

Minutes

Faculty Meeting



Tuesday, October 23, 2007
2:30 p.m., room 170, University Hall

92 faculty members present; President Bloodworth called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Agenda Items

I. Approval of the Minutes from September 18, 2007, available at:

http://www.aug.edu/faculty_secretary/facmin_09_18_2007_draft.pdf

Motions were made to amend the minutes by changing "sociology" to "sociology, social work and criminal justice," and by changing references from "Dr. Johnson" to "Dr. Edgar Johnson" for clarity.

Motion – To approve the minutes as amended.

Vote – all ayes

II. Academic Policies Committee – Dr. Edgar Johnson

1. Items requiring faculty vote

a. A recommendation was provided by the Vice President for Academic Affairs' office for the study abroad program to change course numbering. The changes distinguish local from university system classes and align our program with the rest of the state. There are no mandates that come with this for departments. **(See Attachment A)**

Dr. Edgar Johnson introduced the item, explaining that the change is needed to conform our program listings to other University System of Georgia institution listings. The department may choose to reflect the class in major or minor credit, but this is not required. If no departmental credit is given, the course will be listed as an elective.

Discussion – none

Vote – All in favor of the measure.

III. Faculty Policies Committee – Dr. Carol Rychly

Dr. Rychly introduced Dr. Kathy Hamrick, special coordinator for academic and master planning, who presented an update concerning campus construction. **(See Attachment B)**

Ms. Therese Rosier, assistant vice president for plant operations, added to the update, providing details on the new amphitheatre and two additional projects. The D. Douglas Barnard amphitheatre is scheduled

for completion in March, 2008. It should seat between 600 to 900 attendees, depending on crowding and type of seats used. The amphitheatre will use synthetic turf, so there's no need for watering; the turf drains in 30 minutes after rains, and it will prevent ant problems.

The central utilities plant will gain two chillers and a boiler, installed on the west side of building. The placement means there should be little impact on the rest of campus during construction.

The storm water sewer system project has given us a new back road, paved the parking lot of the Maxwell Alumni House, and provided a new fence.

The Grover C. Maxwell Performing Arts Theatre renovations have been completed, and the Department of Art has been established in Washington Hall.

Discussion –

Question – How will transportation between campuses be handled?

Dr. Joyce Jones, vice president for student services and dean of students, replied that the university is looking at a shuttle service that will circulate among the Christenberry Fieldhouse, University Hall, and University Village. The means of funding is not yet decided.

Question – Dr. Jim Garvey, acting chair of communications and professional writing and director of the honors program, asked for a status update on the swimming pool.

Ms. Rosier replied that the pool leaks about 4000 gallons of water per night due to pinhole leaks and that it can not be further repaired.

Dr. Hamrick added that we have a demolition request in for the structure.

Question – Mrs. Michelle Benedict, mathematics, asked if a parking deck could be considered.

Dr. Hamrick replied that we could support growth on campus by building decks, except it would not be possible to move 10,000 students on and off campus at peak times.

Question – Mrs. Benedict followed her first question by asking if there is sufficient parking?

Mr. Jasper Cooke replied yes.

Dr. Sullivan thanked Dr. Hamrick and Ms. Rosier for their update.

IV. Faculty Athletics Representative – Dr. Donna Hobbs

Dr. Hobbs presented a PowerPoint show including information on Division II athletics and Augusta State University's athletes and athletic programs. (See the slide show at:

http://www.aug.edu/faculty_secretary/web_ppt/Division_II.htm)

Discussion –

Question – Is division 1 different from division 1a? Are there differences in the courses taken by students at larger schools?

Dr. Hobbs replied that she is better aware of Division II, and that its focus is to provide a path to graduation.

Question – Dr. Cliff Gardiner, assistant dean of the college of arts and sciences, asked if the 40 – 60 percent demarcation is based on regular semesters.

Dr. Hobbs replied that it was, and that she certifies this. Summer semester can be used as a catch up period, but only to a certain extent.

Question –Mrs. Camilla Reid asked by what criteria we are Division I for two teams and who decides in which division our teams are put.

Mr. Clint Bryant, athletics, replied that we were Division I in all sports in 1991. We changed to an NCAA multiclassification status by which all sports became Division II except for men's golf, which remained Division 1; the university gained a second Division 1 team with the formation of the women's golf.

Question – When will we start a football team?
Dr. Hobbs replied that this is not in our plans.

Mr. Bryant mentioned that Mr. Ian Potter is our new compliance and academic services coordinator.

