

Minutes of the Emory University Senate

September 28, 2004

Jones Room, Woodruff Library

In attendance: Nancy Bayly, Jocelyn Brewer, Jim Brown, Tim Bryson, Vincent Carter (for Daniel Teodorescu), Kim Collins, Curtis Carlson, Kenneth Carter, Eugene Emory, Sylvia Ennis, Thomas Frank, Isabel Garcia, Susan Gilbert, Maggie Gilead, Keith Gitlitz, Noman Goheer, Amy Harms, Don Harris, Gary Hauk, David Holtgrave, Jane Howell, Kenton Kelly, Harriet King, Vikas Kumar, Susie Lackey, Earl Lewis, Lynn Magee, Peter Mather, Mark McLeod, Richard Metters, Alice Miller, Judy Raggi Moore, Kelly Moynes, Don Newsome, Coleman Oglesbee, Ruth Pagell (also representing Linda Matthews), Robert Paul, Patrick Reilly, Michael Rogers, David Saliba (for Bobbie Epting), Samira Savill, John Snarey, Sidney Stein, Frank Stout, Steven Strange, Sharon Strocchia, Michael Terrazas, Paul Towne, James Wagner, Richard Ward, Cathi Wentworth, Karl Woodworth.

Excused: Louis Burton, Bobbie Epting, Lara Hendy, Ashaki Holmes, Linda Matthews, James Morey, Judith Rohrer, Robin Schreiber.

Absent: Kent Alexander, Jamar Brown, Raymond Dingleline, Richard Doner, Robert Ethridge, Jason Fisk, John Ford, Bill Fox, Jan Gleason, Caroline Hoit, Michael Johns, Charlotte Johnson, Youhann Jokhi, Ronnie Jowers, Jimin Kim, Scott Kitner, Jeffrey Koplan, Jane Lawson, Richard Levinson, Marvin Lim, Jackie Marcos, Edith Murphree, Albert Padwa, Thomas Pearson, Bernard Potts, Johnnie Ray, Holli Semetko, Jennifer Wick, Seth Wood, Sharon Zinns.

I. Welcome and Introductions

University Senate President Sharon Strocchia called the meeting to order at 3:19 pm. President Strocchia welcomed all members of Senate and introduced herself and the Senate Executive Committee. President Strocchia specifically welcomed President Wagner, Provost Lewis, Vice President Miller, Vice President Hauk, Vice Provost Harris and Dean Robert Paul.

II. Orientation: What Is the Senate and What Does It Do?

President Strocchia presented a summary of the function and operation of the University Senate. Major points of the summary included an overview of the Senate bylaws, observations of the diversity (all sectors of the institution) and size of the senate (80-90 members) and a review of the voting/non-voting membership. She also highlighted the “unsung heroes” of the Senate as being the standing (9) and ad hoc committees that perform the work of the Senate in an on-going fashion.

President Strocchia proposed a theme for the University Senate of 2004-2005 of “Visioning Emory’s Future.” She listed two key questions of this theme as being “What do we want?” and “How do we get there?”

She then announced initiatives in progress, including the EmoryLink project (with the vendor showcase of September 30, 2004), Senate discussions of the discrimination harassment policy (scheduled - October 2004) and the campus climate survey (scheduled - November 2004). Other upcoming discussion topics include the master plan and benefits review.

III. Approval of April 2004 Minutes

The minutes of the April 2004 meeting were approved with no corrections.

IV. Approval of Committee Rosters, 2004-2005

Preliminary committee rosters were approved. Presentation of committee goals and projects was deferred to the October, 2004 meeting.

V. Remarks by Provost Earl Lewis

Provost Lewis stated that, although a letter is forthcoming to provide more details, he wanted to share with the Senate three primary projects for the provost office.

(1) Strategic Planning. The co-chairing of the Strategic Planning Project with Executive Vice President Michael Johns is continuing. Phase I – the environmental assessment – is complete. Phase II is beginning. In this phase, “institutional pulses” and “common themes that cross-cut the University” will be determined to drive the future of Emory. Approximately 5-15 cross-cut themes will be determined.

(2) Academic Affairs. Search processes are underway to select new deans for Goizueta Business School and Oxford College. A permanent dean for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences will also be selected in the near future. The periodic review of Candler School of Theology is in progress.

(3) Two new positions are being planned for the Provost Office – (A) Vice Provost position for faculty development and academic planning and (B) Vice Provost position for community diversity and institutional development.

Questions and answers followed.

VI. President Strocchia requested that the University Senate committee chairs introduce themselves. The committee chairs who were present did so, with Strocchia introducing those who were absent.

VII. Remarks by Vice Provost Harris

Vice Provost Harris distributed several new publications by the Information Technology Division that are designed to increase communication with the University concerning technology services. These publications continue an effort begun with an ITD web redesign and new Helpdesk web interface to improve customer service at ITD.

Vice Provost Harris noted that information being generated by the strategic planning process is informing ITD on how to best support the strategic direction of the units of the institution. As common threads cutting across multiple schools become clear, ITD will focus on the infrastructure requirements necessary for the university to achieve the strategic plan.

Vice Provost Harris briefly updated the Senate about the EmoryLink project and publicized the vendor fair occurring on September 30, 2004.

Questions and answers followed.

VIII. Remarks by Vice President Miller

Vice President Miller stated that Human Resources is working on an orientation process for new employees that will enhance their sense of community as they join the university.

Vice President Miller presented an overview of the Fair Labor Standards Act and its effects at Emory University. She discussed the history of FLSA and the exempt/non-exempt classification process, announced a unit level study of all positions beginning in October, and discussed the FLSA challenges unique to higher education. Vice President Miller announced that personal budgeting and finance classes will be made available to employees affected by reclassification. President Wagner commented on the intent of the federal government in making changes to the FLSA.

Questions and answers followed.

IX. Remarks by President Wagner

President Wagner commented about his observations concerning a year of education about "What is Emory?" Highlights of improved issues over the past year include the university leadership team and an institutional clarification about a sense of direction and anticipation of the future. President Wagner also expressed concern about the issues of community, benefits and communication/respect.

Questions and answers followed.

X. New Business

None.

XI. Hearing no other business, President Strocchia adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Brown
Secretary of the University Senate