**Savannah State University Faculty Senate**

**Minutes for Tuesday, April 23, 2013 4:00 PM Whiting Hall Jen Auditorium**

Senators of 2012-2013 Present: Bentley, Brooks, Franklin, Kawasha, Maynor, Metts, O’Brien, Rukmana, Silberg, Stewart, Jordan, Reddick, Wyche, Arora, Brown, Niranjan, Jahmani, Ouandlous, Yoon, Dolo, Sivapatham, Cox, Adeyemo, Tessema, Taylor, Warren, Harris-Murphy, Verret

Senators Absent: Faries, St. Mark, Walker, Li, Sajwan, Mosley, Johnson

Visistors: Samms Brown, Myers, Smith, Yount, Fayoyin, Lambright, Adams, Sarhan, Rech, Gardner, Agata, McMillan, Schroeder, Barnette, Andreou, McCormack, Brannen, Tabarka

1. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Vice-Chair Dr. Dolo at 4:10 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda- Faculty Affairs and NPCC reports will be given after the approval of the minutes. The agenda was approved.
3. Approval of Minutes of April 2. 2013- Under V- A. NPCC- Add MBA for the Accounting Concentration and the Management Concentration. The minutes were then approved as amended.
4. Faculty Affairs- Resolutions
5. FSR-2013-12: Resolution on Tenure and Promotion: The faculty senate recommends that the faculty handbook adopt a new tenure and promotion language to read as follows: It is expected that candidates demonstrate noteworthy contributions in teaching, service, and scholarship/research.

Discussion about Resolution FSR-2013-12:

1. BOR policy states that candidates for promotion and tenure must demonstrate notable performance in 2 areas, one of which must be teaching.
2. Dr. Verret said that the BOR policy is the minimum and that each university can craft a policy beyond the minimum.
3. Dr. Verret said that faculty should be up to date in his/her discipline to be able to teach well. Although we are a teaching institution, we must still engage in research. Professional growth is considered part of research and scholarship. The language in the handbook is too ambiguous. Dr. Verret emphasized that there are different types of scholarship. These include pedagogy and learning new ways of teaching.
4. Dr. Gardner asked if there are resources available for faculty to engage in these endeavors. The response was that there are Presidential mini-grants which can be used for this purpose.
5. A suggestion was made that there be released time for faculty to engage in more research. The response was that this could be done if released time were urgently needed in order to get a project done
6. Dr. Verret said that research done at SSU would not be expected to the same extent as at UGA or Georgia Tech.
7. Dr. Dozier commented that, in reviewing promotion and tenure portfolios, she noticed that some faculty were involved in research projects or other activities that may not be valued by their department. For some faculty, service and advisement to clubs have been recognized by some departments but not all. Some faculty have given time and effort to valuable activities that were not valued by the department. She said that it was not clear what is defined as scholarship by each department. What if a book is written in a language other than English?
8. Dr. Sarhan said that the mission of the institution refers to the importance of research, scholarship, service, and teaching.
9. Each department or unit should decide what constitutes service and research activities.
10. Dr. Schroeder said that service should not just be institutional but also include professional and community service.

**The resolution was approved by a vote of 15 to 6.**

1. Resolution FSSR-2013-11: Resolution on AA Degree from USG System: the faculty senate recommends that the office of the registrar develop a system that would list a student’s AA degree (from within USG) on the transcript so that students can be better advised by faculty advisors.

**The resolution was passed by a vote of 15 to 1.**

1. Resolution FSSR-2013-6: resolution on Monday-Wednesday, Tuesday-Thursday, and Friday classes: the faculty senate recommends that, on a trial basis for spring 2014, SSU will not offer Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes in a 50 minute format, that all Monday-Wednesday and Tuesday-Thursday class will be in a 75 minute format and that Friday classes will meet approximately 150 minutes and will be limited to senior projects, special topics, field studies, and special courses requested by department chairs.

