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March 21, 2011 AASU Faculty Senate Agenda

Armstrong State University

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The Faculty Senate of Armstrong Atlantic State University will meet in University Hall, room 158, at 3:00 PM, Monday, March 21, 2011

AGENDA

*Items II, III, and IV have electronically linked appendices.
*This meeting is being audio recorded.

I. Call to Order.

II. Approval of Minutes
A. Approval of Minutes from February Faculty Senate Meeting. Please click the link Appendix A to view and print the February 21, 2011 meeting minutes.
B. Approval of Minutes from Special Called Faculty Senate Meeting. Please click the link Appendix B to view and print the March 7, 2011 meeting minutes.

III. Senate Action
A. University Curriculum Committee items
   Please follow the link Appendix C to view and print the UCC Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2011.
B. Resolutions regarding information provided at the Special Called Faculty Senate Meeting on March 7, 2011.
   1. Please see Appendix D to view Resolution One.
   2. Please see Appendix E to view Resolution Two.
   3. Please see Appendix F to view Resolution Three.
D. Library Committee Report. (Appendix H)

IV. Senate Information
A. IVPAA Dr. Anne Thompson – Implementation of Course Repeat and Withdrawal Resolution
B. Senate VP Suzanne Carpenter – Update on Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Action
C. Excused Absence for Athletes referral (Appendix I) – Academic Standards Committee
D. Dr. McGrath – Information on Senator Eligibility
E. Graduate Affairs Committee Minutes. Please follow the link Appendix J to view and print the minutes from the GAC February 8, 2011 meeting. Please follow the link Appendix K to view and print the minutes from the Graduate Curriculum Committee February 25, 2011 meeting.
F. Graduate Affairs Committee Bylaws amendment referral. See Appendix J. – Constitution and Bylaws Committee
V. Announcements
   A. Smoke-free Campus Initiative
   B. Part-time faculty liaison
   C. Vice President of Academic Affairs office to facilitate implementation of signed senate action
   D. Fall 2011 Senate meeting times: Monday 3:00 – 5:00 PM
   E. Administrative evaluations will be available after Spring Break
   F. Dr. Vann Scott – Senate and UCC Elections
   G. Dr. Skidmore-Hess – Pirates Cove Voting

VI. Adjournment.
Draft Senate Resolution One

Whereas the faculty and regular staff have not received any merit salary increases during the last three years because of the system-wide budget crisis; and

Whereas maintenance of faculty and staff morale is vital to fulfilling the instructional and service mission of the university; and

Whereas maintaining a climate of trust and collaboration between the administration, faculty, and staff is essential to effective shared governance;

Be it resolved that senior administrators and professional staff will not be awarded any permanent increases in salary until such time that the university budget supports merit raises for all university employees.
Draft Senate Resolution Two

Whereas one of the explicit goals of the university administration is to improve the climate of trust between faculty, staff, and administration; and

Whereas effective shared governance is enhanced by transparency; and

Whereas Georgia is an open records state;

Be it resolved that the university administration provide to the Steering Committee of the Faculty Senate two weeks prior to the beginning of the every Fall semester a list of all faculty and staff contract salaries for the previous and upcoming academic year.
Draft Senate Resolution Three

Whereas effective Senate deliberation requires access to basic information concerning the fiscal status of the university; and

Whereas effective shared governance is enhanced by transparency; and

Whereas Georgia is an open records state;

Be it resolved that the university administration provide to the Steering Committee of the Faculty Senate two weeks prior to the beginning of the every Fall semester an on-line accessible copy of the university budget. In addition, the university administration will provide an executive summary to the budget delineating the portions of the budget utilized for academic vs. non-academic functions. This summary shall also identify funds utilized for refurbishing of existing facilities, again delineating by academic and non-academic functions.
Faculty Report
May Graduation, 2011

