

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
December 5, 2019

**Call to order:**

A meeting of the University of North Alabama's Faculty Senate convened in Room 136 of the Mitchell Burford Science and Technology Building at 3:30pm. with President Renfroe presiding (NOTE: 2020 meetings will convene in the Gunn Commons Building)

**I. Proxies:**

Chiong-Yiao Chen for Aaron Benson (Department of Visual Arts and Design), Gretchen Windt for Thomas Lukowicz, Jonathan Sullivan for Ravi Gollapalli (Department of Engineering Technology), Jian Chen for Sunhui Sim (Geography), Lindsey Sherrill for Wes Davenport (Department Management and Marketing), Jason McCall for Katie Owens-Murphy (Department of English)

**Members in attendance:**

Lori Alford, Rae Atencio, Stephanie Barger, Lisa Ann Blankenship,

The minutes were approved.

#### IV. Remarks from President Kitts

President Kitts announced his intent to keep his report short so the Senate could hear from guest presenters Dr. Butler Cain and Dr. Justin Bergh of the Department of Communications. Dr. Kitts indicated they would speak about efforts underway to strengthen student media at UNA and noted that Dr. Cain is leading the workgroup that advises him on reengagement with the College Media Association.

President Kitts then updated the Faculty Senate on current Project 208 activities. He presented a PowerPoint identifying central political figures in Montgomery that he and others (specific reference was made to Mr. Jason Cochran, UNA's Executive Director, Governmental Relations and Economic Development) maintain contact. President Kitts then identified several individuals and House/Senate Committees memberships on his PowerPoint discussing the importance of each in turn to UNA's funding (see Tables below).

SENATE FINANCE AND TAXATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2019

District # and County/Countries Represented	Senator
District 2: Limestone, Madison, Morgan	Dr. Arthur, Chais (R)
District 20: Baldwin, Clarke, Franklin, Madison, Washington	Allen, Gerald (R)
District 21: Lanier, Pickens, Tuscaloosa	Shostack, Donnie (R)
District 28: Dale, Geneva, Houston	Dunn, Priscilla (D)
District 19: Jefferson	Figures, Vivian Davis (D)
District 33: Mobile	Gudger, Garlan (R)
District 4: Cullman, Lawrence, Marion, Winston	McIntosh, Van (D)
District 11: Chalkley, Dale, Etowah, Franklin, Grady, Hamilton, Wilcox	Spafford, Clay (R)
District 8: Blount, Blount	Sessions, David (R)
District 35: Montgomery	Shelton, Bobby (D)
District 24: Clay	Smitherman, Rodger (D)
District 18: Blount, Blount	Waggoner, J. T. "Jabo" (R)
District 16: Blount, Blount	Wattley, Tom (R)
District 27: Blount, Blount	

Representatives by District and County		
Garrett, Danny, Vice Chair (R)	District 44: Jefferson	
Scott, Rod (D)	District 55: Jefferson	
Baker, Alan (R)	District 66: Baldwin, Escambia	
Prince (D)	District 67: Dallas, Perry	
Terri (R)	District 8: Morgan	
mond, Barbara (D)	District 103: Mobile	
Grimsley, Dexter (D)	District 85: Henry, Houston	
Kiel, Jamie (R)	District 28: Jay, Jordan, Colbert, Franklin	
DeKalb	Ledbetter, Nathaniel (R)	District 24
Lee	Lovvorn, Joe (R)	District 75
Barrow	McMillan, Steve (D)	District 85
District 38: Chambers	Lee	
	Wood, Debbie (R)	

President Kitts concluded his remarks by responding to a question from Senator McMullen who asked if it would be appropriate for faculty and staff to communicate directly with those identified in the above tables. President Kitts responded in the affirmative and that now would be the time to do so directly with the Governor's Office.

#### V. Remarks from Dr. Ross Alexander (VPAA/Provost)

Dr. Alexander began his remarks by commenting on student enrollments for the Winter Session 2019 semester which are up 25% over last year. The Winter semester is an important component of the 'finish in four' initiative.

Dr. Alexander also discussed the potential benefits of creating a speakers' bureau/faculty expertise directory to better showcase the faculty and their talents to the news media as well as local groups/organizations that are looking for speakers.

Dr. Alexander concluded his remarks by reminding senators of the upcoming commencement exercises and asked them to encourage their colleagues to attend.

At the conclusion of these remarks, Senator Infanger motioned to support creation of a speakers' bureau/faculty expertise directory. Senator McMullen seconded the motions.

The motion was approved.

## VI. Remarks from Dr. Butler Cain

Dr. Cain, Chair of the Department of Communications, aimed to update the Senate on Student Media at UNA. He has an overall positive assessment of where UNA currently is.

He mentioned that Dr. Justin Bergh has created rigorous training for all students involved with student media at UNA. Recent assessments suggested the training was well received by the involved students. The primary goal of this training was to promote greater professionalism in media practice among students.

Dr. Cain also mentioned changes to the educational curriculum in his department designed to better align the curriculum with professional journalistic practices. His department aims to identify, train and mentor students, and recruit them into student media.

Dr. Cain also mentioned enhanced financial support for student media at UNA creating increases in scholarships and supporting renovations to the student media building including new paint, lighting, furnishings, and additional renovations to production facilities.

Dr. Cain noted that UNA will host the Alabama Scholastic Press Workshop in 2020.

He concluded his remarks by discussing the work of the Student Media Steering Committee which is studying ways, with UNA's media consultant, to improve student media at UNA.

VII  
VI

## VIII. Committee Reports

### A. Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Klein mentioned that the Faculty Affairs Committee has concluded its work on revised language related to the proposed resolution addressing Shared Governance Committee Statements which the Faculty Senate will discuss at its 12/5/19.

