

Savannah State University Faculty Senate
Minutes for Tuesday, October 1, 2013 4:00 PM Whiting Hall Chan Auditorium

Senators of 2013-2014 Present: Ouandlous, Bell, Silberg, Jordan, Warren, Brown, Niranjana, Park, Wu, Gardner-Martin, Lewis, Maynor, Metts, O'Brien, Rukmana, St. Mark, Walker, Adeyemo, Andreou, Atena, Curran, Johnson, Kim, Taylor, Wyche, Mosley, DeLoach

Ex-officio: Verret, Jolley, Sarhan, Lambright, R. Smith, D. Smith, Hardy

Senators Absent: Franklin, Brooks, Kawasha, Li,

Excused: Jahmani, Harris-Murphy

Visitors: Berry, Bentley, Richardson, Ide, Bongang, Singh, Cunningham, Mustafa, Brannen, Odom, Iancu

I- Call to order- The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Dr. Ouandlous at 4:07 p.m.

II- Approval of Agenda- The agenda was approved.

III- The September 3, 2013 Minutes were approved with a correct to remove a first name included in error.

IV- The Senate considered Old Business.

1. The Senate entertained an update on the golf cart safety issue. Mr. Jolley provided insights from physical plant, explaining that there are other departments that use carts. He also talked to traffic personnel about the possibility of having greater involvement in safety enforcement of cart driving behavior. He will contact the other units to ascertain their approach to safety. With respect to the practice of using the sidewalk to avoid the one way streets, the carts will continue to be allowed this use.
2. Dr. Verret provided an update on efforts to change graduation application deadlines. The focus is on the next academic year and a recommendation will be presented to the Senate.
3. The Senate entertained an update from Mr. Jolley and Dr. Verret on efforts to assess and implement overload pay in the period worked using two installments, including one at the mid-term point. An update of these efforts will be presented at the next Senate meeting.
4. The Senate entertained an update on efforts to develop an electronic process for adding students to classes requiring prior approval. An application in Banner is being investigated that allows students to be wait-listed, addressing the concern of excessive class size resulting during the Drops/Add period. In addition, an interim step of using SSU email with attached forms is being considered. An update will be provided at the next Senate meeting.

V- The Senate entertained the President's Report, which is incorporated to these minutes by reference. The report included a moment of silence in memory of Ms. LaSonya Stovall's passing.

VIII- The Senate entertained an update from Mr. Jolley on benefits changes taking effect January 1. Of particular importance was the notification that there will be no increase in

premium contributions by employees and that all employees are required to reenroll via the ADP system. More information will be available at the Benefits Fair on November 1.

VI- The Vice Chairman reported on Senators expressing difficulty in conducting faculty business due to lack of attendance and participation. He described the benefits of recognizing service performed. He underscored there are two important components, administrative and faculty, to emphasize the necessity of administrative scheduling cooperation to allow faculty participation. The service recognition proposal involves a certificate for service. A motion was made, supported, and passed to institute a service recognition certificate program.

VII-The Senate entertained a proposal presented by Dr. Hardy for SSU to affiliate with the eCore initiative in the Georgia system. A fact sheet was made available to all in attendance. A motion was made, supported, and approved to support SSU entering into an eCore affiliation agreement effective fall 2014.

VIII-Adjournment- the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
David A. Bell- Recording Secretary



**President's Report
Faculty Senate – October 1st, 2013**

Good Afternoon!

Academic Affairs

We are pleased to announce that The School of Teacher Education had a successful visit by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission Team September 8-10. At the exit conference, the team chair reported SOTE met all eight standards without any areas for improvements. Further, the chair stated, their recommendation to the GaPSC will be for the approval of all SOTE Teacher Education Programs. The Office of the President should receive the official letter of approval from the GaPSC sometime in November. SOTE will begin enrolling student's spring 2014. Kudos to Dr. Elazer Barnette and the SOTE staff and faculty for a job well done.

Campus Safety

On September 21, 2013 our campus was visited by violence and the tragic death of a young man. Since then, the following has been put into place to increase campus security: effective immediately, students will see extra public safety personnel patrolling our residential areas and we have increased surveillance at the LaRoche Ave. entrance gate. After 9 p.m., campus guests must provide a picture identification to enter campus. Once the visitation period ends – 11:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and midnight on weekends – only those with an SSU ID are permitted on campus. We are evaluating all of our 600 security cameras and making improvements or enhancements as needed.

Student Affairs

- ✦ The Counseling Center is offering trauma counseling for students impacted by the recent shooting on campus.
- ✦ A new Nurse Practitioner for our Health Clinic started last week. Her name is Sunni Jett.
- ✦ The Health Clinic will also be offering a Men's Clinic one day a week to compliment the already existing Women's Clinic.
- ✦ University Recreation and Wellness is offering a number of fitness classes this fall for our faculty and staff including Yoga Meditation, Belly Dancing, Spin Classes, Water Aerobics, Bokwa and Zumba.
- ✦ New Student Organizations have been approved this fall including a Student Veterans Association, Model African Union Organization, and a Latin Student Organization (SOMOS SSU – meaning "We are SSU").

University Advancement

We have engaged Mindpower Inc. to conduct a comprehensive marketing/branding study for Savannah State University. The results of the study, which may take six to nine months, will yield definitive answers regarding our perception in the marketplace along with recommendations to develop strategic communications built on the brand message(s). The Mindpower Inc. team visit

campus on Oct. 29-30 to conduct focus group research with various constituent groups, i.e. students, faculty, admissions staff, alumni, etc.

Upcoming Events

In partnership with the Savannah Bar Association, the Port City Bar Association and Savannah State University (SSU) will present the Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies documentary Donald L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice at 7 p.m., tonight in Elmore Theater at the King-Frazier Student Center. The presentation is free and open to the public. The documentary chronicles the achievements of the legendary civil rights attorney, Donald L. Hollowell (1917-2004). Narrated by Peabody Award-winning journalist Charlayne Hunter-Gault, the documentary traces Hollowell's groundbreaking work as Georgia's chief civil rights attorney during the 1950s and 1960s.

- ✦ On October 10th there will be a joint new faculty event at Armstrong Atlantic University at 6 PM
- ✦ On October 12th we will have Fall Open Campus day at Tiger Area beginning at 10:30.
- ✦ On October 18th, The USG Procurement Expo will take place in the Student Union.
- ✦ Homecoming is the week of October 21st culminating in a game against North Carolina Central on October 26th.

As you all know we suffered the loss of one of our long serving staff members, Ms. LaSonya Stovall who was Director of Residential Services and a double alumof her alma mater. In her memory, let us pause for a moment of silence in her memory. Thank you.

I want to thank you for all that you continue to do to move our students from matriculation to graduation.