College of Education
Bachelor of Science in Education
Early Childhood Education

Miranda A.O. Bacot
Kelli Anne Bahr
Ashley Grace Bennett
DeAngela LaRae Brown
Sarah Lindsey Burford
Teresa Renee Bush
Betsy Cheyenne Carter
Erin Sarah Cash
Julie Chastain
Renee Amelsberg Clark
Cassandra Denise Cooper
Bertha Sue Dixon
Leana Michelle Dixon
Jeni Rachel Duncan
Maurice Pierre Figueroa
Jacqueline Chantilly Freeman
Jessica Lynn Gilbertson
Tamara Channing Gray
Alice Danielle Hall
Carrie Allison Welborn Heath
Kristin Leigh Herndon
Whitney Kyona Jenkins
Emily Sarah Kinrade
Terri M. Lantrip
Kellen Meredith Larisey
Jennifer Adele Mason
Therese A. McMillan
Lisa Ann Mercer
Victoria Milton
Michelle Lynn Moore
Angie Priscilla Pagan
Carey Cozad Patterson
Allyson Ashley Edwina Petty
Tina Somchay Saengthong
Tessa Ann Speaks
Carolyn Angela Sutlive
Jessica E. Takaki
Kelly Smith Thrift
Megan Renee Volk
Bachelor of Science in Education

Health and Physical Education
Brett Aaron Bishop
Fannie Ruth Byrd
Carlos A. Cardoza-Oquendo
Matthew Gonazlo Espana
Harris Irwin Katz
Danny Dewaine Varnadoe, Jr.
Alexander T. Wyche

Bachelor of Science in Education

Middle Grades Education
Ashley Williams Beam
Lindsay Elyse Erickson
Thomas Clifford Gray
Terry Lamar Lairsey
Kristen Renee Little
Misty Marie Scribner
Seqnquetta T. Swan
Ashley Miller Taylor
Rebecca L. Wellman

Bachelor of Science in Education

Special Education
LaVonda N. Carey
Cara J. Lord
Sadie G. Vercauteren
Faculty Report

May Graduation, 2011

College of Health Professions

Bachelor of Science

Communication Sciences and Disorders
Shieeda Chantal Chatfield
Candi Elizabeth Coxwell
Rachel Leigh Crout
Sybil Rachel Hill
Elizabeth Kaitlin Kerkhoff
Brittany Shakia Dy'Evelyn Mallard
Anna Taylor Moore
Jessica Lark Orgeron
Nancy Lee Page
Cevon N. Rambo
Christen E. Young

Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene
Heather Nicole Carver
Guillermo Christian Castro
Megan Wages Clay
Jessica D. Craig
Tiffany Teresa Edmond
Luis A. Gaybort
Hannah K. Heaberlin
Candis Brooke Howard
Jessica Latrice Jones
Teysha Marie Justice
Candace Tindall Kent
Theresa Marie Reeves Mathews
Troy Brandon McCreery
Lori Susanne Misuraca
Kathryn Lee Mosby
Jennifer Susanne Ousley
Whitney Ryan Waldrup
Kristen Saxon Wells

Bachelor of Health Science
Nora Brennan Berry
Brittany L. Blackston
Chelsea A. Bryant
William Graves Childs
Gwendolyn M. Clarke
Larry W. Creech, Jr.
Aron Suzanne Ferguson
Felicia Danielle Flynn
Vu Thanh Ho
Michelle Denise Hopkins
Veronica Denise Hunter
Kasey Brooke Hutchinson
Mikk Irdoja
Kendra Evone Johnson
Kayla Runell Knight
Jennifer Monique Mathis
Robert Chandler Medley
Ulayna T. Middleton
Amanda Kiesha Ogletree
Felin William Pipkin III
Zerik Koron Samples
LeKara Alaia Simmons
Tanesha D. Sloan
Allison Jordan Smith
Jessica L. Trundle

**Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology**
Sharon Elaine Williamson

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**
Michael Thomas Ackerman
Chandni Rajesh Amin
Syreeta Nicole Autry
Jeanette Barber
Carmelina A. Botti
Elizabeth Ann Bruce
Amy J. Bryan
Gloria Ann Cail
Kyle Seth Canady
Christen Marie Cannady
Kathy Elaine Champion
Donessa Dawn Cockman
Stephany Renee Coleman
Hailey Elizabeth Darden
Keith Charles Dawson
Keisha Monique Duren
Lu Ann Eaker
Anjie Kim Ewing
Sherri A. Fincham
Sarah Beth Flood
Laurie D. Fountain
Cecelia Marie Glaubitz
Latrina Latrell Graham
Kristine Margaret Gum
Sara Elizabeth Hamilton
Andrew Todd Hanna
Vanessa Yolanda Harris
Catherine Elizabeth Hartman
Sarah Elizabeth Hester
Elizabeth Diane Hinely
Denisia Clarche' Holt
Brittany Victoria Jackson
Candice Rouse Jackson
Kayla Grace Jacobs
Betty A. Johnson
Alana Danielle Jones
Jennifer Kaighin-Porter
Daniel K. Lawson
Melynda Marie Leonard
Amanda Lynne Lindsey
Valisha Anne Massey
Matthew James McGhee
John C. McGhee III
Anne-Marie Méndez
Teresa Ann Moore
Richard Morris, Jr.
Doungphon Vongsaona Nelson
Turana Marie Nicholson
Jennifer Nicole Oliver
Kristen Ashley Ortiz
Jessica Ann Parks
Aaron Jahn Pittsley
Dorian A. Puckett
Shalyn Elaine Purifoy
Sarah E. Roberts
Jennifer Anne Sasser
Antwenette Charae Smith
Holly E. Smith
Dedrick W. Stuckey, Jr.
Courtney Mathilde Taylor
Deirdre Z. Taylor
Melanie Na'cole Vail
Rebecca Ann Waranowitz
Vivian H. Ward
Vernetta Carla Warner
Amy E. West
Cristen Heather Carlon Wood
Nicole Ann Yates

Bachelor of Science
Rehabilitation Sciences
James Madison Blackwell
Nicole Renee Dixon
Christian Brianna Goodman
Berta Filipina Javavu
Lindsey Suzanne Keen
Kruti M. Patel
Kristina Nicole Pitts
Jessica Lee Smith
Victoria Renise Williams
Velina Yvonne Wilson

**Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences**

Jodi Michelle Bennett
Laura Michelle Bostocky
Brittany Leigh Carr
Joseph K. Catlett
Nikiya Clanton
Teresa Pendergraph Clause
Kimberly S. Clifton
Kristine Frances Cote
Lawrence Edward Craft II
Stephanie Ann DeBerry
Dianne C. Dudley
Nancy C. Flemming
Crystal Lynn Glover
Miranda Nicole Golden
Kimberly Lynette Grady
Britney Lauren Griner
Ashley Lauren Hagan
Mary Catherine Helms
Dorothy Lestacya Holt
Lindsay Danielle Humbert
Jennifer Brooks Keim
Staci Lauren Kirby
Urszula M. Kowalewski
Ashley Lane Lawson
Claire Marie l'moure
Raphnee Sherron Manning
Amanda Lynn McCurry
Lindsay Danielle McElveen
Sara Jane McFarland
Paula Yvonne Medina
Bridget Marie Michael
Kara Rose Morris
Rita Cathryn Nagawa
Janice Marie Newsome
Ismaila Ngom
Thao Thanh Nguyen
Brittany E. Norton
Brittney Michelle Partridge
Parita Y. Patel
Sweeney J. Patel
Donna Laseter Perryman
Courtney Janae Philpot
Clinton William Pickard
Bachelor of Science

Respiratory Therapy

Ambra Re'Shay Brown
Chassity Lashaun Clark
Lela Mae Coney
Karell Tenise Coppock
Gregory LeVon Grant, Jr.
Felica Michelle Herrington
Patel Komal
James Robert May
Rudi Renae Mitchell
Robert M. Peters-Wilson
Maria S. Reid
Burton Lee Sapp
Jene' Kemilia Smalls
Jasmine Clements Smith
Kevin D'Andrae Trappio
Leslie Renée Turner
Whitney Lauren VanBrunt
Tia Lynn Williams
College of Liberal Arts

Bachelor of Arts

Art
Samantha Jane Buice
David Andrew Schlicht
Jesse Elise South

Music
Ashley Thomas Adams
Melissa L. Flummerfelt
Benjamin Ryan Murray
Anthony Luis Sanchez

Theatre
Kareem Michael Aikens
Alex Andrea Hearn
Megan Diana Meadows
John Edward Wright

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Visual Arts
Marianne Lucille Brown
Brandy Melissa Chandler
Thomas R. Cooper, Jr.
Megan Noel Garrison
Michaele Lauren Maddox
Amy Marie Moore
Lindsay Michelle Stanford

Bachelor of Music Education
Patricia Antonio
Samantha Elaine Cook
Leah Rene Hannon
Brittny Marie Hargrove
Lia Alexandria Patterson

Bachelor of Science

Art Education
Jessica Nicole Sherfield

Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
Richard Michael Holt, Jr.

