Minutes for the 44th Faculty Senate Meeting
Monday, October 5th, 2020
6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Opening Remarks

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Dr. William Ndi, Chair. Dr. Ndi thanked Senators for their dedication, service, and time. Condolences were extended to the Arrington and Moyo families. Mrs. Mary Arrington, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, lost her husband, and Dr. Doreen Moyo, former Senator and member of the Academic Affairs Committee passed. Senators observed a moment of silence followed by prayer, led by Mrs. Eunice Samuel. Mrs. Arrington thanked everyone for their prayers.

Adoption of Minutes of Last Meeting

Dr. Ndi screen shared the minutes of the September 14th Senate meeting. After the body reviewed the minutes, it was moved by Dr. Ross and seconded by Dr. Glotova that the minutes be approved with the noted correction, the name Tijon be changed to reflect his last name, Mr. Foon.

Attendees Present: 32 (Attendee names are attached to meeting minutes. If your name was omitted, please notify the secretary so that it can be added to the list).

Updates

- Dr. Ndi emailed Deans to ascertain how many computers were needed by faculty in their schools or colleges. To date, the response has been reasonable.
- Senators were encouraged to attend Faculty Senate meetings and invite fellow colleagues in their respective units to attend. Decisions that are made impact all faculty, and it is important that we show up to preserve and protect our interest.
- Dr. Ndi also reported that the two finalists for Provost were not selected by the administration. A new search committee will be formed, and the search relaunched. He reminded us that at the last Senate meeting, we had discussed polling faculty. However, it has been made known to him that when faculty were given an opportunity to actively engage in the process, they did not. Hopefully, a Senator will be asked to serve on the search committee, and if candidates are brought on campus, faculty members will actively engage in the process.

Chair: Dr Bill F. Ndi
Vice Chair: Dr. Jay Bhuyan
Executive Secretary: Eunice A. Samuel
Committee Chair Reports

Academic Affairs Committee (Mrs. Mary Arrington, Chair)
Mrs. Arrington had a 6:30 class but submitted report to Dr. Ndi.
The Academic Affairs Committee met on September 17th, 2020. Eight members were present. The committee reviewed three proposals. The committee made recommendations and the proposals were given back to the originators for clarification. Once the clarifications are made, the proposals will be reconsidered for approval, and the committee will move forward with the process. Members of this committee are appointed by the deans.

Academic Personnel Services Committee (Dr. Li Huang, Chair)
Dr. Huang informed the Senate that a new Academic Personnel Services Committee has been organized and each college has a representative. The committee will meet this month. In addition, the schedule for Promotion and Tenure has been circulated. Members of this committee are appointed by the deans.

Research and Graduate Studies Committee (Dr. Daniel Abugri, Chair)
Dr. Abugri was experiencing technical difficulties and asked Dr. Ndi to report on his behalf. Dr. Abugri expressed that the concerns discussed at the last meeting have been communicated to Dr. Jelani and he is waiting to hear back from him.

Continuing Education and Outreach Committee (Dr. Yvette Essounga, Chair)
Dr. Essounga reported that a new proposal has been sent to the principal of Tuskegee Institute Middle School (TIMS), recommending that they use Zoom to make the presentation to middle school students. Members now include Ms. Arrington, Dr. Glotova, and Dr. April Jones. Anyone interested is welcomed to join.

Grievance Committee (Mrs. Eunice Samuel, Chair)
Mrs. Samuel thanked Mr. Parham, College of Arts and Sciences and Dr. Reid, School of Education, for agreeing to serve on the Grievance Committee. Representation is still needed from other colleges.

Instruction Committee (Dr. John Tilghman, Chair)
Dr. Tilghman reported that the Instruction Committee met on October 1st at 6:00 p.m. The committee will design a comprehensive survey to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of teaching during COVID-19. The five categories to be assessed are: (1) technology, (2) testing and assessment, (3) class preparation, (4) faculty and student engagement, and (5) student to student engagement. Other factors to be considered are the methods of teaching; face-to-face, hybrid, or online. Dr. Tilghman inquired about obtaining information from the survey conducted last spring when we first went online.

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Dr. Ndi suggested that he contact Dr. Kellie Samuels or Dr. Preston Robinson to obtain that information, and if his assistance is needed, to please let him know.

**Other Business**

Dr. Ndi led the discussion by strongly urging Senators to join a committee and reminded us that we are not limited to serving on just one committee. Four faculty Senators from the College of Veterinary Medicine were welcomed to the Senate (Dr. Lanell Ogden, Dr. Toufic Nashar, Dr. Woubit Abebe, and Dr. Asseged Dibaba).

*Question from Dr. Essounga:* Are we going to have t-shirts at the end of the semester?

Dr. Ndi: If this is something we are interested in, I will follow-up and reach out to the budget office to see if we can purchase t-shirts for the regular attendees of the Senate meetings. Additionally, at the end of the year, Certificates of Service will be awarded to regular attendees as evidence of service to the University.

*Question by Dr. Nashar:* When will we know the names of the members of each committee?

Dr. Ndi screen shared the agenda listing the names of the Committee Chairs and suggested that they be contacted for additional information.

*Question:* Dr. Bender wondered if there was a space where she could join.

Dr. Essounga invited Dr. Bender to join the Continuing Education and Outreach Committee and would be reaching out to her.

After there were no more questions or concerns, it was motioned by Dr. Tilghman and seconded by Mr. Parham that the meeting adjourn.

Dr. Ndi thanked members again for their participation and the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eunice A. Samuel, Executive Secretary

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**Vice Chair:** Dr. Jay Bhuyan  
**Executive Secretary:** Eunice A. Samuel
Attendees
Faculty Senate Meeting Monday, October 5th, 2020

1. Abebe, Woubit
2. Arrington, Mary
3. Asog, Rosemary
4. Asogwa, Sunday
5. Baig, Zahid
6. Bender, Jennifer
7. Benson, Lynn
8. Chitra, Nayak
9. Dibaba, Asseged
10. Esfandiary, Esmaeil
11. Essounga, Yvette
12. Fishkin, Benjamin
13. Glotova, Olga
14. Graham, Jo Ann
15. Holston, Febreu
16. Huang, Li
17. Imafidon, Andrea
18. Jafarinejad, Shahryar
19. Jones, April
20. Murphy, Gregory
21. Nashar, Toufic
22. Ndi, William
23. Ndoye, Mandoye
24. Ntam, Moses
25. Ogden, Lanell
26. Ortigoza, Marisol Alcantara
27. Parham, Charles
28. Reid, James
29. Ross, Jennifer
30. Samuel, Eunice
31. Tilghman, John
32. Whittington, Richard

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