
FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE MEETING

**March 12, 2020
12:50 P.M. BAB 103**

Present: Laird Burns, Monica Dillihunt, Jeff Weimer, Mike Banish, Tim Newman, Carmen Scholz, Seyed Sadeghi, Carolyn Sanders

Ex-Officio: Provost Christine Curtis

Guest: President Darren Dawson, Eric Mendenhall, Ron Schwertfeger

- **Faculty Senate President Laird Burns called the meeting to order at 12:51 pm.**
- **Meeting Review:**
 - **Bill 448 passed first reading.**
 - **Bill 449 passed first reading.**
 - **Bill 446 passed first reading.**
 - **Bill 450 passed to be sent back to committee.**
- **Administrative Reports**
 - President Darren Dawson
 - Morton Hall is still on target. Shelby Center is completely on hold. This is halted until we figure out the drainage system that will be best. Spragins Hall exterior is mainly done, but we are going to do something different on the front. We are going to go to the board with Greenway 3B in April for first preliminary and the IT as well. We are still contemplating with what we will do in Roberts Hall.
 - Laird – Can we have a tour of Morton?
 - President – Yes, that is a great idea. The backend of April will be best.
 - VP Advancement are schedule in April for interviews. VP for Research and Economic ad has been placed. Director of Athletics offer has been extended, pending review.
 - The Provost will send out an email today that will move us to online instruction starting Monday. UAB and UA are going to spring break next week, then remote delivery the following week. To follow the same order of the other campuses, we will start online courses, remote delivery, Monday. We will do a soft shutdown of auxiliaries. The idea is to transition the students out of the dorms by the end of the next week. Some students can't leave or don't want to leave. Students that stay will have the option for take-out or delivery through CTC. This will probably continue through the rest of this semester. The questions will be endless and special cases. We will have to work together.
 - Laird – What are we doing with faculty on campus? Can we use our offices?
 - President – Yes. We are not shutting down. SSB, IT, Administration, Bursars Office will all be here. It will be case by case on who can work from home.
 - Laird – On the front of the UAH page, could we have a link that would guide us on Q&A's?

- President – Yes, we will get a stripe.
- Carolyn – I am wondering if there are confirmed cases in Huntsville.
- President – We haven't heard.
- Carolyn – We have students slated to do recitals and graduating.
- Provost - You may only can let immediate family in. You have to minimize the number of people.
- Mike – Do we have enough bandwidth to go online as a campus? Have you checked with Russ?
- Provost – I believe we do. They think we do.
- President – We won't know until we do it. The bigger challenge for larger programs is Capstone and Labs. You are going to have to come up with some innovative ways.
- Monica – Have we heard about school systems?
- Provost – I have asked Ray Garner to check with city schools. You are going to have to figure out something you can substitute for it.
- Carolyn – We appreciate the flexibility that you are giving us.
- Carmen – My computer sorted Zoom to spam today. A colleague asked me about it. The colleague brought me a document stating that Zoom is a program used for spying.
- Tim – If anyone is concerned about spying, you should cover cameras.
- Seyed – There are some undergraduate student that work in my lab?
- President – You can't force them. If they choose to leave, they can go.
- Seyed – If they want to come, they can stay.
- Laird – We just need lots of hand sanitizer.
- President- We will start cancelling a lot of things today.
- Carmen – Commencement?
- President – Probably. We won't have one if Alabama isn't having one. If I predict, we will cancel. We will make a decision early. Our next board meeting will be remote.
- Monica – Are we doing anything to clean the building?
- President – Yes, they have the three standard cleaners.
- Tim – Can we make certain they are following through? There are several things being missed. One bathroom in our building was out of soap for one day.
- President – Facilities are under staffed here.
- Jeff – We are avoiding ways of large group's gatherings. Can we hold meetings within office hours? What about final exams? Do you have any recommendations?
- Provost – We are going to develop those recommendations and they will be sent out. We have Respondus on lockdown.
- Monica – Yes, I use that with my athletes. It works well.
- Jeff – I assume there will be an excess number of questions to IT.
- Provost – We have the ETL group that will be ready to respond to these questions. We have 24/7 with Pinopto and Canvas.

