



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
Faculty Senate

Plenary Session

March 15, 2023 –MCOB 264 & Zoom 3:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Faculty and Guests

- Adams, Jamie
- Amare, Nicole
- Arif, Delaware
- Bates, Robin
- Batten, Lynn, excused
- Beebe, Donald
- Black, Michael
- Brannan, Lauren
- Brock, Casey
- Bunch, Jaclyn
- Copeland-Streeter, Donna
- Curtis, Missy
- Davidson, Clay
- Donaldson, Amanda
- Flanders, Lorene
- Getch, Yvette
- Godang, Romulus
- He, Jia
- Hoffmann, Alma
- Huang, Jinshan
- Huang, Ying
- Hudson, Geoffrey
- Jahnke, Karl
- Kersey, Jeremy
- Khan, Zoya
- Liebetz, Scott
- Lin, Mike
- Lynch, Colleen
- Manders, Jenny
- Migaud, Marie
- Miller, Kristina
- Min, Hosik
- Myers, Charlene

- Ní Chadhain, Sinéad
- Pavelescu, Andrei
- Pfleeger, Jenna
- Raczkowski, Chris
- Rayner, Jon
- Rich, Tom
- Richardson, Joe
- Sayner, Sarah
- Shaw, Christy
- Shaw, Thomas
- Shepard, Beth
- Spencer, Edmund
- Swanzy, Debra
- Swofford, James
- Ter Horst, Eleanor
- Thompson, Christina
- Thompson, Tara
- Turnipseed, David
- Vandewaa, Elizabeth
- Vandewaa, Arie
- Walker, Sean
- Wassenaar, Christina
- Webb, Bret
- Weber, David

Meeting called to order 3:00 pm

Approval of the Minutes for 2/15/23 Meeting: Approved

Approval of Agenda for 3/15/23 Meeting: Approved

President's Report: President's report attached below: (The report was sent out prior to the meeting for review and discussion of the President's report held during FS Plenary Meeting.)

Fringe Benefits: The Executive Committee has shared some ideas related to the fringe benefits during our last meeting with the President Mr. Jo Bonner and Executive Vice-

A motion was made to reach out to the individuals nominated to ensure they accept the nomination and then a vote for the Ombudsperson to be held at the next plenary meeting. All in favor with no objections so the motion passed.

Building updates (From Buck Kelly): The COM projects that there will be demolition of the two existing buildings. These buildings are AHE and AHS. The occupants of these two bldgs will be relocated to two newly renovated spaces. The renovations and moves are as follows:

AHE - currently the UCOMM space is being renovated and, upon completion in July of 2023, the occupants will be moved to the new space. Demolition of AHE will occur around October of 2023.

AHS - there will be a renovation project that starts in June of 2023 at the existing Property bldg. This bldg is being renovated for a new space to relocate ROTC from AHS. Before this renovation at the property takes place, the renovations of the Old Jag Tran bldg. needs to be completed to house the Property staff and university functions. The relocation of ROTC to the newly renovated space at the current Property bldg will take place in December of 2023. The demo of AHS will start immediately after the occupants are relocated in December.

Reports from Senate Committees:

Salary & Benefits Committee

Dr. Vandewaa reported a 700,000 surplus in benefits, and therefore, insurance premiums and deductibles will not go up this year. Dr. Vandewaa reported that sick leave donation was discussed at the last meeting to ask if it could be continued; however, the sick leave donation was only intended for COVID and will discontinue after May 11.

Other benefits the committee is asking for are mini sabbaticals for professional development or doing SoTL, for example. Also, the committee is asking for an increase in the current educational benefit from the current 5 credit hours at the Arts and Sciences rate to 6 credit hours.

Handbook Committee/Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee

Jamie Adams reported that the committee took the feedback from the FS and sent a letter with the recommendations to the co-chairs of the original committee that wrote the initial report. He reports that he is still awaiting a response from the letter that was sent.

Academic Computing

Jamie sent out a report via email to the faculty senate prior to the plenary meeting as follows:

The University Academic Computing Committee met 2/17/2023 at 10am. There were two agenda items.

Banner/Canvas syncing: Canvas administrators on campus are working to have Banner provide real time enrollment information to Canvas using Ellucian Intelligent Learning Platform. Successful implementation should provide two big updates for interactions between Banner and Canvas:

Students that enroll into a course or change their schedule should automatically be enrolled into the corresponding Canvas course.

Currently there is a several hour delay between students updating their course schedule and then being enrolled in the Canvas course.

Faculty should have the option to push final grades from their Canvas gradebook into PAWs. When live, the ILC will provide guidance on how faculty will use this feature.

Faculty will still have the option to enter grades manually into PAWs as they currently do.

These features are currently estimated to be in place for the first summer semester of 2023.

Faculty being locked out of university issued laptops after a 90 days of the laptop not connecting with the University's network while being on campus: Faculty members brought this issue to the committee's attention, as the current solution that has been provided by some local IT departments is to bring the laptop and connect it to the LAN and sign in to the active domain to regain access to the computer's functionality. Faculty pointed out that if they are on sabbatical or were hired as fully remote, then this is not a viable solution.

The Assistant VP & Director of Information Tech Services and Computer Services Center stated that there is not a University policy that requires this lockout and provided the following possible solution to the issue.

Create a local account on the university laptop so that you may login without going through the active domain login.

If you find that yo

Sean reported on the Faculty Senate award winners, and he will be reaching out to our winners to invite them to our end-of-term party (see below):

- Semoon and Youngshin Chang Endowed Award for Humanitarian Service: Juan Torres
- Outstanding Research Partner: Alabama Commission on Tick-Borne Illnesses
- Outstanding Community Partner: Victory Health Partners Borne Illnesses, etc.