Bachelor of Arts

Law and Society
Jennifer M. Bradshaw
Shari B. Mann
Breana Alicia McClendon
**Political Science**
William Orson Grimm, Jr.
Christopher Lewis Levine
Cherée Marquise Powers
Stephen Wacy Sokoloski
Denise Stagpool

**Bachelor of Science**

**Criminal Justice**
Shakina Maxine Alexander
Jacqueline Lavinia Briggs-Jackson
Franklin Neely Chance II
Victoria Ann Collins
Dana Elkins
Debreka Deshund Hall
Chelsea K. Jackson
Jace Damon Lasseter
Tiffany Dawn Lemery
Jennifer Marie Lunsford
Richard L. Meeks
Robert Allan Nelson
Stephanie Renee Oliver
Tysheka M. Rice
Coutney M. Tucker
Jeran Warner
Jerrica Lynn Williams

**Bachelor of Arts**

**Economics**
Andrew Glynn Carnes
Jeremy Worthington Choquette
John C. Dees IV
Joshua Chance Fralick
Stephanie U. Jarrell
Ramsha Khalid
Alfred Trapier Lanthier
Alida Müller-Wehlau
Eric J. Rogers
Jennifer Kristin Slate
Sophia Warwick

**Bachelor of Arts**

**History**
Elizabeth Ann DeRoche
Melissa A. DiDonato
Mary Ashley Durden
Theresa Nichole Gordon
Jonathan William Hall
Matthew John Hock
Jeffrey Dustin Holt
Bryan Nicholas Kear  
April D. Longworth  
Alexander Buchanan Southard  
Bridget Ann Tangorre-Randash  
Addie Marie Rainey Whitby  
Derek Wade Willis  

**Bachelor of Arts**  

**English**  
Faleschia Renee Alston  
Sophia Marguerite Basaldua  
Leslie Anne Beebe  
Timothy Franklin Bond  
Lisa Marie Bringhurst  
Giovanna Zofia Chmielewski  
Karen Ann Cooper  
Crystal Lynn Davis  
Desiree Nicole Faulkner  
Elena Fodera  
Brandy L. Gwinn  
Courtland LaFayette Hendricks  
Brittany Yvette Hodges  
Terry L. Kiser, Jr.  
Sarah Justine Mezel  
Angela Christine Milton  
Jonathan Philip Moody  
Hannah Elizabeth Morris  
Emily Rae Murphy  
Kimber Lindsey Parson  
Rikki D. Revilla  
Angie Renee Williams  

**Gender and Women's Studies**  
Jessica L. Krawczyk  

**Spanish**  
Lourdes Cappas-Hernández  
Andrew Jennings Collins  
Gloria Patricia Edwards  
Brenda Coleen Fogle-Bautista  

**Associate of Arts**  
Drew W. Adler  
Lisa Star Affuso  
Jennifer Lorraine Barnes  
Sharara Anita Brown  
Laura Ann Wilkerson Conley  
John Jay Cupiples  
Robert Chris Dickensheets  
Felicia Danielle Flynn  
Takelia Josha Golden
Agenda, Faculty Senate Meeting March 21, 2011: Appendix G

Eva Stefanova Griffin
Debreka Deshund Hall
Cassandra A. Kendelhardt
Alexandria Lockhart
Ashley N. Lockwood
Chelsea Alexis Michael
Star-Shemah Linnetta Smith
Natasha Justine Waltenbaugh
Eboni Chanisse Washington