- Jeff- I recommend that we set up a Canvas group available to faculty that will allow us to do discussion forms so faculty can help faculty. I would like to see Canvas utilized that way.
- Monica – Nursing apparently has all the guidelines and rules on how to download on their website. That is where my students go to download LockDown browser.
- Jeff- I would really like to see a Canvas online chat.
- Carmen – You cannot watch individuals take exams with classes of 200. We need another measure emplaced.
- Laird – When you do this, you need to build a practice exam with every question you might have. Do the practice test every way you would need to. I give them a small grade for doing this test. Lockdown browser, we don't have a monitoring system, we are the monitors. It will do some auditing.
- Tim – Can we delay faculty reports one or two weeks?
- Provost – Sure.
- Mike – Could Faculty 180 be delayed a couple of weeks or month?
- Provost - What day? April 15th?
- Mike – What if we go out until the end of the term?
- Jeff –Especially having to address final exams for this semester,
- Provost – You all are willing to not
- Mike – I would like to make a motion due to COVID-19 that the faculty senate executive committee is voting to delay the required dates for faculty activity reports until May 1st.
- Laird – We will have to add this to the agenda for full senate.
- Eric – Will this affect letters?
- Provost – Yes.
- Ron – Could we vote for a month extension on all dates?
- Provost – We could.
- Tim – There are a lot of people that have invested a lot of time in Faculty 180. They need a process to state what is good or bad about it.
- Jeff- The amendment was to move all deadlines one month. I second friendly amendment.
- Laird – All in favor. Ayes carry. Also, added to agenda for full senate.
- Tim – I guess the legislature has started session again.
- President – Yes, we think a 6.12% increase. We think our Redstone Retention line will pass. The Governor and pass Senate is proposing a bond for higher ED, \$1.2B. We will get a credit for \$13M worth of facility work. It can be a lot of things but facility oriented. It all has to be approved by the board.
- Provost Christine Curtis
 - Outcomes-Based Funding – At this point, I am giving you information that we have. The metrics that are going to be recommended to the legislature for the initial use of the funding is bachelors, Master's, Ed Specialist, Doctorate, and progression benchmarks. The consultant wants 30/60/90. Degrees earned by underrepresented students. If someone puts two or more races, they aren't counted. The federal government lets us make the call if the student doesn't. I

don't know if we will be able to under this. Bachelor's earned by 25 years or older. There were three funding models they started with. The group that met in January voted for two. This gives you the two models that are being discussed. There are ones where we compete against a target we set. If we don't make the target, we lose funding. There is the weighting metric we have to send in by tomorrow. This is still a draft. We don't have anything to compare. Todd Barre and I are working on the weighting. We have more research that compares us to other institutions. This isn't final but we have to turn in something. The conference we had last week said the legislature was thinking of having a pool outside of the base.

- President – That thought they could do it in a base. Then the people started realizing what they could lose. This exercise is important but a lot isn't at risk. There is no such thing as a successful implementation of this in higher education.
- Carmen – In meetings of chairs with chemistry department's years ago, I heard whining then. Who is the driving force and what reason?
- Provost – These consultants have set up a system for these states that have done this. They had a plan for Alabama but they don't want to go above the base.
- Laird – The legislators told me last year that this would happen this year. They are stepping inline and creating a model. They are supporting this.
- Provost - They want us to perform better and graduate our students. They want the investment the state puts in to reap real rewards. They want an educated workforce. They want to depoliticize the funding process.
- Carolyn – Will degree viability still be a part of this?
- Provost – Not of this but it is still part of ACHE.

➤ **Officer/Committee Reports**

- Laird Burns, President
 - March meeting with Provost Curtis, and President-Elect Newman (President Dawson out of town)
 - Subsequent meeting with Provost and VPRED on Chapter 5 – later discussions
 - Chapter 5 – language agreement, to FSEC and FS, too late to make January meeting
 - Chapter 6 – middle ground?
 - Bylaws review – just received, February meeting
 - April meeting – Chancellor St. John
 - VP – Advancement update
 - Links on Faculty Handbook webpage do not work
 - Campus planning committee – meeting on Roberts Hall? Greenway?
 - Budget committee – met
 - Academic Misconduct
 - In SGAs hands
 - Response from Deans – agree with all except Academic Misconduct Monitor
 - Add Research Council reports to University reports on FSEC/FS Agenda

- BETA (Behavioral Evaluation and Treat Assessment) team – activities and understanding
- Add Research Council to University Committees

- Club H resurrected...

When: Thursday, March 19th 5:00-10:00pm (come anytime, stay as long as you can)

Where: Fractal Brewing Project (3200 Leeman Ferry Rd SW, Huntsville, AL 35801)

<https://fractalbrewing.com>

Music: Live music by Ally Free (from 6-8pm)

Food Truck: Hops N Guac (on-site at Fractal)

Charity: Partial proceeds will be donated to the Special Olympics of Alabama

RSVP (optional):

https://form.jotform.com/belayman/RSVP_UAH_ClubH_Spring2020

- Open issues
 - ISR data on faculty positions and rank – awaiting data for 5 years
 - Reclassification of senior lecturer to clinical positions without posting the position not allowed per Faculty Handbook, violation of shared governance
 - COS – imposed metrics schemes without faculty collaboration and voting, not ties to FAR, biased toward some and against others
 - Activating University committees – in progress, need to continue
 - Continue to improve communication between Faculty Senate and Administration

- Mike Banish, Personnel Committee Chair
 - We passed out in Personnel committee Chapter 4. I will suggest that it be delayed. We had several questions about that. Chapter 6 – you can send those out. I have a couple of amendments I am going to pre-report to you. There are two amendments that have been through the committee.
 - Laird – Can you send the current and the markups? Provost, time wise are we okay to reconsider this? I want an effective response.

- Monica Dillihunt, Parliamentarian
 - No report.

- Carmen Scholz, Ombudsperson
 - There is one case before the ombudsperson.