**The resolution was not passed. The vote was a tie of 5 yes and 5 no votes.**

1. NPCC- Annual Report
2. The NPCC has passed 65 courses changes and new programs in 2012-2013.
3. The Senate voted to approve the report, including the most recent course changes approved by the NPCC. These include:
4. CLASS- 2 new courses: Women in Theatre and Improvisation
5. COBA- Add a number of undergraduate minors in Marketing, Management, Accounting, and CIS and a new research course for BBA students.
6. COST- Clarify in the catalog the requirements of a minor in NROTC and change the credit hours for Introduction to Naval Science from 2 to 3 credits.
7. Committee on Committees- Dr. Stewart submitted the COC’s Annual Report.
8. Library Committee- Ms. Fayoyin will send an electronic annual report to the Senate.
9. Executive Committee- State of the Senate Report- Dr. Dolo distributed the Faculty Senate’s Annual Report, which highlighted resolutions passed by the Senate.
10. Correspondence- Dr. Metts summarized letters sent by legislators responding to the Faculty Senate’s letters to the legislature regarding the lack of salary increases for faculty and a letter of support for Herty Hall renovations.
11. President’s Report
12. Dr. Dozier thanked everyone for a wonderful series of events for Inauguration Week. Tiger Point was renamed during Inauguration to Richard R. Wright Hall. The bust was unveiled on April 11, 2013. She said that she would like to see some of the events institutionalized and take place on an annual basis.
13. Dr. Dozier commended the Senate for its efficiency and organization this year and for the excellent attendance at the meetings.
14. BOR member Mr. Waters will be visiting SSU in May.
15. The Board of Regents approved the Honorary Degree for Justice Leah Ward Sears. Justice Spears will be the Commencement speaker on May 4th.Justice Spears is a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. SSU will have an Honorary Degree Committee in the future.
16. Strategic Planning- The USG is nearing completion of their final draft of their new strategic plan and it was discussed during the BOR meeting here on campus. The plan includes three Strategic Imperatives:
17. Commitment to Academic Excellence and Degree Completion
18. Commitment to Economic Development and World Class Research
19. Commitment to Accountability & Efficiency and Leadership in Higher Education Innovation

Our Strategic Planning Committee will be holding forums. Our new strategic plan should be completed by late July and will be brought before the Faculty Senate in August during the first Senate meeting.

1. The Faculty Mini-Grant Program has been a success. It appears that all of the allocated $50,000 for the spring 2013 semester will be awarded. There is approximately $7,000 remaining and committee members are still reviewing the final 7 applications from faculty. Dr. Dozier will soon decide if the program will be available in the fall or during the spring semester only.
2. Student scholarships for international study have been awarded.
3. To date, 361 students are scheduled to participate in this May’s Commencement ceremony. It will be held at T.A. Wright Stadium at 9 AM. If it rains, graduation will take place in Tiger Arena. Each student would receive ten tickets. There would also be live streaming of the graduation.
4. SSU had a very successful 3rd Annual Research Conference and RIMI Symposium on April 9th.
5. The Math faculty and Math Students Association conducted a successful Math Awareness Week April 8-12. One of the events was a Math Jeopardy competition for students which culminated in cash awards to the winning teams.
6. Brigette Brinton, an SSU MSMS graduate student, recently won the Best Graduate Student Poster Award at the Southeastern Estuarine research Society meeting. Dr. Carla Curran is one of her advisors.
7. The Department of Liberal Arts has developed a digital departmental newsletter, The L.A. Spotlight.
8. The department of Liberal Arts has relocated the SSU Writing Center from its temporary location to a permanent and central location in Payne 201. The Writing Center will be fully operational by the end of the week.
9. Searches for the Dean of CLASS and Associate VPAA have been completed. The new Dean and Associate VPAA will be named in May.
10. Dr. David Smith has been appointed Interim Vice President of Student Affairs.
11. SGA has appointed new officers: SGA President- Natavis Harris, SGA Vice President- Sanchez Waller, SGA Chief Justice- Eddie Sanders, Miss Savannah State University- D’uana Reeves.
12. Residential summer students will reside in University Commons
13. Building Updates- Closure and Renovations for summer 2013- King Frazier Hall, King Frazier Ballroom Restrooms, Post Office, University Village (tentative), Hubert Elevator Installation, Hubert A/C Unit 3rd Floor, Wiley Wilcox Pool, Howard Jordan 1st and 2nd Floors
14. Swearing-in of New and Continuing Senators for 2013-2014- This was done by Dr. Dozier.
15. Election of Executive Committee Officers for 2013-2014
16. Vice-Chair- Dr. Ouandlous and Dr. Jordan were nominated. Dr. Ouandlous was elected.
17. Corresponding Secretary- Professor Silberg was elected.
18. Recording Secretary- Dr. Reddick was elected.
19. Logistics Officer- Professor Warren was elected.
20. Parliamentarian- Dr. Jordan and Dr. Niranjan were nominated. Dr. Niranjan was elected.
21. Swearing-in of Executive Officers for 2013-2014- This was done by Dr. Dozier.
22. Announcements
23. Dr. Reddick announced that the Annual Gullah Festival will be held on Memorial Day weekend in Beaufort.
24. Dr. Metts announced that, a community-based event, Ramona Fun Day, will take place on campus on Thursday, April 25 from 9:30-1. This is a culminating event for the SSU student team who has reading a Ramona novel to 2nd graders, who will visit the campus for snacks, games, and a mini-tour.
25. Adjournment- the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin O’Brien- Recording Secretary