Bachelor of Liberal Studies
Paul Gregory Able
Sharon Paulette Banks
Diane Celeste Blaylock
Jennifer Bree Borland
Felicity Natasha Boughner
Tangela Shalisa Bowen
Sharmon M. Brannen
Elaine Brandon Burnett
Sarah Elizabeth Caudle
Michael G. Connor
Amy Elizabeth Covington
Malcolm A. Currie, Jr.
Hai Hoang Dang
William Matthew Davenport
Samuel E. Dotson IV
Jonathan William Fulghum
Kenneth Matthew Gardner
Rachel Elizabeth Gorton
Leroria Rosetta Hankerson-Smith
Lawana Rose Harrison
Joy Lynne Harry
Marc E. Headley
Brandi Joi Hebron
Laurie Brooks Hernandez
Jessica Lynn Hodnett
Dominique L. Johnson
taneilia L. Johnson
David Christopher King
Allen Jeffery LaRossi
Rebecca G. Lively
Sonia Smalls Manor
Abby J. McGilvray
Scott Ryan McInish
Brian Hurley McLean
Damita Hodges Mitchell
Mary Linda Mitchell
Sascha Douglas Moody
Sara Elizabeth Owens
William Robert Poston
LaToya Denise Scott
Megan Danielle Shropshire
Juanette Smith
Mary Stanley
Charmaine T. Thomas
Terry Gordon Travis, Jr.
Natasha Justine Waltenbaugh
TaShawnta KuTee' Wells
Jessica Rhea Willis
College of Science and Technology

Bachelor of Science

Biology
Stephanie Rae Balser
John Michael Bennett
Michelle Alexandra Calvo
Lennin Castellon
Michael Ryan Clark
Whitney Elise Clay
Jamielee Arvelo Cone
Amber Christine Cordry
Cynthia M. Dang
Nikita Jatin Desai
Stacie Lynne Driggers
Latara Janae Edwards
Jeralyn Mary Gillespie
Catherine H. Hall
Joshua McAllister Heath
Skye Danielle Holcomb
Jamie Finn Howell
Aisha Khan
Suzanne P. Maggioni
Erin Christine Meals
Kyana D. Morton
Brittni Michelle Parish
Sagar P. Patel
Erica Candice Pullen
Sarah Elisabeth Rogers
Crystal Leigh Shuptrine
Jeffrey Whitman Stanislaw
Lianne Michele Stricklen

Bachelor of Arts

Chemistry
Hampton Thomas Blanton
Melanie T. Bray
Christopher Mason Byrnes
Misti Marie Gurley
Josie Nicole Harmon

Bachelor of Science

Applied Physics
Amy Christina Gall
William Nathan Hack

Chemistry
Erica Michelle Cooper
Eric Lawson Davis
J. Greg Murrell
Bachelor of Science

Computer Science
Robyn Leigh Allen
M. Jason Hamm
Kelly Allison Hannah
Michael Anthony Lucento
Jason Patrick Rogers
Charles A. Sizemore, Jr.
Joshua Ryan Winfrey

Bachelor of Information Technology
Zaki A. Abdulkhaalis
Cortney Jacquelyn Brewster
Corey Dwayne Brown
Marley Dustin Burkhart
Danielle Reneé Green
Thong Thach Le
Thom Q. Luu
Lisa Rene McColgan
David Aubrey Peabody
Daniel J. Rabich
Marco Antonio Tapia
Pocahontas Shaniqua Vasser
Samia Nicole Waller
Tiffany Denise Williams

Bachelor of Science

Mathematical Sciences
Miriam Laverne Bryan
Nicole Marie Calkins
Mattie K. Davis
Jasmine Kahani Deloach
William Nathan Hack
Nehemiah Rashad Harden
Shannon Holland
Keenan X. Lee
Monica Nandy

Bachelor of Arts

Psychology
Elsa Maria Baltazar
Georgia Gray Gibbs Dess
Audrey Joy Griffin
Jovanna N. Javis
Diane H. Le

Bachelor of Science

Psychology
Agenda, Faculty Senate Meeting March 21, 2011: Appendix G

Maisa Ali
Savannah R. Annas
Aunjae Le'Bria Cary
Melissa B. Trundle
Report to the Library Committee from the University Librarian
Feb. 4, 2011

Response to the charge from the Faculty Senate to consider the following statement regarding library subscriptions to professional publications:

I am sure we are all aware of the budget issues and limited library funds for professional publications/periodicals. However, the university (and CST in particular) are "ratcheting" up scholarship expectations while not providing the most basic of resources to support scholarship. How can we be expected to stay current, submit grants, and write papers without access to professional publications?

Perhaps I should clarify "access". Currently, the library carries only slightly more than a dozen journals in biology! What is worse, some of the major journals, e.g. Science and Nature, we only have access to physical copies for the current year and do not have electronic access to the current issues. As much as I might miss handling physical copies of journals, today's scholarship requires easy and immediate access to PDF's of articles.

