

**South Carolina State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Room #121A Turner Hall**

MINUTES

Call to Order:

President M. Evelyn Fields declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:36PM.

Adoption of the Agenda:

President Fields asked for a motion to move Ms. Charlene Johnson, SCSU Athletic Director, under New Business to after the treasurer's report of the agenda. Senator Perdue moved to adopt the agenda with that change. The motion was seconded by Senator Robinson. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Senator Mustafa moved to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by Senator McIntyre. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Senator Spann handed out a copy of the treasurer's report which shows cash on hand in the amount of \$2,231.91 as of February 3, 2009. There was a total of \$440 collected in dues. The report was accepted as information.

SCSU Athletic Director, Ms. Charlene Johnson's Address

Ms. Johnson started by reminding us that she is the person who is always begging for faculty and staff to purchase season tickets each year. She then stated that today she was here to talk about the academics of our athletes. She thanked the faculty for all that we do in helping them when working with our student athletes. Since there is limited time Ms. Johnson and her staff would give us an overview of what they do. Next she introduced the other staff persons from her office.

1. Brantley Evans, Senior Associate Athletics Director, handles facilities, overall academics, and manages about three or four sports.
2. Leon Myers, Academic Enhancement Coordinator, also teaches math in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.
3. Jennifer Saxon, Asst. Academic Enhancement/Asst. Internal Operations, is a full-time person who was hired through a grant they received from the NCAA.
4. Mary Hill, Internal Operations/Special Events/Asst. Academic Enhancement Coordinator, came to SCSU originally as a volleyball coach but now works with academics and manages several sports.
5. Adeanah Pooler, Senior Woman Administrator/Asst. Academic Enhancement/Champs Life, also manages some sports.

Again, there is only one full-time person who works completely in academics. Before the overview Ms. Johnson asked some athletics sports trivia questions:

1. How many sports are offered at SCSU? There are seventeen (17) sports, ten (10) female and seven (7) male.
2. How many of our coaches have won MEAC Coach of the Year? Two (2); Coach Pough and the Women's Volleyball Head Coach.
3. What basketball team is SCSU playing on this coming Saturday? Coppin State University
4. How many MEAC championships have the women's Tennis Team won? Four (4)

5. Who is the faculty athlete's representative? Dr. C. Hill

Athletes Department is up for reaccreditation in the fall of 2009. Ms. Johnson stated that they are trying to do some things that work. Whenever a team (basketball, softball, or volleyball) travels for forty-eight (48) or more a person from academics also travels along with the team. Our athletes have a higher standard that they must adhere to than the normal student body. Athletics has a higher graduation rate than the university's graduation rate. Our goal is to graduate our students in a timely matter. She asked the faculty to please email any questions or any suggestions that they might have to her.

Ms. Pooler discussed the following:

- 2008-2009 MEAC Academic Awards Report: SCSU had forty-eight (48) student athletes to receive the MEAC Commissioners Academic Award. These are students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and must have been enrolled at least three semesters.
- Study Hall/Tutor Information: All freshman and transfer student athletes must complete six (6) hours of study hall per week for one academic year. After their first year all students with GPA 2.0 – 2.49 must complete six (6) hours of study hall a week. Students with GPAs 2.5 – 2.99 must complete four (4) hours a week. If they have a GPA of 3.0 or higher they are not required to attend study hall.
 - Questions: Is tutoring available during study hall? Yes, most of the tutoring has been from student peers. Ms. Johnson announced that they are trying to hire some faculty members to help tutor student athletes and pay them from some monies from a grant from the NCAA. How is attendance at study hall checked? There is a study hall monitor with a sign-in sheet for students.
- Travel Letter/Excuse Letter: The student athletes will be given a travel letter and/or excuse letter for each of their instructors. During football season there is usually an email sent out to each faculty member notifying us when a student will miss class because that will give the most up-to-date list.
- Progress Reports: Allow the athletic academic staff to monitor the progress of student athletes between mid-term and final (about every three weeks). It is the students' responsibility to get each of their instructors' signatures and return it to the athletics office.
- Academic Principles Agreement: Each student athlete must sign this agreement at the beginning of the year. It covers everything that is expected of them, such as study hall attendance, etc.
- SAM software: This is a student athlete monitoring program that will help to alleviate a lot of the paper trail because it allows for easy tracking of our students. They are hoping to have it implemented by the fall of 2009.

Ms. Johnson thanked the senate for allowing them to address us and announced that they are working on a faculty-staff discount family package for next season.

Report of Committees:

Executive Committee: – Senator Cassidy reported that the executive committee met on December 16, with President Cooper in his office. This was the day that we received the news of the mandatory furlough. We also discussed faculty concerns and how faculty priorities were being met during this budget crisis.

Membership Advisory Committee: No report at this time.

Election Committee: President Fields, in Senator Rech's absence, reported that she, Senators Rech, and Whitaker met on last week to discuss the election process for this spring. We will have an election this spring and it is usually in April. The by-laws must be voted on by February 22, 2009.