V. Honorary Designations Committee

Ms. Helen Hendee presented the recommendation from the Honorary Designations Committee that the new amphitheatre be named for D. Douglas Barnard. (**See Attachment C**)

Ms. Hendee noted that the committee initially met on this topic on February 8, 2007. The committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal and forwarded

it to the president, who recommended it to the Board of Regents. The normal procedure is for the naming recommendation to be approved by the faculty prior to submission to the BOR, but an exception had to be made in this case. Early in 2007, the BOR placed a hold on all naming of public areas and buildings in order to review the naming policy. The hold remained until August when a revised policy was approved. Based on the facts that the BOR has to approve all naming recommendations and a gift of \$250,000 had to be received before construction of the amphitheatre could begin, the president made the recommendation to the BOR so as to expedite the approval and construction. Upon approval of the BOR, the recommendation was brought to the faculty for approval.

Discussion – none

Vote – All in favor

VI. President's Report (See Attachment D)

VII. Announcements

Dr. Edgar Johnson announced an ASU speech contest to be held on November 8, 2007. He asked for volunteers to serve as judges.

Dr. Christine Terry reminded faculty of the new virtual teaching and assessment center (VTAC), and thanked the participants who filled out surveys. The department with the highest percentage of participation in the survey, and therefore the winner of the pizza party, was Chemistry and Physics.

Mrs. Mellie Kerins announced that October is Georgia Archives Month. An exhibit titled, *Ferry to Flight—Barnes Field on Sand Bar Ferry Road* will be on display in University Hall from October 23 through November 2.

Also, on Tuesday, October 30, at 2:30 p.m. in 170 University Hall, Willis M. Boshears, executive director of the Augusta Regional Airport – whose family the annual skyfest was named after, and Diane Johnston, the airport's marketing director, will give a presentation titled *The History of Augusta Aviation and the Economic Impact of Augusta Regional Airport*.

Dr. Joyce Jones noted a Halloween event coming Wednesday, October 31. The Halloween Glow Party, to be held in the JSAC Ballroom at 8 p.m. Also, early registration has been renamed spring registration to encourage earlier participation in the registration process.

Dr. Jones also announced a challenge by students for faculty to compete with them in basketball at Midnight Madness, Saturday, November 10, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the ASU Athletic Complex.

Adjourned – 3:21 p.m.

Attachments

Attachment A.

Item requiring faculty vote

1. Change in course numbering, Study Abroad programs [pdf](#) C0732

Attachment B.

Construction Update
Faculty Meeting October 23, 2008
Dr. Kathy Hamrick

Major Projects – they are done, for now, but more to come

In the past ten years, we have had three major projects (major means to the BOR over \$5 million) paid for by state dollars. Each one was just under \$20 million. They are the Science Building, Allgood Hall, and University Hall. However, these were designed as replacement buildings for the six old warehouses and though they have provided us with much more efficient space, they provided precious little growth space – and we are growing. However, the good news is that during its October meeting, the Board of Regents approved the six-year capital implementation program which included \$27.5 million for ASU to construct a building on Wrightsboro Road that will house the College of Education and the Department of Nursing. The bad news is that the funding won't be available to us until 2011. Once we are able to estimate construction costs in 2012 and 2013, we will be able to estimate the size of the building. But, it will be at least 75,000 square feet and probably more. The planning for this facility, and for the space those programs currently occupy in University Hall is still underway. With this new facility comes the need for even more planning to ensure support on the site. For instance, shuttle busses will be needed to get students back and forth between the Walton Way and Wrightsboro Road sites, and a snack bar would possibly need to be included in the plans.

We have two “minor” state projects underway (minor in BOR talk means between \$1 million and \$5 million) – the Storm Water Sewer Improvements South Campus at \$4.9 million making a big improvement in the system of roads on campus, and a Central Utilities Plant Addition for \$2.4 million. Therese will explain what these mean to campus and an update of the disruptions they will and are causing in a few minutes.

We have also had two privatized projects – the student center at \$15 million and University Village at \$19 million. “Privatized” means that these were not paid for by the state. The ASU Foundation built them with tax free bonds and we rent them from the foundation so the foundation can pay back the bonds. The rent comes from student fees and rents at UV. When they are paid for, the foundation will give them to the BOR. To do a privatized project, we must have a revenue stream. We owe our foundation a big “thank you” for these projects.

We have built a new golf house next to Christenberry entirely with private donations. We have built two phases of the History Walk with \$1.2 million from a Department Of Transportation – Transportation Enhancement Grant and another \$2 million in private sources and year end funds. We hope to get a third DOT grant to continue the walk through the center of campus to the Science Building and then connect to the walk on Katherine Street. More on this when it happens.

We have our amphitheater under construction. It was built with a mixture of private funds and university funds. Therese will update you on when it will be completed.

We also receive MRR funding from the state – Major Repair and Renovation funds. These funds, combined with state funds, have renovated Washington Hall and Fine Arts. (Projects less than \$1 million) They are also used for all the other repairs on campus.

Attachment C.

Honorary Designation Committee proposal

Dear Dr. Bloodworth,

The Honorary Designation Committee met on February 8, 2007, to consider a recommendation from the Augusta State University Foundation and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, to name the amphitheatre, currently under construction, the **D. Douglas Barnard Amphitheatre**. This recommendation is in recognition of Congressman Barnard's contributions and support to ASU. For example, he was instrumental in acquiring the Oliver General and Forest Hills Golf Course properties, and in the relocation of the Army Reserves from Galloway Hall to a Wrightsboro Road address. A gift of \$250,000.00 has been committed for this naming opportunity.