### B.

- It was suggested the Faculty Affairs Committee speak with College Deans and a sample of faculty from all the colleges to ascertain workload practices, compensation, and release time.

Senator Richardson moved to assign this issue for further analysis to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Senator Infanger seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

(Note: The Faculty Senate assigned this issue to the Faculty Affairs Committee for analysis at its November, 2019 meeting).

## B. Amended Resolution Regarding Statements from Shared Governance Committees

See Appendix B

Senator Infanger motioned to accept the resolution. Senator Franklin seconded the motion.

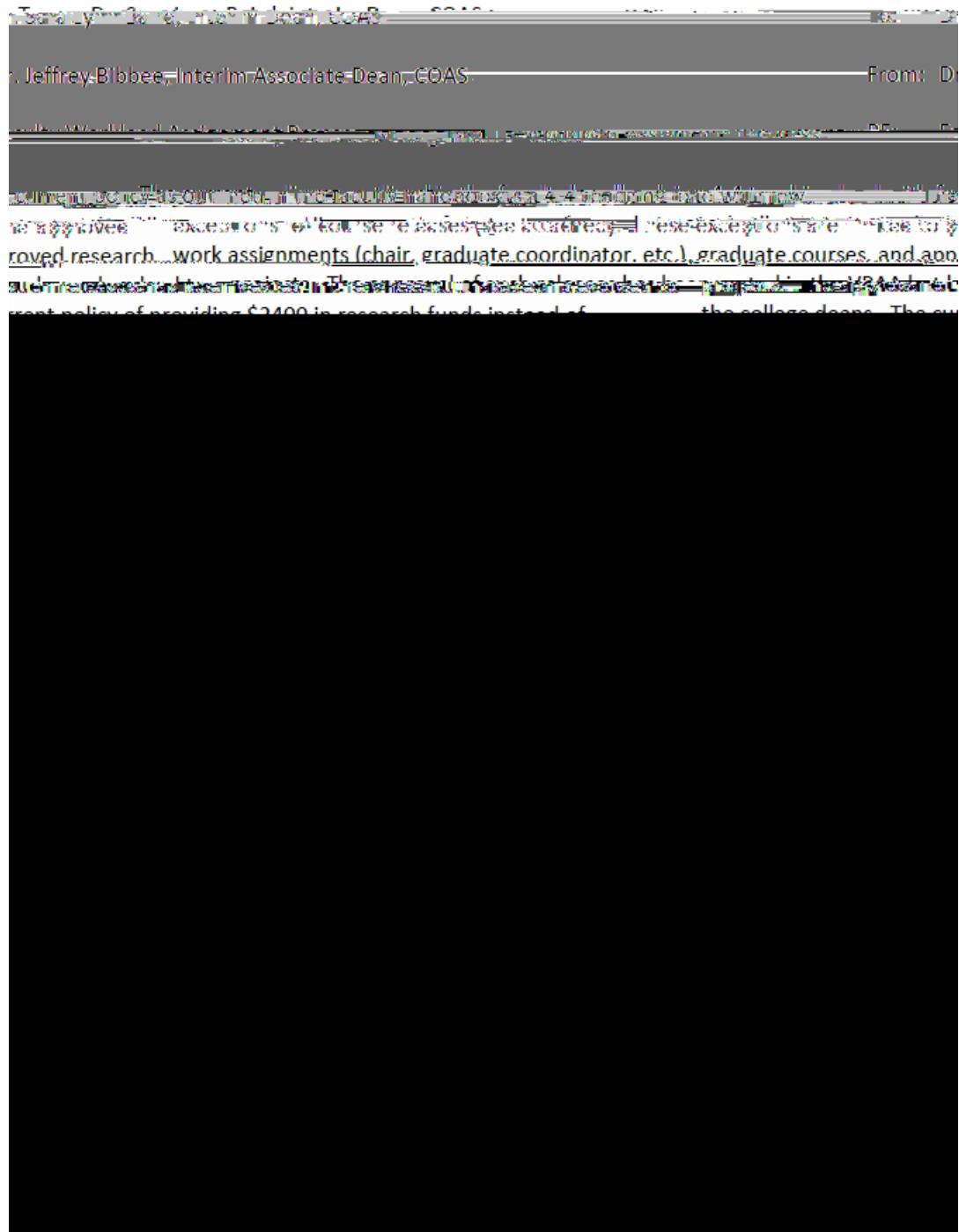
Discussion focused primarily on the need to strike the last FURTHER RESOLVED statement:

“FURTHER RESOLVED, That any statement signed by a president of the faculty, staff, or student senates as an individual shall indicate the site Tw 6.74 0 ( i)--1 (d (t)2 ((0 Tw 6.74 0 ( i)--1 (d (t)i)-1 (2



Appendix A

MEMORANDUM







ould have \_\_\_\_\_ Faculty that are to teach less than a full load because of other assignments sho  
nt sein \_\_\_\_\_ such arrangements prepared in writing well in advance through the dean's eye



## Appendix B

### Resolution on Statements Provided by Shared Governance System Committees

WHEREAS, the three main constituencies of the University (Faculty, Staff, and Students) have their own respective governing bodies in the Faculty Senate, the Staff Senate, and the Student Government Association (SGA), and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Council are the primary decision-making bodies for each of their respective constituencies, and

WHEREAS, the Shared Governance System of JINA was created for the purpose of providing a framework for shared governance and



Provost.

Provost.

ports through the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs (VPBFA). The Faculty/Staff Welfare Committee re

5. The Facilities and Infrastructure Committee reports through the Vice President

the senior administrator as

C. The Task Committees report to the President through

