. Johnson asked about his invitation to the Budget meetings? His point was about having faculty representation at the meetings.

The Provost asked if Dr. Johnson was referring the Budget Policies and Procedures meeting and if so, then yes, he should have been informed of the meeting time.

## **II. Opening Remarks**

Faculty Senate President Dr. Holder greeted the members of the senate and said that it was a great joy to see so many out to this meeting. He asked everyone to please stay so that we would be able to vote on a few issues.

Next, Dr. Holder presented changes in the SBI unit. He announced that Dr. Clyde Ashley had been added as a new senator.

## **III. Approval of February 17, 2009 meeting Agenda**

Dr. Holder asked for approval of the February 17, 2009 meeting agenda. It was motioned and seconded that the February 17, 2009 meeting agenda be approved. Motion carried.

## **IV. Approval of December and January minutes**

Next, Dr. Holder asked for approval of the December 15, 2008 minutes. It was motioned and properly seconded that the December 15, 2008 minutes be approved with the necessary corrections. With no corrections noted, the minutes were approved.

Dr. Holder then asked for approval of the January 22, 2009 minutes with the corrections as stated by Dr. Diallo. It was motioned and properly seconded that the January 22, 2009 minutes be approved with the necessary corrections. Corrections stated by Dr. Diallo were on the spelling of Gilman and Spelman in the January minutes. With these corrections noted, the minutes were approved.

## **V. Leadership Remarks**

Provost Cynthia Hughes Harris presented the Leadership remarks in the absence of Dr. Ammons.

The Provost stated that she was on the agenda to also make introductions, so she would do it all while she was up front.

Dr. Hughes Harris began her comments by stating that our spring commencement would be held on May 3, 2009 and that it would be held in the New Teaching Gym which is scheduled to open sometime in March. She announced that all graduations, henceforth, will be held in the New Teaching Gym. The gym will be available for rental, community use, as well as athlete events.

This year there will be three sessions for commencement: 9:00 am, 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The 9:00 am time slot is reserved for Architecture, Arts & Sciences, Law and Environmental Science; 2:00 pm is reserved for Pharmacy, Engineering Allied Health and Nursing. 6:00 pm is for SBI, CESTA, Education, and Journalism and Graphic Communications.

## **VI. Introductions**

The Provost announced three recent appointments and asked the faculty members to come forward and give a brief statement.

- Dr. Phyllis Watson was introduced as the Director of Continuing Education. She stated that Continuing Education is a growing non-credit program. She also said that she will need your ideas. A flyer will be sent out on what Continuing Education is doing. Dr. Watson's final comment was that the program will be expanding.
- Dr. Bill Hudson, Jr. was introduced as the Director of Retention. He said that his focus is looking at progression toward graduation. We will be coming around to all departments to talk with you. He gave his email address: [william.hudson@famuedu.edu](mailto:william.hudson@famuedu.edu).
- Ms. Fran Fitz was introduced as the Director of Instructional Technology. Ms. Fitz stated that Distance Learning is an initiative that is worldwide. The Infrastructure is in place and we are already at work offering online programs.

Dr. Hughes Harris commented that we are talking about the growth of our University and this will be addressed by retention, growth and technology. Before the question and answer session, the Provost reminded us of two huge events: 1) The American Bar Association (ABA) Law School visit is scheduled for July 2009 and 2) The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Team will be on campus March 9-12, 2009.

Our first question for the Provost came from Dr. Joseph Johnson:

Dr. Johnson stated that he was shocked and saddened that commencement had become compartmentalized. He questioned if there was any input on ways to proceed concerning graduation?

The Provost responded by telling us that the President said we are leaving the Civic Center. Dr. Holder stated that there is a President's Commencement committee with faculty representation on it.

Dr. Johnson's response was that he feels that it is a bad idea for us to have more than one graduation ceremony.

Dr. Johnson's next question was prefaced with "given the financial state of the University, the security of faculty income, the anxiety, the daily rumors as to what will happen," do you have any information at all on the relevance of the current situation in Florida?

The Provost responded by stating that the BOT met last week and a thorough review of the budget was given. We are to prepare for another 10%, then, a 12-15% cut. President Ammons has asked the leadership team to look at arenas where we can cut the budget. We have escaped layoffs and we continue to have the same goals. We continue to teach our student, and carry out our mission.

The Provost also stated that she would be meeting with the Deans on Thursday. Each unit will be asked to look at a 10% cut and what that might be. Recommendations go back to Academic Affairs. The 17.5 million was a result of Teresa Hardee's report at the board meeting last week. This was a proposal, it is not real yet. The BOT did not have to approve anything yet.

Dr. Holder's position on this is that we need to look at other avenues than those presented last week.

Dr. Nguama, from SBI, stated that SACS is during spring break. His question was "how does this affect the site visit?"

