

University Senate Minutes
2 September 1997
Rita A. Rollins Room, Grace Crum Rollins Building

In attendance: Leann Bauch, John Boli, Virgil Brown, Terry Clark, William Cody, Tommy Cutts, Ross Donaldson, Douglas Falls, Ron Foust, Steven Frank, Jonathan Freimann, Anne Rector, Rob Goldman, Marsha Hendricks, Gary Hauk, Linda, Huddleston, Jim Johnson, Luke Johnson, Joyce Jones, Judith Kapp, Harriet King, Steve Karftchick, Kevin LaGree, Adrienne Leder, Sharon Lewis, Maddie Monahan, Bafana Moyo, Erik Oliver, Helen O'Shea, David Pacini, Sidney Perkowitz, Deepika Petraglia-Bahri, Jeffery Rosensweig, Karen Salisbury, Bill Size, Michael Skolnick, Kara Stalcup, Donald Stein, Claire Sterk, Randall Strahan, Jocelyn Taylor, Mike Terraas, Milton Thomas, Keith Wilkinson, Nancy Wilkinson,

Guests: Betty Jones

I. Welcome and Presentation of Theme

Senate President Bill Cody called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m., extending a warm welcome to all and expressing hopes for a productive year. He recognized the presence of Dr. Betty Jones, ACE fellow, who will be working from University Secretary Gary Hauk's office.

Senate President Bill Cody then introduced the theme for the 1997-98 University Senate: "A Place of Learning," which he elaborated under six senses. The first of these is the historic sense in which the university is understood to be a place where learning occurs. Such learning, implies a second sense: that the university is also a place of teaching. What is learned, however, is more than the specifics of a particular subject; it incorporates a third sense, which is service to the community, to the world, to the environment, and to ourselves. A fourth sense, which is inextricably linked to the work of learning, is the discipline of research. In concert, these senses of learning contribute to making the university a place where we, fifth, learn about ourselves. And in so doing, finally, we learn about what we and others value. In sum, these six senses serve as the starting point of our work and living together, and imbue our task in the Senate of mutual learning and deliberation.

II. Presentation and Approval of 15 April 1997 Meeting Minutes

Senate President Cody reported that the schedule of meetings for the year, as well as the minutes of the 15 April 1997 meeting of Senate had been distributed electronically. Members of the Senate approved the minutes of that meeting.

III. Welcome and Reports on Projects

Interim Provost Rebecca Chopp welcomed the members of the Senate, and extended, on behalf of the administration, appreciation for the work of the Senate. Characterizing members of the Senate as ambassadors for the University, Interim Provost Chopp noted that it is the commission of the Senate to address the whole vision of the University and the interrelatedness of its parts.

She acknowledged, with reference to Neil Postman's "The End of Education," that universities are currently experiencing a crisis of their narratives, and outlined four projects in which Emory will attempt to clarify its own self-understanding.

1. Teaching Commission

The report from the Teaching Commission, which is soon to be published, calls for an equal emphasis on teaching and research. The report will be discussed across the university in a series of lunches, as well as being the topic of a university-wide faculty meeting November 11.

2. Campus Master Plan

Work continues to move forward on the Campus Master Plan, a model of which is located in Gambrell Hall in the working offices of the campus planners. The Campus Master Plan will be the topic of a Town Hall Meeting to be held October 9.

3. Health Sciences Strategic Planning

Throughout the summer, Health Sciences has been engaged in an extensive self-study, clarifying their philosophical goals, and framing a strategic plan for their implementation

4. Internationalization

With the arrival of Steve Sanderson as the new Dean of Emory College, Emory's pursuit of the ideals of globalizing education will receive even greater emphasis. The shape of the pursuit will be informed, in part, by a new partnership with Campus Life and by the development of strategic plans for research and the sciences.

IV. Senate Housekeeping

Senate President Cody brought the policy on attendance to the attention of the members of the Senate and urged them to adhere to its guidelines.

He then called upon the Senate to ratify the election of the Executive Committee--President, Past-President, president-elect, Secretary, and President of the Employee Council-- and to elect two student representatives. The Senate ratified the election of the Executive Committee, and elected Jonathan Freimann, SGA President, and Kara Stalcup, graduate student, as student representatives.

The Senate then heard statements from the chairs of the standing committees of the Senate, who presented their committee rosters for approval by the Senate. The Senate approved the presented rosters.

V. Reflections from the University President

President Chace expressed appreciation to the Senate for its work, and shared some of his thoughts about important emphases for the coming year. He noted the ongoing work of the Campus Master Plan, and welcomed the new walk-way (linking the space between Cannon Chapel and Cox Hall), which is currently under construction, as a representative expression of the University's commitment to the execution of the plan. Expressing his pleasure with the arrival of Steve Sanderson as Dean of Emory College, President Chace cited his enthusiasm for the ideals of internationalization and globalization of education at Emory that he shares with the new dean. He spoke to his desire to have more parts of the campus to get to know each other, and especially for faculty to get to know the trustees of the University.

With great care, President Chace then reviewed with the Senate the incidents at Oxford College and subsequent events that culminated in a policy dispute between the University and the United Methodist Church. He outlined the principal points over which parties to the dispute differ, and explained the decision of the trustees to vest responsibility with the chaplains of Emory and Oxford College for the development of policy guidelines for the use of the chapels, which will be brought before the Board in November.

President Chace announced that a national search for a Provost was underway, and that the nine selected members of the Presidential Advisory Committee, drawn from across the university for their excellence in teaching and scholarship, would assist him in the selection process. He reported that links had been established between the campus planners and the standing committees for the Senate whose work bears upon aspects of campus development. He noted, as well, that the work of the strategic plan for the implementation of the values platform outlined in Choices and Responsibility would go forward this Fall under the direction of Chancellor Billy Frye, and that links would be established between this strategic plan and the campus plan to assure coordinated implementation.

VI. Other Business

SGA President Jonathan Freimann brought the student resolution on access for students with disabilities to the attention of the Senate. Senate President Cody promised that the Senate would receive the resolution and work for its appropriate implementation.

Senate President Cody adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Pacini, Secretary