

**JSCC Faculty Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Foundation Board Room  
April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Present:** Jayne Lowery, Kim White, Claude Bailey, Donna Johnsey, Belinda Higgins, Stacey Dunevant, Mechel Camp, Gerald Graddy, Roger James, Nell Senter, Mark Walls, representative-elect Andrew Kelley, and guests Billie Gately and Pam Xanthopoulos

Mechel Camp began the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

**Agenda:**

**1. Faculty Brunch**

Options were discussed for the traditional end-of-year faculty brunch the Friday before commencement. It was determined that the most convenient alternative for faculty would be a brown-bag lunch on the campus near the newly-purchased and planted Bur Oak tree.

**2. Welcome to New Council Representatives**

Mechel Camp acknowledged and welcomed new Council representatives for 2010-2011: Andrew Kelley, Bob Raines, Rob Wyatt, Patty Easley, and Powell Franklin.

**3. Election of New Council Officers**

Mechel Camp sought nominations for new Council officers. Considerable discussion followed about the Council's legitimacy and its function in light of Dr. Blanding's changes to the Council's Constitution and Bylaws in March. A concern was voiced about "good-faith" faculty committee work and other efforts that ultimately are neglected, dismissed, or changed unilaterally. In the end, Carol Norman agreed to let her name stand as a nominee for Council Chair. Roger James agreed to his nomination as Council Vice-Chair. Powell Franklin was nominated as Council Secretary. By acclamation, the Council approved these three as the 2010-2011 Faculty Council officers. The Council then nominated and approved Pam Xanthopoulos to serve as the Council's designated TBR Faculty Sub-council representative.

**4. Administrative Changes to the New Constitution and Bylaws**

An email exchange with President Blanding regarding his changes to the Council Constitution and Bylaws was summarized by one Council representative. The President's authority to require such changes and the legitimacy of the changes, themselves, were discussed by the Council. One view was that the president certainly had final authority for all campus matters, but that such authority was vested in

presidents with the presumption they would act wisely and appropriately in exercising that authority. A discussion followed about informing TBR Vice-Chancellor Paula Short of the history of the president's changes: the Council's September 2009 through February 2010 work to draft a new Constitution after the 2009 reorganization of faculty and academic units, the faculty's February, 2010 ratification of the new Constitution and Bylaws, and the president's subsequent changes in March.

Among the Council, there was broad agreement that the changes were inappropriate interventions in the design and function of the faculty's primary shared-governance body. Among the Council, however, there was division about the ultimate benefit of seeking clarification, counsel, or redress of the matter from Vice-Chancellor Short. One position, reiterated from earlier meetings and described as a pragmatic position, was that we must try to get along with the president by avoiding the conflict inherent in this matter. Another position expressed was that faculty should stand by what they believe to be appropriate roles and responsibilities for themselves and for faculty representation through authentically-engaged, legitimate shared governance.

In the end, a motion to discuss with Vice-Chancellor Short JSCC's faculty concerns about alterations to the Council Constitution and By-laws was voted on and failed to pass.

## **5. Committee Reports**

The Council had no committee reports. Chair Camp stated that committees would be changing pending the administration's examination of committees' functions and relevancy.

## **6. Outstanding Budgeting Questions**

The concern raised and tabled in previous 2009 Council meetings about the need for more complete budget information was acknowledged again. No questions or comments about the budget or related issues were offered by the Council, and the matter was stated to be resolved.

## **7. Adjunct Issues**

The Council had no questions or comments about a concern—raised and tabled in previous 2009 Council meetings—for identifying and addressing issues affecting part-time faculty and their relevance or role within JSCC's system of faculty shared governance. The matter, then, was tabled again through the summer and deferred to the next Council meeting.

## **8. Early Childhood Education RODP Courses No Longer “Owned” by JSCC**

A concern was brought to the Council about reports that RODP Early Childhood Education classes developed and “owned” by JSCC were now being awarded to other

colleges. “Ownership” of RODP courses occurs when an institution’s faculty develop them; the institution then has the right to offer the first five class sections and gets students’ class tuition payments. Four such courses at Jackson State—ECED 2040, ECED 2020, ECED 2015, and ECED 2010—each averaging three sections of 25 students each semester, have been reported now to be available for other schools to claim for “ownership.” It was reported that three of these classes—ECED 2040, 2015, and 2010—are *required* classes for CDA (Childhood Development Association) credentialing with guaranteed maximum enrollments for each section offered. The Council considered the significant loss of tuition income at JSCC—as much as \$72,000.00 gross per semester—if these sections of ECED classes were no longer “owned” by the institution.

The Council agreed it should confirm the details of this report with the administration and asked Mechel Camp to examine the matter and then report her findings to the Council and to the faculty.

This final meeting of the 2009-2010 JSCC Faculty Council then adjourned.

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Mark Walls, Secretary  
JSCC Faculty Council

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Mechel Camp, Chair  
JSCC Faculty Council