- Ron Schwertfeger (for Lori Lioce), Governance and Operations Committee Chair
 - The bylaws state that we vote on committee chairs next meeting. We may need to send that out so that it can be done quickly with the Chancellor's visit. In the January FSEC meeting, there was a vote to make a change to let standing committees vote on business electronically. This is an example of verbiage. This would say that committees could meet in person but if not, they could meet electronically.
 - Tim – The last sentence shouldn't have parliamentary procedure. Secondly, I am probably the person that will administer this. You will be surprised how many will come to you with objections to the way we do things. The language has to be very clear. There are certain motions that are always in

order. If you are electronic, how does someone interject that motion? There are several motions that could cause issues with this type of voting. You have to have timelines and list what is in order. I just see the future and we will have controversy.

- Laird – I would not consider a blog as a sufficient method. There will have to be a program to allow interjections. Examples may be zoom or skype.
 - Jeff – My thought here is the separation of the voting electronically and the meeting electronically. I think those two things need to be distinctively made. If it is not possible to arrange, that is a big loophole.
 - Ron – We are trying to make sure this is just an exceptional situation.
 - Jeff – I would say that only things can be voted on that has been acknowledged in person.
 - Mike – I think it needs to be spelt out very carefully.
 - Ron – There may be times that the committee may need to meet in a deliberative.
 - Tim – I think balloting is another option. That has been used for decades. When Mike was president the first time, we had a standing rule that would allow us to send out something to committees. If everyone said they didn't want to discuss it, we didn't. You could take a poll to see if anyone wants to meet on the topic.
 - Monica – We will get good practice on this next week.
 - Laird- Next week's meeting we can't vote on anything.
 - Tim – You have to have people in person to vote.
 - Mike – President, I am going to assume the BOT operates by Robert's Rule.
 - President- They have supplementary rules. They are on the webpage.
 - Laird – We need to find this. I am anticipating problems.
 - Tim – According to Robert's Rule, we have to post the change the meeting before it is to be voted on.
 - Jeff- Can we meet in person? Are we allowed to say we will hold in place meeting?
 - President – We aren't closing.
 - Carolyn – Getting quorum will probably not be likely.
 - Laird- Let's figure out a classroom that will allow us to sit 6-7 feet apart away.
 - Jeff – In the interest that we get the faculty meeting together that our only piece of business would be the get a way to meet electronically.
 - Tim – You can, but that wouldn't be final until the next meeting.
 - Eric – Can we have a meeting, adjourn, and then meet again?
 - Tim – It is technically a 30 day window.
 - Mike – Let's plan SSB 300.
 - We need to cover elections for officers. We have no candidates for President-Elect or Ombudsperson.
 - Carolyn – I am willing to run for Ombudsperson.
 - Ron - Could we have someone speak to the importance of these position?
 - Carmen – If no one runs for President, I will put my name in.
 - Seyed – I will put in for President-Elect.
- Mike motions to extend by ten minutes. Jeff seconds. Ayes carry. 1 opposes.

- Eric Mendenhall (for Paul Whitehead), Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
 - We have four that we need to vote on.
- Jeff Weimer, Finance and Resource Committee Chair
 - We will fund 30 RCEU through colleges. There will be four additional. We aren't clear through Honor's College.
- Carolyn Sanders, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Seyed Sadeghi, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
 - We met on 2/27. We discussed Faculty 180. It appears in the handbook that there will be face to face meeting between faculty and chair. With this 180, will we have it?
 - Provost – Yes.
 - Some issue is with student's course validation. Could we inform the students of the situation and a deadline?
 - Provost – When we met yesterday we agreed that the minutes of the Graduate Council and Faculty Senate minutes would be sent out to all faculty. The Graduate Council discussed this and the master's is the only one that has a six year deadline. They did away with six and put it at ten. I agree keeping up with the students. If the committee could come up with a doable process, we will be happy to implement that.
 - Laird –We are going to try to get our meeting out in advance.
- **University Committee Reports**
 - ADA – Brent said that they met.
 - Financial Aid – Not met.
 - Library – The furniture is there for the second floor. They are working on strategic planning. The budget is submitted. A new request for JOOMLA is coming soon.
 - Mike – I have some changes to the minutes from last time. I will send them to Lauren.
- **Bill 448**
 - Laird – Motion to Bill 448. Jeff motions. Monica seconds.
 - Tim – I think the language needs to be cleaned up. There are a couple of points that are vague, one being "other relatives".
 - Provost – That was lawyers language, I sent that back to him.
 - Tim – As long as someone can bring some language.
 - Provost – If we want to be more specific, I am asking for guidance.
 - Tim – With DNA testing, you need to nail it down. "Any person associated", that is really vague.
 - Laird – All in favor. 1 opposed.
- **Bill 449**
 - All in favor. Ayes carry.
- **Bill 446**
 - Mike motions. Carolyn seconds. All in favor. Ayes carry.
- **Bill 450.**
 - Tim motions to send back to committee. Seconds. Ayes carry.
- **Adjourned at 2:32**