Planning & Projects Committee: No report at this time.

Educational Policies Council: Senator Spann reported that the council met on January 27, 2009. The following passed from the College of Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences the deletion of two courses – ED 199: Introduction to Education and ED 306: History and Philosophy of Education and the addition of one course – ED 206: Foundations of Education. We also had a lengthy discussion on a draft of a proposal concerning intellectual property and copyright policy. We talked a lot about ownership and disposal of intellectual property and also about royalties. It was sent back and Mr. Malone is going to work on some things and bring it back to the council. President Fields announced that the intellectual property policy proposal will be sent to the entire faculty for feedback. She asked all senators to please read the policy and inform their colleagues about what is going on.

- Department of Health Sciences: Senator Perdue presented for the nursing program. She stated that the program requires 127-128 hours for graduation (76 hours are in arts and sciences) therefore, the reason for this proposal is to increase the nursing area content and decrease the number of hours of arts and sciences. The five (5) new nursing courses proposed are:
 1. NURS 100 – Medical Terminology
 2. NURS 230 – Therapeutic Communication
 3. NURS 365 – Health Promotion Across the Life Span
 4. NURS 341 – Clinical Problem Solving
 5. NURS 491 – Adult Health Problems III

After some discussion the proposal was approved to add these courses.

- Department of Visual and Performing Arts: This proposal is to delete the logic course, PHIL 305, from the Studio Art with a Concentration in Digital Media program and replace it with an art course as an elective.

After some discussion the proposal was approved.

Educational Facilities Committee: No report at this time.

Graduate Council: Will meet next Tuesday, February 10th.

Welfare Committee: No report at this time.

Research Advisory & Human Council: No report at this time.

Space Utilization: No report at this time.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Constitution and Bylaws – Will be emailed to the entire faculty before February 22, 2009 for the vote.

President's Report

President Fields reminded us that the executive committee met with President Cooper on December 16, to talk about the furlough and the budget cuts. The major concern was how would the faculty be involved in the decision making process. Many universities have set up committees to help the

administration address these budget issues. President Fields feels that when it comes to the budget we have to look at it holistically because if you look at it in fragments cutting the budget over here may affect something else over there. Our position as faculty should be that we need to be involved in some of the decision making so that we will know what's going on and perhaps provide some insight.

President Fields attended a Faculty Senate President's meeting in Charleston. This meeting included all the faculty senate presidents from all of the state institutions in the state. A lot of the senates are facing some of the same issues. Bob Bass from USC chairs the committee and Joe Kelly from the College of Charleston is the vice-chair. Senator Hodges shared an article with her entitled '*Downturn Threatens the Faculty's Role in Running Colleges.*' The article included a lot of what was discussed at the meeting in Charleston.

President Fields met with President Cooper this afternoon before this meeting. She asked him the following questions:

1. Will the SCAS letter be released to the university family? President Cooper's response was that he had talked with the chairman of the board, Mr. Byrd, and he informed him that he would not be releasing the letter to the public. There is a called board meeting on Thursday to discuss the letter with the board. The *Times and Democrat* has filed a freedom of information act to try to force the president to release the letter.
2. Where are we on the SCAS consultant(s)? President Cooper's response was that Dr. Teal was considering three persons for the position:
 - a. Dr. Leroy Davis, former president at SCSU and he has led the SCAS self study before; He is now at Voorhees College.
 - b. Dr. Virginia Caples, Interim Director of 1890 at Alabama A & M University
 - c. One additional person
3. Why was the president of the faculty removed from the budget committee? President Cooper's response was that he was not aware that the committee had been changed.
4. Where are we in the process of hiring a Vice-President of Academic Affairs? President Fields stated that she sent a recommendation to form a faculty committee to be involved in the search/process. President Cooper's response was that he still has the information but he has not formed a committee yet but he plans to in the near future.

After a lengthy discussion the following proposals were made:

- Senator Apt moved that a copy of the actual letter that was received by the university from SCAS be made available to the university. The motion was seconded by Senator Doucette. The motion carried.
- Senator Whitaker moved to request a copy of the letter sent in response to the letter received from SCAS. The motion was seconded by Senator McIntyre. The motion carried.
- Senator Daniaji moved that the president of the faculty be put back on the university's budget committee. The motion was seconded by Senator Maultsby. The motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business:

- Progress Standards and Student's GPA will be tabled until the March meeting. Please email any comments that you may have.

Other Business:

Senator Apt asked a question on behalf of Senator Brown in her absence: Would the payroll office or the Human Resources office tell us what type of formula was used to come up with the seven days and the contributions to the furlough. Also can some adjustments be made so that the distributions are more equally distributed than it is currently?

After some discussion Senator McIntyre moved to send the question to the welfare committee for follow up. The motion was seconded by Senator Doucette. The motion carried.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made by Senator Whitaker and seconded by Senator Heyward. The meeting was adjourned at 5:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia T Davis

Cynthia T. Davis
Recording Secretary