

# Minutes

## Faculty Meeting



Tuesday, November 27, 2007  
2:30 p.m., room 170, University Hall

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

### Agenda Items

Dr. Bloodworth observed a moment of silence for Mr. Joe Greene.

#### I. Approval of the Minutes from October 23, 2007, available at:

[http://www.aug.edu/faculty\\_secretary/facmin\\_10\\_23\\_2007\\_draft.pdf](http://www.aug.edu/faculty_secretary/facmin_10_23_2007_draft.pdf)

**Motion** – To approve.

**Vote** – all ayes

#### II. Academic Policies Committee – Dr. Edgar Johnson

Items for information only (**See Attachment A**)

Dr. Edgar Johnson introduced the items. Three items from music added a graduate component, and the remaining items update the sequence of sociology courses.

**Discussion** – none

**Vote** – All in favor of the measure.

#### III. Faculty Policies Committee – Dr. Carol Rychly

Dr. Rychly introduced Dr. Ray Whiting. Dr. Whiting reviewed the most recent accreditation effort and assured faculty that the process for the next review will not be as onerous. We will have a longer period to prepare the materials, and the quantity of information required is less.

An exciting aspect to the next accreditation is its inclusion of a quality enhancement project (QEP). Faculty will be asked to choose and develop a project designed to improve quality. We will need to educate each other on possible projects, evaluate them and select. The university administration is required to provide funding for the project. SACS doesn't care what it is or which students are the focus of the project, so long as it is well designed, improves student learning, and is fully implemented. The project will begin two years prior to the review, which is now about four years away.

**Question** – when are they coming?

**Answer** – we will begin creating a compliance certificate in late 2010, which will be submitted in 2011 and which SACS will review off campus; the accrediting agency will visit campus in 2012, primarily to examine our QEP.

Dr. Whiting thanked the Faculty Policies Committee for providing the documentation that helped the university to pass the most recent accreditation review.

Dr. Bloodworth followed:

I want to express my appreciation to Ray Whiting for his work as our accreditation liaison. His job is to lead us to a successful reaffirmation of our regional accreditation from the Commission on Colleges of SACS. While this is necessary—something we have to do—it can be much more than that.

As Ray has indicated, the reaffirmation effort will be much different from our last effort. The Commission on Colleges has improved the process of reaffirmation in many ways. The most potentially exciting change is the requirement of a “quality enhancement plan.” I’ve been serving as a commissioner on the Commission on Colleges for six years now—and in that role I have seen some extraordinary QEPs—in which, in each case, an institution has developed strategies for improving the learning and academic success of its students. That same opportunity lies before us, with the requirement—by the Commission—that we develop a plan focused on student learning, supported by sufficient resources, and evaluated in terms of expected improvement in student learning.

Because of the importance of reaffirmation and the new opportunities for us, I’ve asked Ray, as accreditation liaison, to report directly to me—and I look forward to whatever I can do as president to ensure a positive reaffirmation experience for us between now and 2012.

#### **IV. Introduction of the new Augusta State University Ethics and Compliance Reporting program – Mr. Walt Alexanderson**

Mr. Walt Alexanderson presented the new program. (**See attachment B.**)

**Questions** - none

#### **V. Resolution thanking the FPC for its faculty workload survey– Dr. Jurgen Brauer (See Attachment C.) – Requires faculty vote**

Dr. Brauer presented the resolution.

**Discussion** – none

**Vote** – all ayes, the resolution was approved

#### **VI. President’s Report - (See Attachment D.)**

Dr. Bloodworth asked faculty concerning their interest were he to provide a series of seminars.

## **VII. Announcements**

Dr. Jim Benedict requested that the mix of faculty attending the president's seminars be diverse to allow more faculty to meet one another.

Mrs. Mellie Kerins noted the new photo gallery on the second floor of the library. Mr. Robert Arnett's series of photographs were taken in India, and he will speak January 12, 2008, a Saturday afternoon, about the photographs during a presentation at the library.

Mr. Dan Whitfield, vice president for business operations, introduced Kathy Boyd, the university's new management control analyst.

Ms. Kathy Schofe, director of public relations and publications, reminded faculty of the Phi Kappa Phi chapter meeting at noon on November 28.

Adjourned – 3:02 p.m.

## Attachments

### Attachment A.

Items for information only from the Academic Policies Committee; these do not require a faculty vote

1. Change to MUSI 3410. Cross List and change description, [pdf C0734](#)
2. Change to MUSI 4410. Cross List and change description, [pdf C0735](#)
3. Change to MUSI 4420. Cross List and change description, [pdf C0736](#)
4. NEW COURSE, SOCI 3950, variable content course, [pdf C0737](#)
5. Change, add SOCI 3950 as elective for major, BA in Sociology, [pdf C0738](#)
6. Change, add SOCI 3950 as elective for minor in Sociology, [pdf C0739](#)
7. Change course numbers, SOCI 3381 to SOCI 3001; SOCI 3382 to SOCI 3002, [pdf C0740](#)
8. Change course numbers, SOCI 4404 to SOCI 4462 and others, [pdf C0741](#)
9. Change tracks, BA in Sociology, [pdf C0742](#)
10. Change program courses outside of tracks, BA in Sociology, [pdf C0743](#)
11. Change prerequisites for Sociology courses, [pdf C0744](#)

## Attachment B.

### **Text of Mr. Walt Alexanderson's comments introducing the new Augusta State University Ethics and Compliance Hotline**

Augusta State is committed to practicing the highest levels of ethical conduct.

