

## **Athens State University Faculty Senate Minutes**

Charge: (As stated in Athens State University's 2009 *Employee Handbook*, Section 7.2, Faculty Constitution and by-Laws, Article XI: The Faculty Senate).

At a regular meeting of the Athens State University Faculty Senate, held in Founders' Chapel, on Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at 1:00, Mike Essary, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Bell, Busick, B. Chandler, P. Chandler, Dupre, Essary, B. Heatherly, Mitchell, Pieplow, Shaw, Vaughn

Member Absent: G. Williams

With no corrections/additions to the minutes from the September 13, 2011, meeting, the record shows them approved as stated. Motion carried (Mitchell/Pieplow).

### Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs: Williams elected chair.

Curriculum Committee: not met yet

Learning Resources: Concerned their charge is too limited.

Sabbatical: n/a

Faculty Affairs: Gadberry elected chair.

Election Committee: not met yet

Old Business: The old version of Employee Handbook changes was sent to faculty in April but not voted upon due to tornadoes. New version adds that election results be reported to both presiding officer and faculty senate before being reported to faculty, which removes any potential conflict of interest. However, Busick reminded senators that as a matter of parliamentary procedure, faculty should be asked to vote on the April version with which it had already been presented and that any amendments be made from the floor at special meeting on October 28.

New Business: Essary asked for agenda ideas for 2011-2012. Vaughn would like to invite the new Provost to a senate meeting, offer our support, and indeed see a job description for the ASU Provost, as the position isn't even in the Employee Handbook. Vaughn also questions if we have sufficient faculty governance, comparable to other institutions. Busick suggested we talk with other institutions. Branscombe said ASU's senate is very inactive in contrast with others. There was a motion to form a sub-committee to look into talks with other local institutional senates. Motion carried (Vaughn/Essary).

Essary likewise would like to invite Dr. Glenn and the vice-presidents to speak with us as well.

Dupre brought up ubiquitous concerns regarding the eLearning Symposium. Many faculty have mentioned that they would like to see it moved from Inservice to a time when faculty are not already overextended with preparation for the new academic year. Mitchell suggested the days of service at Thanksgiving. Senators agreed the conference was likely well intended, but was not academic in tone, was not peer reviewed, felt more like an “infomercial,” likely cost too much, and even characterized ASU’s seeming “marriage” with Blackboard. Senate therefore wants to reconvene the DL Task Force with faculty representation. Vaughn suggested faculty be represented on the committee by one senator per college.

There being no additional comments or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00. Motion carried (Mitchell/Pieplow).

Respectfully submitted,  
Bebe Gish Shaw, Secretary