Dr. Hughes-Harris said that this was set up 3 years ago. Dr. Silverman checked his calendar to see when we were scheduled and this is the time. There will be students, faculty and deans here.

Dr. Ashley asked Dr. Davenport to join him as he commented on UFF input into the budgetary process. He stated that the FAMUUFF must be included in the process, not only UFF but all other unions as well.

The Provost's response was that collective bargaining has been remembered at these meetings.

Dr. Donnellan asked if there is a plan for faculty to be somewhere at a certain time during the SACS visit.

In response, Dr. Friday-Stroud stated that she would be happy to come to faculty meetings to bring faculty up to speed on what you should know. We know that March 11<sup>th</sup> is set aside for QEP. A schedule will be given, you will be notified or you may contact Jacquelyn Hightower at extension 8319. Also, a mock SACS visit will be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

## VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Report on Research Award - Dr. Holder reported that three years ago this was turned down. At the last meeting, Dr. Redda stated that the proposal was completed. Since then a question has been raised that states that any award that has to do with salaries has to be included in bargaining. This is a legal decision, so we will have to place the research awards proposal on hold until the bargaining is completed.
- B. Report on Book Project - Dr. Angela Thornton reported that 24 articles have been submitted. The editorial board consisting of Dr. C. U. Smith, Dr. Holder and Dr. Thornton, will meet in March. They will report again in April to the Faculty Senate. The editorial board is waiting on articles from Environmental Science, the Library and others.
- C. Travel Awards - (Final report) Dr. Holder stated that Dr. Rosco Hightower presented the Travel Awards document at the last meeting and it was ready to be voted on. At that meeting, however, Dr. Sapp pointed out that we needed to change the language in the document to include Faculty Librarians. Dr. Hightower is having the corrected document printed now and will return to present it here today.
- D. Benevolent/Condolence Committee - Dr. Deidre Powell stated that she was excited about chairing this committee. The committee members are Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Dr. Barbara Thompson. They have had two meetings, one on January 28<sup>th</sup> and one on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The purpose: to discuss how the University should acknowledge sickness and death of employees and to design a plan to recognize all. No one employee will be favored over others. All will be treated equally. They planned to contact other colleges and universities to find out how they handled this and to collect data from the different units on campus to see how each unit handles sickness and bereavement. A list of contact persons for each unit will also be established. A questionnaire was given out on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to be returned by February 10<sup>th</sup>. At the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting randomly selected universities were called to see what they are doing in this area. Places as far away as the University of Hawaii and the Virgin Islands were contacted. What the committee found out is that smaller colleges seemed to be more caring in this matter. Larger schools left it up to each unit. A money list was read from one college,

designating amounts presented. FSU and UF did not have a policy. BCC said that they sent a resolution and a university representative reads it at the service. Other scenarios were given. Dr. Powell was most impressed with the response from Texas. Each year the Texas Aggies come together for a memorial of fallen Aggies. The task for the committee include:

- Keep the committee together for 2 years
- Prepare a floor chart on how to handle each situation
- Plan for the last Thursday of each academic year with the 1<sup>st</sup> in the 2009-2010 academic year
- More time to accumulate information and analyze data
- Submit to all university contact information
- Time to determine how Lee Hall is used

This concluded the report from the Benevolent and Condolence Committee. At this point Dr. Ashley made a few comments and concluded by volunteering to serve on this committee. Another question raised was if the committee plans to compile the information presented in an article to let others know what is going on.

Dr. Powell asked that the committee be given time to get strong and then perhaps an article will be written. Next, Dr. Holder announced that Dr. Hightower has returned with printed copies of the Faculty Senate Travel Grant Program and that we are ready for a motion to approve. After a point of order was made, Dr. Holder stated that the chair would now accept a motion to approve the Faculty Senate Travel document. It was motioned and properly seconded that we approve the Faculty Senate Travel document. Dr. Holder asked if there was any discussion.

Referring to #10 under General Guideline in the document, Dr. Donnellan asked why all schools and colleges are being treated equally. She mentioned Arts & Science, for instance. Dr. Donnellan stated that some schools many have only 4 faculty members. Dr. Holder said that we want to be equal in presenting the awards.

A follow-up comment was made suggesting that the document should state that. We should make it formal by adding a #11 to the guidelines stating what we will do when there is extra money, or maybe change #10 to say that all \$18,000.00 will be allotted. President Holder again call for a motion to accept the Travel Awards document with the correction to #10 stating that "All units will receive 1,000.00 per unit and when a unit is not represented, then , the dollars will be used to support other applications even though a unit may have already received one award. The motion was approved.

Beth Lewis raised a question concerning the deadline for Fall being October 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Donnellan asked how will people know about the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Dr. Hightower directed everyone to look at the outline on page 6. He stated that if this is approved, we will follow this outline. Ms. Lewis offered a friendly amendment to change the

application deadline to April 10<sup>th</sup> for the award to travel through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The guidelines as printed will begin in the fall. It was so moved and properly seconded. The motion as amended passed.