We encourage members of our community to report possible ethics violations, fraud, or violations of policy to their supervisor or Human Resources

Sometimes people are not comfortable reporting these issues.

To facilitate the process of reporting, Augusta State will implement an Ethics and Compliance Reporting Hotline in January.

Mary Filpus -Luyckx and Kathy Boyd will head the implementation effort.

Today I do not plan to go into the technical details of how the program works, but to give you a brief overview of what is coming.

The University has contracted with a company called The Network for this service. The Network specializes in operating hotlines for organizations.

The Network provides a dedicated phone number and a web site available 24 hours a day.

The Network has interview specialists trained to ask appropriate questions to be able to report an issue. Using computer assistance the interview specialists try to obtain enough information so an issue can be completely investigated at ASU.

The reporting is anonymous, although one can choose to give their name. A person making a report receives a case number so they can call back to determine the status of the investigation.

Areas of interest include: Academics, Human Resources, Health and Safety, Athletics, Information Technology, and Research issues.

An issue that is reported will be given to an ASU case manager— for example, a Human Resources issue would come to me and an Information Technology issue would go to Chip.

The case manager is responsible for seeing that the issue is investigated and resolved.

Statistics: 46 percent of issues reported are related to Human Resources; 21 percent of issues reported are related to financial issues; and, 1.5 to 4 percent of employees report something each year.

With the program start in January more details about the process will be presented.

## Attachment C.

Item requiring faculty vote, from the APC

RESOLVED: That AAUP@ASU (the University's chapter of the American Association of University Professors) in particular, and the faculty of Augusta State University in general, commend the members of the Faculty Policies Committee of 2006-2007 for their labor on the Faculty Workload Survey. We recognize Cathy Tugmon, Charles Jackson, Thomas M. Colbert, Donna Hobbs, Pamela Jackson, Stephanie Meyers, Robert Reeves, Michael "Cowboy Mike" Searles, Debbie van Tuyl, Carol Rychly, Rick Pukis, and James M. Benedict. These FPC members have worked tirelessly to keep faculty governance alive and well at our institution. AAUP@ASU invites all faculty members to express appreciation to these individuals. Therefore, we ask the faculty of Augusta State University as a whole to join with us in this resolution, and recognize our colleagues' contribution to the institution by the researching and writing of the Faculty Workload Survey.

## Attachment D.

### President's Report

We've been busy preparing for visit by two members of the Board of Regents tomorrow, hoping and expecting that they will leave with good impressions of us and what we do.

One is Regent Kenneth Bernard, from Douglasville, an attorney and a graduate of the University of Georgia. The other is Regent Willis Potts, of Rome, a retired CEO in the paper and pulp industry who graduated from Georgia Tech.

You can find their biographies and photographs on the home page for the Board of Regents. If you see me with them on campus tomorrow, please feel free to say hello.

In my report this after there are three matters that I want to mention to you. There were four matters, but I've already commented on the important work to be done by Dr. Ray Whiting as our accreditation liaison—and the opportunity to develop a Quality Enhancement Plan (as part of the reaffirmation of accreditation) that improves student learning at this university.

The first matter that I want to mention to you now is somewhat related to the first, because it has to do with university planning. I've asked every so-called unit of the university to submit a single page giving, first, its sense of mission, purpose, or vision—and, second, its most important goals. I will now ask the University Council to examine these documents and from them, in a kind of bottom-up process, review the university goals that now exist in our strategic plan and, as appropriate, revise them. Those revisions will come to the faculty as a whole for approval, perhaps at some time in the spring.

The second matter that I want to mention is the annual Phi Kappa Phi Student Research and Fine Arts Symposium in the spring, scheduled for Thursday, March 12. This event showcases the outstanding talents of our students--and gives us a chance to learn from them! It also gives all faculty members a unique opportunity to learn more about what other programs and departments are doing to educate our students. I would like to encourage you to develop assignments that will lead naturally to work that can be presented at the symposium, encourage your students to attend the symposium, and come yourself to enjoy an afternoon of learning, reflection, and fine arts.

Moreover, this year, as I understand it, having agreed to supply the funding, our Phi Kappa Phi chapter may be offering ten prizes of \$100 each for students who present research or perform at the symposium.

The third and final matter for me to mention today is an idea for keeping the president busier in the spring than he might otherwise be. The idea is for the president to conduct a series of five or six seminar-style presentations and discussions with a group of faculty members who have applied for the honor of participating in these discussions, the general subject of which will be this university and the details of which will include such things as the nature of our students, where our money comes from and how we use it, the general challenges faced by higher education, the specific political and public challenges enjoyed by a comprehensive university in the University System of

Georgia, intercollegiate athletics, fundraising, and other matters related to our institutional existence.

The current operating title for this idea is "Leadership ASU," and the use of such a title is meant to imply (1) that leadership is everyone's responsibility, and (2) that knowledge and understanding are assets to leadership.

The president, I understand, is quite willing to pursue this idea under three conditions. This first is that he can locate five or six times, probably mainly on Friday afternoons, during the spring semester when the presentations and discussions can take place. The second condition is that there are a sufficient and appropriate number of teaching faculty members who are interested in and willing to commit to such a program. "Sufficient and appropriate number" means at least 10 and probably no more than 20.

The third condition is that there be some expressions this afternoon, as I end my report, suggesting that maybe this idea is worth pursuing, which would then lead to the president sending out more details and invitations for faculty members to apply to be members of what could become the first, and possibly not the last, "Leadership ASU" class.

jh 11/28/07