

INTERIM ACADEMIC SENATE
Minutes of the January 13, 2009 Meeting

Welcome

Shelley Broderick, Dean of the David A. Clarke School of Law and Interim Chair of the Interim Academic Senate opened the meeting with general remarks concerning the Senate's commitment and dedication to governance; her general understanding and appreciation of Senators' time constraints; and encouraging words for participation at the committee level to get the work done.

The following Senators were PRESENT:

C. Pearson (Eng/Archt/Aero)	R. Sneed (Biology)
W. White (Bus-Mktg/Legal Info Sys)	M. Petti – (English Dept)
G. Smith (Business-Adjunct Prof)	W. Hanff (Mass Media & Perform Arts)
G. Baxter (Interim Provost and VP, Academic Affairs) (<i>Ex Officio</i>)	W. Mahmoud (Engineering)
G. Green-Ridley (Nursing)	W. Faye Garrett – (CAS-LCD)
E. Harrison – (Nursing/Allied Health)	A. King Berry (Education)
D. Barnett (Computer Science)	C. Cousin (College-Bio Sciences)
K. Inman (Library/LRD)	S. Farmer – (Math Department)
E. Ezeani (Accounting)	B. Abellera (Philosophy)
B. Brown (Math Department)	H. Seyoum (Chemistry/Physics)
M. Tannen (Management)	T. Jackson – (Office of General Counsel)
M. Rode (Interim Chair, Mass Media & Perform. Arts)	
D. Musgrove (Dept History)	
S. Broderick (Law)	

Observers:

P. Thorstenson (Chem/Phys)

Discussion

Dean Broderick sought and received approval of December meeting minutes with corrections to spelling and contact information duly noted. She noted her commitment to transparency and she praised K. Inman's efforts to post prior meeting minutes on Blackboard. **The next meeting is February 10th.**

Dean Broderick circulated the President's "Creating the Future" power point and Eurmon Hervey's "Community College and Workforce Development Update." She asked G. Baxter to provide the Senate with an overview of President Sessoms' vision and Dr. Hervey's report as expressed at the Board of Trustees meeting earlier in the day at the BOT meeting.

G. Baxter highlighted the following from the presentations:

- The University of the District of Columbia is the most accredited institution in the country;
- The UDC BOT approved the establishment of the “UDC System of Higher Education.” The system will include: (i) “America’s Flagship Urban Land-Grant Institution,” a 4-year program with honors program, graduate programs and other new schools and (ii) a community college (possibly sited at Southeastern University) with open enrollment, workforce development programs, and honors program.
- Immediate priorities, consistent with the land-grant mission are a College of Agriculture and a Center for Urban Education (the latter separate from the College of Arts and Sciences).
- A proposed School of Government graduate school with core faculty comprised of adjuncts and a research-driven focus – similar to Harvard’s Kennedy School.
- Admissions standards at the flagship institution will include minimum requirements in GPA/SAT/ACT/Accuplacer
- New tuition fees are also proposed with schedules for DC residents, metropolitan area residents (to be defined) and all others.
- The proposed community college, housed in a facility located in the District, will recognize three kinds of students: “ready to learn, then earn;” “ready to learn and earn;” and students earning college credits.
- Current students will be permitted to complete their current programs. The University will “teach out” or phase out programs not selected to continue in the UDC System.

Comments/Questions:

- W. Mahmoud and G. Smith expressed concerns about the extended length of time some students take to finish programs and the need for new faster completion requirements. A clear policy is needed moving forward.
- S. Broderick responded that the University should look to best practices and define a policy accordingly.
- G.Baxter announced several terrific new members of the staff:
Jackie Boynton, Assistant VP for Marketing;
Patricia Thomas, Director of Athletics; and
Dr. Beverly Hartline, Dean of Graduate Studies.
- M. Rode commented that students were not getting resources comparable to area schools; fees out-pace tuition and/or fees are not connected to services.

She also questioned the overall impact of the President's vision and the UDC System on international student enrollment.

- B. Brown's comments urged transparency in the new vision and advocated for the Interim Academic Senate to review the proposed legislation for the University's autonomy. She also expressed concern with the identifying the new schools as part of a "system."
- S. Broderick referred B. Brown to D. Langenburg's research and comments about university systems during the BOT meeting.

Committee/Task Force Updates and Reports

- **Bylaws** – W. Hanff researched past procedures and will provide an update on best practices at February meeting.
Senators: Musgrove, Fuller, Broderick, Rhode, King-Berry
- **Admission and Retention of Students**- No report.
Senators: W. Hanff, M. Farley, C. Cousin, H. Seyoum, A. King-Berry
- **Academic Standards, Programs and Policies** - met once and recommend adoption of the new name. Senators approved the new name (above).
Senators: G. Baxter, S. Fuller, W. Hanff, M. Petty, E. Harrison, W. Faye-Garrett, C. Pearson, W. Mahmoud and M. Rhode (in consultation)
- **Academic Freedom** – No report
Committee of the Whole

Reminder: Committee/Task Force reports are to be sent to the attention of Shelley Broderick as soon as the meeting has taken place or at least a week before the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Pending Proposals

- C. Pearson noted that certain undergraduate and graduate programs had been proposed to the old Senate. He asked what process should be followed. W. Hanff stated he may be able to get list of pending proposals.
- D. Musgrove suggested: (i) making a formal request to former officers of the University Senate for all relevant and pending proposals and (ii) sending an expedited request to all deans. Dean Broderick agreed to ask for pending proposals.

Election of Executive Committee Officers

Dean Broderick asked the group to submit nominations for Chair and Faculty Vice Chair prior to the February meeting via email. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the February meeting as well.

Adjournment

Upon reconfirming her pledge to conduct meetings on time and lasting no longer than 2 hours, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved at 4:31 pm.

Meeting Materials:

- America's Urban Land-Grant University: Creating the Future (PowerPoint slides presented by Dr. Allen L. Sessoms, President)
- Community College & Workforce Development Update (PowerPoint slides presented by Dr. Eurmon Hervey)