Another question concerning funding was raised and the Provost stated that funds encumbered during this fiscal year have to be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Lewis offered another friendly amendment for clarification which states that the application deadline for Fall is April 10<sup>th</sup>. This is for a different applicant pool. Applicants must specify which semester they will be traveling.

**To summarize the motion and the amendments:**

It was motioned and seconded to accept the travel award proposal with necessary corrections.

**Friendly amendment #1:**

Amend # 10 to state all units will receive 1,000.00 per unit and when a unit is not represented, then, the dollars will be used to support other applications even though a unit may have already received one award.

**Amendment # 2**

Amend to change the application deadline to April 10<sup>th</sup> for the award to travel through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The guidelines as printed will begin in the fall.

**Amendment # 3**

Amend to state that the application deadline for fall is April 10<sup>th</sup>. This is for a different applicant pool. Applicants must specify which semester they will be traveling.

The motion to approve the Faculty Senate Travel Award document carried.

- E. Establishment of a subcommittee for the Professor Emeritus Awards- Dr. Maurice Holder announced that Dr. Donnellan and Dr. Thornton had been added to the subcommittee for the Professor Emeritus Awards. Dr. Hinds has three applications.
- F. Library Committee – Dr. Ruth Swan thanked the steering committee for putting the Library Committee on the agenda. A report to the faculty senate handout was presented. The committee’s objectives were highlighted by Dr. Swan. A summary of the committee’s activities was presented, as were the committee’s recommendation. Dr. Swan concluded the report from the library committee and stated that Dr. Sapp would make final remarks.

Dr. Holder asked the Faculty Senate to accept the report from the University Library Committee. It was so moved and seconded. In discussion, Dr. Johnson questioned the membership on the Library committee and encouraged a broader coverage on this committee. Dr. Swan said that she would let Dr. Sapp respond during her remarks. The

motion to accept the report from the University Library carried. Dr. Holder asked Dr. Sapp to come forward to make remarks.

Dr. Sapp first responded to Dr. Johnson's question by stating that faculty members have other ways to work with the library other than serving on the University Library Committee. In reference to the recommendation presented by the Library Committee, that the library resources budget should be held harmless, Dr. Sapp asked the faculty senate to send a resolution to the Leadership Team to "Hold to Library resources budget harmless and to award for inflation." The chair called for a motion on this request. It was motioned and properly seconded for the faculty senate to send a resolution to the Leadership Team to hold to Library resources budget harmless and to award for inflation. The motion carried. Next, Dr. Sapp commented on salaries and an equity study. It was decided that Dr. Friday-Shroud would take this to the Leadership Team's next meeting. The next three items Dr. Sapp mentioned have to do with external contracts. She stated that other units, as well as the library, are interested in negotiating for copy and printing services. The need for vending machine services where student can buy school supplies not just snacks has been expressed and is deemed highly necessary. Finally, negotiation is needed to address the profits from the Jazzman Café. Currently, the profits are not returned to the library as requested by SGA at the time of installation. Failing this, Auxiliary Services should lease the square footage used in the library. With this, Dr. Sapp ended her remarks.

## **VIII. New Business**

**A. Core Curriculum Concerns** – Dr. Holder stated that going back over the records, 1990 was the last time we looked at the Core Curriculum. It has been brought to the attention of the Provost and the President, that it is time to look at this.

**B. March on the Capitol** – Dr. Elizabeth Davenport announced that her EDA 7232 class is doing a Fate of the State project. FAMU, FSU and TCC will all be involved. March 3<sup>rd</sup> has been set aside to march on the capital to focus attention on the financial crisis of the state. A powerpoint will be sent to everyone. Dr. Davenport expressed her hope that the faculty would get the students involved in this.

**C. Elections**-Dr. James Muchovej stated that at the next Faculty Senate meeting in March, the senate will hold elections for President, Vice-President and Secretary of the Faculty Senate. The elections will be conducted by secret ballots and tallied.

**D. By-Laws Review**- Dr. James Muchovej said that we need to look at the By- Laws. It is time for the By- Laws to be review and items need to be placed in appropriate documents.



**IX. Announcements**

Dr. Holder announced that the next steering committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2009 at 12:00 noon in the Provost's conference room.

Beth Lewis asked if the minutes and handouts could be sent out electronically or printed on both sides of a sheet of paper to save paper.

Dr. Ohia announced that MAPP testing will be done on February 24<sup>th</sup> and February 26<sup>th</sup>. She asked for the cooperation of the faculty in releasing seniors from class to participate in the testing.

**X. Adjournment**

This being all, the February 17, 2009 meeting of the Faculty Senate was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Jeneice W. Smith  
Faculty Senate Secretary

Mrs. Rebecca Bruce  
Office Manager