

Faculty Council

Minutes of the Meeting

10 November 2010

The meeting convened at 3:00 pm with the following members/guests present:

Mechel Camp (ex officio)	Andrew Kelley	Amy Wake
Powell Franklin (secretary)	Carol Norman (Chair)	Kim White
Roger James (Vice-Chair)	Bob Raines	Rob Wyatt
Donna Johnsey	Kim Todd (proxy for Patty Easley)	Vivian Grooms (guest)

Faculty Council Chair, Carol Norman, announced that TBR Chancellor John Morgan will be on campus Monday, November 15. She will be meeting with him for approximately 30 minutes in her capacity as the chair of our Council. The Council discussed some “talking points” for that meeting, and determined that she should solicit his opinion about such matters as tenure, shared governance, and other issues of concern to the faculty at large, and then share his insight at our next Faculty Council meeting.

The Council defined “quorum” within the context of the newly-organized Faculty Council as meaning a minimum of eight persons, to include those requested to attend with the written proxy of an absent member.

The Council examined three reports submitted by Pam Xanthopoulos, our representative on the Faculty Sub-Council, to wit:

- As follow-up to a suggestion during the October Council meeting's discussion of negotiating the JSCC Faculty Council's ***Constitution and Bylaws'*** specifics for selection of a Faculty Sub-Council representative, Professor Xanthopoulos has compiled a comparison of Sub-Council representation by various TBR institutions, specifically with regard to the nature of each representative's appointment (elected by general faculty, by faculty representative body, or delegated by the college president), the number of terms each representative to the Sub-Council is elected to serve to the local faculty representative body, and the resultant possibility that each Sub-Council representative may serve in an executive role on that body. According to these various parameters, Jackson State Community College is the **only** TBR institution which, by a default of circumstance, can never be represented on the Faculty Sub-Council in an executive role, this resulting from the new by-laws and the local interpretation of TBR guidelines. The JSCC Faculty Council expressed some concern over this situation, but deferred action until such time as clarifications in our role, our by-laws, and the need for JSCC representation to Faculty Sub-Council executive committee positions can be clarified.

- The Sub-Council is presently considering a revision to TBR Policy 5:02:03:30, to include language defining “academic freedom,” the notion of shared governance, and “freedom of expression.” **A motion was made to endorse the revised language of this policy. The motion was approved.**
- The Sub-Council is requesting the input from various faculty representative bodies on an item, *“whether or not faculty should be allowed to donate their accrued sick leave to the sick leave bank upon retirement, perhaps with a designation for use even to a particular individual.”* Following a discussion of the perceived disparities between the two principal retirement systems, **a motion was made to endorse both aspects of this proposal. The motion was approved.**

The Council discussed the perceived inequity of workload distribution regarding the assignment of advisees. Some potential causes of this disparity were mentioned, specifically: a reduction in the number of full-time faculty whose primary assignments are on-campus, the recent increase in enrollment, the assignment of many faculty to satellite- and off-campus locations, etc. The Council determined to seek clarity on the issue of workload distribution with respect to advising responsibilities.

The Council welcomed guest Vivian Grooms, who discussed the Service Learning Program at JSCC. Professor Grooms asserted that Service Learning could prove to be a valuable aspect of the curriculum, and a vital contribution to our local communities. She indicated that all aspects of the Program would be voluntary and would require no additional duties of the instructor or of the students should they not wish to participate. In response to one concern about the potential liability to the institution and to faculty by having student volunteers at off-campus locations, Ms. Grooms assured the Council the Service Learning Program has addressed all of the liability issues with proper administrators in the past, and the JSCC standard Release of Liability form is being used with any participants. **A motion was made to endorse the Service Learning Program at JSCC. The motion was approved.**

All items on the agenda having been discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

The next meeting will take place during Spring In-Service at a time & date to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Powell Franklin, secretary