Interlibrary loan, while useful, is limited: you are not assured to receive electronic (PDF) copies; it adds a lag of days or weeks to read an article; and it limits the number of articles we can access. For a typical NSF grant, I use hundreds of references. Surely ILL is not meant to process that volume of requests for each faculty member?

What I would like to know is why the UGA system is not a shared/pooled system for online access to professional publications. For example, I previously worked at Villanova University, a small private institution. They do not have the same buying power as UGA. However, they could offer a large selection of electronic and hard copy professional periodicals because they belonged to a consortium of private universities that pooled their purchasing power and provided equal access to all member institutions. This has implications for both teaching and scholarship."

Response

1. "I am sure we are all aware of the budget issues and limited library funds for professional publications/periodicals"

In FY 2010 we spent less on library materials than we have during any fiscal year since 1996. Last year the library cut about $100,000 worth of journal subscriptions in order to keep expenditures within the budget. Even with that reduction and cuts made in other expenditures, there is no money left to purchase monographs or audiovisual materials.

2. "Currently, the library carries only slightly more than a dozen journals in biology!"

We do have about a dozen print journals in biology after canceling 15 last year, but our online access to biology journals is extensive. Our Science Direct subscription provides 613 life sciences journals. We have another 833 titles in Academic Search Complete, of which 502 (60%) have no embargo period, 12 titles in WilsonWeb, and 34 titles in Oxford Journals.

3. "... some of the major journals, e.g. Science and Nature, we only have access to physical copies for the current year and do not have electronic access to the current issues."
Costs for institutional site licenses for *Science* and *Nature* online are roughly $6,500 and $9,000 per year, respectively, well above what we pay currently for any single title. If these prices seem high, it’s because many publishers charge institutions much more than they do individuals. For example, an individual subscription to *Nature*, which includes online access, costs only $200 a year, while the library has to pay over $3,000 a year just for a print subscription. We do know that *Science* and *Nature* are of primary importance, and we have requested additional library funds to purchase online access to *Science*. It would be great if we could add *Nature* too, but we would probably need support from outside the library budget to do it.

4. “Interlibrary loan, while useful, is limited. . . . Surely ILL is not meant to process that volume of requests for each faculty member?”

As Armstrong is not a research institution, we have never been able to meet all of the faculty’s scholarship needs solely from our collections. Interlibrary loan plays a crucial role in library support for faculty research. It is an expensive service, though, and we are limited in what we can offer. Until three years ago we were able to absorb copyright and lending fees on top of shipping charges. I have asked for funds to start covering those costs again for faculty and students, and I have placed a high priority on that request. As for the library’s capacity to handle the request load, most faculty members do not request hundreds of articles, and we have found that we can generally handle what the faculty bring to us.

5. “...I would like to know . . . why the UGA system is not a shared/pooled system for online access to professional publications.”

The University System of Georgia does have a service, GALILEO, that provides shared access to scholarly publications. It includes thousands of full text online publications, but it does not have everything an academic researcher could want. Both financial concerns (funds for GALILEO are limited) and publishers’ business interests (some publishers won’t participate) determine what is and what is not available. It is true that the research and regional universities in Georgia, like UGA and Georgia Southern, have access to many titles beyond what is held in GALILEO, but we cannot simply “piggyback” on to their subscriptions; publishers won’t allow it. The subscriptions that we do buy through consortial agreements offer some savings, but they are by no means cheap.

6. “[Villanova University] offer[s] a large selection of electronic and hard copy professional periodicals because they belonged to a consortium of private universities that pooled their purchasing power and provided equal access to all member institutions.”

Even with pooled purchasing power, it’s unlikely that Villanova gets cheap access to expensive publications. It’s worth noting that Villanova’s 2008 serials expenditures came to 3.6 million dollars, exceeding Armstrong’s by a factor of ten, although VU has only about twice the enrollment. Their total library expenditures per student in 2008 were about $610, almost as much as UGA’s $739 and a little more than twice Armstrong’s $284. That Villanova spends more than Armstrong is not surprising, given the programs they support.
There is no question that reductions in funds for library materials affect faculty and students by making needed materials harder to discover and harder to obtain. Our students and faculty would be better served if we could offer a greater number of high quality scholarly publications. On the other hand, it is also generally true that across institutions faculty tend to be disappointed with the depth and breadth of the journal collections available to them (Self, 2008), regardless of collection size. We hope to grow and improve library collections and services, but ultimately user satisfaction will hinge on users having realistic expectations.

