FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 10, 2014, 3:15 p.m.
1103C Houston Cole Library


Members Absent: Scott Beckett, Mike Davis, Mark Hearn, Kory Hill, Todd McKerchar, Donna Perygin, Margaret Poplin

I. Call to Order: President Melanie Wallace called the meeting to order and introduced guests.

II. Guests: Ms. Euris Belle, Principal with Diversified Search (Atlanta); Mr. Ronnie Smith, JSU Trustee and Chair of Presidential Search & Screening Committee; and Dr. Rosalynn Martin, JSU Director of Human Resources and Committee Member, had expressed an interest in hearing from faculty and so were invited to attend the Senate meeting. Dr. Windon Edge, Senate President-Elect, moderated a discussion based on questions prepared by the Executive Committee; afterward, our guests asked Faculty Senate members for feedback on some of their own questions.

- Guests were first asked to comment on the process and timeline for selecting a new President for JSU and to clarify the roles of the search firm and the Search & Screening Committee. The Committee, made up of trustees, administrators, the Faculty Senate President, the SGA President, and area businesspeople, was appointed by the JSU Board of Trustees to assist them in identifying candidates for the JSU Presidency. Diversified Search was retained to assist with gathering information, creating a leadership statement for the job posting (by the end of the Fall term), finding well-qualified candidates, vetting candidates, and maintaining a secure database to maintain candidate confidentiality until 3-5 final candidates are chosen by the Search & Screening Committee to submit to the full Board of Trustees (goal for February). Diversified Search was chosen because of their 40 years of experience in the executive search business, their experience with regional academic institutions, and the proximity of available personnel (Birmingham and Atlanta).

- There is currently a standard job description, but it will be updated soon after the Committee gathers input from various stakeholders, including faculty, students, alumni, and area businesspeople. Priorities for candidate qualifications, accomplishments, and management style will be based on input from stakeholders and will be written with the help of representatives from Diversified Search.

- Once the final candidates are selected and brought to campus, there will be an opportunity for faculty to meet and talk to the candidates and then offer feedback to the Committee. Faculty are also welcome to submit nominations via email during the search.

- Dr. Edge distributed a list of preferred Presidential traits and characteristics—developed by the Senate Executive Committee based on input from faculty across campus—and then asked our guests if they had follow-up questions regarding the list.

- Ms. Belle said that, in addition to finding out what we want in a new President, she would like additional information to help sell JSU to potential candidates; so, she asked us to...
think about what brought us to JSU and what makes our institution unique. Among the many qualities voiced were that JSU is in a great location (small town close to large cities) with a low cost of living; it is a friendly place to work where faculty have the opportunity to teach many different classes and engage in a wide variety of scholarly and service activities with the support of the university; the student body is large enough to have diversity but small enough to allow faculty to work closely with and get to know their students.

III. Approval of Minutes: The October 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Faculty Honors—Dr. Ellen Peck reported that Emeriti Faculty applicants were approved.

B. President’s Report—Dr. Melanie Wallace reported that:
   - The Summer 2015 Online General Education Pilot Study, implementing more competitive pricing for online undergraduate summer tuition, has been approved.
   - There is a proposal to charge $439 per credit hour for graduate hybrid courses (51%–99% online), the same rate as for fully online graduate courses.
   - The College of Nursing is sponsoring a 5K run in April to raise money for nursing scholarships; in addition, the College received a donation of two high fidelity simulators from the University of South Carolina–Aiken.
   - Dr. Tommy Turner has been appointed Associate Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies.

V. Unfinished Business:
   - The signed copy of The Giving Tree was given to Dr. Meehan.
   - The tree and bench plaques honoring Dr. Meehan have arrived. The tree should be planted in late February; a “golden shovel” event will be planned later.

VI. New Business: none

VII. Announcements:
   - Drama—Agatha Christie’s The Mousetrap premieres Nov. 13–16.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Wallace at 4:34 p.m.