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President's Update:

Dr. Diallo announced the appointment of Dr. James Muchovej to serve as Faculty Senate Parliamentarian. She asked permission from the Senate to send a letter and a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Clyde Ashley, former Faculty Senate Parliamentarian. She announced that Mrs. Rebecca Bruce lost her mother this week. She read a letter that Dr. Walter Mercer sent to the Faculty Senate requesting that a representative number of Faculty Senators attend an NCATE on-site visit on Monday, January 26, in the A. L. Cooper Room, Student Union Building. Drs. Jacquelyn Bolden, Marian Smith, Beulah Hemmingway, Keith Tucker and Gwendolyn Dixon volunteered to attend the interview session, along with Dr. Diallo.

Dr. Diallo reported that she and Dr. Hudson Nwakanma met with Provost Larry Robinson on December 18, 2003. Although they had a long list of items to discuss with him, they only had time to discuss two of them:

1. Faculty evaluations should be improved to focus more on development than its current focus on reward and punishment.
2. Assignment of responsibilities should be based on a Management by Objectives (MBO) system instead of the current top down approach in some units.

She read the list of concerns that they plan to discuss with Provost Robinson. Dr. Diallo accepted Dr. Joseph Johnson's recommendation that the need for more graduate degrees at the University be added to the list.

Dr. Mary B. Diallo and Dr. Maurice Holder submitted a written report of the Executive Council meeting, which they attended on Monday, January 5, 2004.

The Faculty Senate meeting was officially called to order at 3:20 p.m. An amended agenda that allowed Vice President Green-Powell and Registrar Michael James to be the first to address the Senate was adopted. The December 8th Faculty Senate minutes were read and approved.

Student Affairs, Reinstatement Policy

Vice-President Patricia Green-Powell addressed the issue of student reinstatement. While acknowledging that 85% of FAMU students have financial aid and that their family income averages \$35,000 a year, Dr. Green-Powell insisted that students must pay their tuition in order for the University to remain fiscally sound. She said that early spring registration gave students more time to pay their tuition fees. However, she added that some students have not yet paid their fees. She announced that February 4th is the absolute deadline to be reinstated to the University. She also stated that the Financial Aid office would go live with PeopleSoft on February 1, 2004.

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Registrar Michael James said that 12,100 students registered for spring and that there was a 10% cancellation rate. He asked Senators to send students not listed on confirmation rolls to the Registrar's office. Dr. Green-Powell and Registrar James answered questions that Senators had concerning other student issues.

Dr. Beulah Hemmingway noted that many undergraduate courses were canceled this semester.

Dr Donald Bellamine asked why faculty members are unable to print their rolls and transcripts. Registrar James said that the new ERP system would allow faculty to print rolls and transcripts, as well as submit final grades electronically. Other Faculty Senators expressed concerns about large classes and ERP faculty training.

Michael James told Senators that student social security numbers would be eliminated as an identification tool next fall 2004.

Dr. Adeline Evans requested that the banners that bear the names of the schools/colleges be used for all formal convocations/commencements? Registrar James indicated that he would try to honor her request.

Committee Reports:

Faculty Senate's response to the withholding of administrators' salaries by Tom Gallagher, Chief Financial Officer of Florida

Dr. Evans distributed to the Senators a letter she had composed and sent to members of the Ad Hoc Committee. She noted that the committee had failed to meet to discuss the letter, even though she had scheduled two meetings. She asked the Senate to consider approving the letter.

Dr. Joseph Johnson suggested that the committee make a recommendation about what the Faculty Senate should do when similar situations occur. Dr. Evans wanted a strong response to the negative publicity. She added that although the letter may be just a slap on the hand, it's better than nothing.

Dr. Tucker, noting that he's had a legitimate excuse for not attending the scheduled meeting, said that he was not prepared to vote to send Dr. Evans' letter to Tom Gallagher, Chief Financial Officer of Florida. Prof. Pugh suggested that more research was needed on the whole issue, including the State's failure to pay FAMU vendors. He recommended that the letter be tabled. Dr. Maurice Holder agreed, adding that the letter would serve as a starting point to address the issue more thoroughly. Dr. Shawnta Friday recommended that the Senate use a comprehensive and factual approach, avoiding the use of innuendos and hearsay.

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Evaluation of Dr. Fred Gainous

Dr. Diallo submitted a written report.

Committee on Committees:

Dr. Hudson Nwakanma said that members have been assigned to all the committees. Dr. Patrick Johnson asked when chairs would be informed of their appointment. Dr. Nwakanma said the Faculty Senate would send letters and e-mail to all chairs. He announced that a joint meeting of the Committee on Committees and the chairs of the various committees was being planned and that a date for the meeting would be announced as soon as the appointment letters were sent out. He said people had been asking him about the appointments.

Dr. Wendell Motter told the Senate that the Traffic Committee has been removed from the Faculty Senate by Florida Statutes and that the Vice-President for Financial and Fiscal Affairs appoints members to the committee. He apologized for not informing Dr. Nwakanma earlier. He further indicated that he was going to suggest that the current two faculty vacancies be filled with Faculty Senate representatives.

Curriculum Committee:

Dr. Soronnadi Nnaji reported that the Curriculum Committee met on December 4, 2004. Course requests from the College of Law were considered at the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Jan 26, in Ware-Rhane, Room 109 at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Nnaji said that the committee needed the Faculty Senate to inform units about what is required for a course change or a new course.

Announcements:

A Retention Forum will be held on Feb 4, 2004, in Perry Paige from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is on February 10, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Dr. Worthen said she will be attending the Board of Governors meeting on Thursday, January 22, 2004, in Gainesville, FL. The Accountability Committee will meet at noon on that day.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Dr. Jacquelyn Bolden
Mrs. Rebecca Bruce