Question: Is the policy in the faculty Handbook that addresses excused absences adequate?

Current Policy:
Page 77 of the current Faculty Handbook
Armstrong Regulations, Article VIII, Section F
Policy on Student Attendance: Each faculty member may establish a policy for student attendance in class. Students who miss class while officially representing the university will be excused from class. These students are responsible for arranging with individual instructors to make up any work that might have been missed. Monthly reports on the attendance of veterans are requested from faculty by the Veterans' Affairs Office. [bold my emphasis]

While there has not been much discussion about instructors counting absences against students representing the university, there has been some debate about how to interpret arrangements to make up missed work.

There are some who read the above bolded sentence and expect that the student who misses a class due to an excused absence shall receive the chance to complete the same or similar assignment/exam some other day. There are others who think that as long as the instructor provides a “make-up” policy that allows the student to legitimately earn the highest grade possible (given other completed work), then the spirit if not the letter of the policy has been followed. In general, it has been the position of Armstrong that students not be penalized for representing the university on official duties.

For example, in one case, an instructor had a policy where the lowest grade was dropped. A student with an excused absence on the exam day was told that the missed exam could count as the lowest grade and be dropped from grade calculations. The policy did not penalize the student in the sense that all the possible points toward the final grade could have still been earned, but the student lost the chance to drop an earned low grade due to her excused absence, and perhaps, was penalized in a different way.

In another example, a professor had a policy where the comprehensive final exam grade was the basis for a substitute grade for any missed exam. Students who missed exams due to excused or unexcused absences were treated alike. On one hand, the student with an excused absence was not penalized in the sense that all the possible points toward the final grade could have still been earned, but on the other hand, the final exam grade weighed much more because of student’s absence while representing Armstrong.

In both of the above examples, the students thought (partly based on their own reading of the policy, but also partly based on advisement from the supervisors of their official Armstrong activities) that the Faculty Handbook policy would allow them to arrange a time where a make-up exam would be administered.

Very few of these cases are not resolved at the student-instructor level, but a few more than usual have surfaced recently. There have been changes in personnel and students over the last
few years that were not a part of the initial discussion of this policy and the evolution of its interpretation. As a result of these changes, there is now disagreement as to what the policy requires of faculty. After discussing this issue with the acting Athletic Director, Michael Smoose, the Faculty Athlete Representative, Will Lynch, the other members of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, and the college deans, there was consensus that it would be helpful to have the faculty weigh in on this matter.

I ask the Senate to consider whether this policy is adequate. If the Senate or Senate committee considers this policy, I suggest that they ask the acting Athletic Director, Michael Smoose, Faculty Athlete Representative, Will Lynch, and anyone else involved with regular excused student absences to weigh in on the matter.

It is important that Armstrong personnel can come to a consensus about the proper policy for excused absences and what should be expected or allowed under that policy. When students hear different interpretations of the policy, it leads to conflict where the students are caught in the middle.

For context, the policies of other schools in the Peach Belt Conference are listed below, as well as Georgia Southern’s policy. The recent examples of disagreement about Armstrong policy have involved student athletes, but the principles apply to all students with excused absences.

Sincerely,
John Kraft
Interim Assistant VP of Academic Affairs
Agenda, Faculty Senate Meeting March 21, 2011: Appendix I, Excused Absences

Schools’ Attendance Policies

Peach Belt Athletic Conference

**Augusta State** (Student-Athlete Handbook)

“Class Attendance: Regular class attendance is expected. There will be times when athletic events will cause student-athletes to miss class, but these times will be rare. The athletics department will send a list of student-athletes to every academic department on campus notifying each professor of student-athletes who must miss class because of team travel. When this happens, the student-athlete must make arrangements, ahead of time, to make up the work missed. Instructors will understand; however, this is a courtesy and not a privilege so student-athletes are expected to act responsibly. It is possible for an instructor to withdraw a student from a class for excessive absences. If this drops a student-athlete below 12 hours, the student-athlete will be immediately ineligible for all further athletic participation during the term, effective on the date that the student is dropped. It is very important to discuss any absences with the classroom instructor and to know what policies the individual instructor follows for dealing with student absences.”

