Faculty Senate Minutes 2/4/10

Adult Education                      Randal Barnett
Atmore At-Large                       Doug Rogers
Atmore At-Large                      Otis Thames Absent
Brewton At-Large                     Deborah Albritton
Brewton At-Large                     Allen Gainer Absent
Business & Social Sciences           Beulah Patton
Humanities                           David Willis
Library                               Kim Coale
Mathematics & Science                Dan Wagner
Nursing, Allied Health and P.E       Susan Mack (Dee Plummer substituted)
Technical Division                   Jimmy Lee Absent

Old Business:

- College Policy on the Use of Personal Electronics in the Classroom
  - The committee will meet for the first time on the 8th of February
  - The committee is looking at policies that other schools have adopted
  - The committee is also looking at JDCC teachers’ policies
  - Any faculty member that has a policy is welcome to send it to Mary Beth Lancaster to add to those under consideration.

New Business:

- College Calendar
  - We discussed the calendar for next year.
  - Members requested that more information be given to the calendar committee regarding number of class days, duty days, etc that need to be incorporated into the calendar.
  - Discussed looking at other college calendars for information on how we can improve our own calendar.
  - The faculty senate would like to recommend that the college consider moving graduation to the Friday of the spring exam week rather than the Monday after exam week (In 2011, this would be Friday, May 6th instead of Monday, May 9th). The faculty, as represented by the senate, would be willing to work with the registrar to get the necessary grades in for the graduating sophomores before the graduation ceremony. It was discussed that, if the faculty was given a list of the students who applied for graduation, we could finish their
grades early in order to be ready for the graduation ceremony. The possible benefits of the plan could include:

- Closing the dorms before the weekend. It was discussed that the graduates who live in the dorms have nothing to do but party over that weekend and it causes problems.
- The families of the graduates would not have to take off work to attend graduation. In addition, if they are coming from a great distance it is more convenient for most to have graduation on Friday rather than Monday.
- The faculty would benefit by being able to take a whole week off with two weekends if their grades are done (using personal days for the duty days the week after exam week).
- There are not a significant number of finals on Friday of exam week and the finals that are held that day complete before noon.
- The plan would benefit the vast majority of the staff on campus by finishing the semester earlier.
- More students would attend graduation if it were conducted at a more convenient time for them and their families.
- Students could have their own celebrations on the weekend with all their family members attending.

- Possible drawbacks to moving graduation to Friday:
  - Possible conflict with corrections
  - Grades for graduates would have to be done manually.

- Updates from College Council Meeting
  - Discussed increased enrollment for the spring
  - Discussed the budget and the current proration situation
  - Discussed the future of dual enrollment
    - If dual enrollment continues, the senate recommends that the students come to campus.
    - Would like to coordinate with the local schools to have the courses in the afternoon.
    - Discussed the possibility of a release similar to work release for students coming to campus for dual enrollment – this would allow students with extra-curricular activities to come to dual enrollment.
    - Also discussed late afternoon classes so students could attend after school.
Suggested that, if the students came to campus, all class times be twice per week (MW and TR) in order to avoid complications on Friday afternoons. Afternoon classes would not impact MWF classes that finish at or before 12:30.

Discussed how dual enrollment courses at these times could be offered to the general student body after dual enrollment preregistration so the entire campus could benefit.

**Other Business:**

- Next Meeting Thursday, March 4th at 1:45 p.m.