The committee **voted unanimously to approve** this recommendation.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Joseph Greene, Chairman
Honorary Designation Committee

Committee Members Present:

Frank Chou
Helen Hendee
Patricia Hyatt
Joseph Greene

Attachment D.

President's Report

Remarks to Faculty
October 23, 2007

Deciding what to say in a brief report to the faculty is always a challenge because there is so much that could be said.

And today much has already been said. I'm appreciative to Dr. Hobbs for her information on athletics—and to Dr. Hamrick and Ms. Rosier for their information about facilities and facility planning. But I'm thankful for more than that. Donna Hobbs followed one of the finest faculty athletic representatives in the nation—in the person of Professor Mary Lisko—and is doing a fine job of her own. Therese Rosier's work as director of plant operations—and now as assistant vice president for plant operations has had an extraordinary effect on the development of this campus. And Kathy Hamrick has been working on the planning of this campus for more than ten years now. Her most recent accomplishment was to convince the vice chancellor for facilities in the university system to add \$2.7 million to the budget of the academic building we hope to build on Wrightsboro Road. That's not small change.

Speaking of the university system, let me point out a few things that Mr. Dan Whitfield, our vice president for business operations, learned at a meeting of other chief financial officers in the system. The discussion had to do with efficient use of money—which, for me, has always meant spending as much as possible on instruction and academic support. What Dan brought back were some sets of financial comparisons based on dollars spent per FTE student—that show how here at Augusta State we are (1) above average in spending in academic support, (2) below average in spending on student services, and (3) at the very bottom among our peers in spending for institutional support. "Institutional support" is the category that includes the president's office, the business office, and other such operations that, while necessary and important, are at some distance from the actual business of educating students in our classrooms.

For me, such comparisons are good measures of financial stewardship. In saying this, I'm reminded of a president in a state not to be named who currently is facing criminal prosecution for such expenditures as \$100,000 for a bar bill and \$40,000 for a set of china.

And that reminds me of current problems of purchasing card (P-card) abuses in the university system, one of the most egregious being the purchase—at some other university—of a \$1,300 diamond ring as "laboratory equipment." Such abuses turned up in the audits of institutions. Here, I'm very pleased to note, a recently completed audit turned up *no* P-card abuses and complimented us on our P-card controls. Those controls are, of course, the many supervisors, chairs, managers, and others who approve P-card purchases.

So I'm pleased with our P-card behavior, especially in view of the story in today's *Augusta Chronicle*, which points out that Chancellor Davis is promising to fire any supervisors who are lax in controlling the use of P-cards. "I don't care if they are a superstar," the chancellor is quoted as saying. "I don't care if they are a president."

But back to our expenditures. Mr. Whitfield just asked our budget office to do a comparison of spending on instruction to spending on institutional support for all of the comprehensive universities in the system. There are actually three schools whose ratio of spending on instruction vs. institution support is slightly better than ours, but we are obviously in the upper quartile, which means that we always try to put our money where it's most needed. It also means that in Mr. Whitfield himself, we have a very capable and astute financial officer. It may be that he was just a good learner in his many years in the private sector, but I think that as a member of the class of 1969 at Augusta College, he also learned a few things from his professors. Who knows? Maybe in his classes they even talked about P-cards.

Let's go from money to the matter of criminal background checks, which was covered to some extent by Mr. Walt Alexanderson at our last meeting. The question of who must be subjected to such background checks still has no final answer except in the phrase "positions of trust." Presuming and hoping that the definition of such positions will be left to the discretion of the president, I will do whatever I can to exclude most if not all teaching faculty from the "positions of trust" category—even though I do indeed trust all of you, and trust you very much. What this will mean, I hope, is the exclusion of background checks from the tenure and promotion process.

If I had time this afternoon, I'd say a few things about university planning, including a new role for the University Council in the revision of our official university goals. But instead of taking your time this afternoon, I'll explain such things later on by e-mail.

What I do want to take some time for this afternoon is to thank you for your always excellent work—as a whole—with and for our students.

I'm always thankful for the incredible people who work at this university. And was it just last week when I visited the website of Rate My Professors.com? Now, some people may rightly be skeptical of ratings of professors by students, but when I saw that the rating of Augusta State faculty was seventh in the nation—and so ranked among 6,000 schools with more than a million professors—well, all I could think was that someone finally got things right! And why Augusta State is the only institution in the University System of Georgia to make Rate my Professors' list of the top fifty schools is a question that I'll leave to someone else to answer. For the moment, let me just say that our students are obviously very good judges of professorial talent—which is, of course, one more way for me to tell you how proud I am of what you do and how well you do it.

Thank your for your attention this afternoon.