**Clayton State** (Student Handbook- *general attendance policy*)

“Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students’ ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.”

**Columbus State University** (2010-2011 Catalog> Academic Regulations Undergraduate)

“Student members of an official Columbus State University organization or students whose attendance is required by the faculty or staff person in charge of the group are officially excused from classes when traveling to university-sanctioned events (e.g., athletic event, band competition, etc.) and are to be given the opportunity to complete exams or other assignments missed as a result of this absence provided that no more than 15% of the class hours (INCLUDING other absences) per course per semester are missed. Any absences that exceed the 15% allotted must be approved, in advance, by the faculty member in charge of the class. Exceptions to this policy (i.e., where make-up assignments will NOT be allowed) include programs whose accreditation won’t allow 15% as well as interactive classes or laboratory classes where points for attendance and participation are lost due to absences of any kind. Affected students must submit an Event Participation Form, provided by the faculty sponsor, to their instructors at the beginning of the semester, in order to obtain consideration for the make-up work. (The Event Participation Form can be found on the Web at [http://academics.colstate.edu/eventform.pdf](http://academics.colstate.edu/eventform.pdf))”

**GCSU** (Undergraduate Catalog)

“CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY: Although it is recognized that absences will sometimes be necessary, students are expected to attend classes regularly. It is the responsibility of students to be cognizant of their own record of absences and to consult the instructor regarding work missed. The decision to permit students to make up work rests with the instructor. At any time during the semester an instructor has the right to drop a student from the course and assign a grade of F for excessive absences
when a student exceeds the number of allowable absences specified in the instructor’s attendance policy distributed to the student in the instructor’s course syllabus. If a student is representing the University in an official capacity, as verified on a list released from the Office of the Provost, the instructor will not penalize the student for those absences. However, students should consult their instructor before anticipated absences. Students who wish to have their instructors notified of a medical or family emergency necessitating their absence from classes, or who wish to provide documentation in support of a request for excused absences, make-up work, or grades of "W" or "I" due to an emergency, may contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. The Student Affairs staff will inform students about procedures, assist with communication to instructors, receive and file documentation, and advise students regarding their own self-advocacy; however, the final determination of excused absences, make-up class work, and grading is determined by the instructor.”

Flagler College (Student-Athlete Handbook)
“Class Attendance: Flagler College student-athletes are required to abide by the class attendance policies as outlined in the Student Handbook. In order for a student-athlete to be excused from class for an athletic event he/she must have an athletic event excuse form signed by the coach. This form must then be submitted to and signed by the instructor at least one class date prior to the scheduled contest as verified by the Athletic Director. The student athlete must then return the form to the Compliance Office prior to the athletic event. Failure to follow this procedure will result in your absence being unexcused and you may be subject to suspension from an athletic 3 contest. NOTE: It would be helpful to the instructor if the athlete reviews the athletic schedule with him/her at the beginning of the academic term.”

Francis Marion University (Student-Athlete Handbook)
“Universal Athletic Rules: Meet all academic responsibilities, including regular class attendance and the completion of all assignments in a timely manner. Class absences will be limited to days that are missed due to intercollegiate competition.”

Land University (Student-Athlete Handbook)
“Attendance Regulations-University Policy: All students are expected to attend class as regularly scheduled and are responsible for consulting instructors’ syllabi regarding attendance requirements. Students missing a class are expected to consult with their instructor(s) to obtain permission to make up missed course work. Those students wishing to seek relief from attendance requirements due to an impending absence are required to contact the course instructor(s) at least one week prior to the date of absence. University Student Representatives (approved by the President) who must attend University sponsored events will be given relief from an instructor’s attendance requirements if they notify the instructor(s) at least one week prior to the event. Failure of a student-athlete to attend class regularly could result in suspension or dismissal depending on severity of the class attendance record. THIS IS AN ATHLETIC POLICY AND THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.”

North Georgia College & State University (Student-Athlete Handbook- pg.7)
“Each student-athlete has the responsibility to fulfill clear expectations. These include: ...Meeting all academic responsibilities, including regular class attendance and the completion of all assignments in a timely manner.”

University of Montevallo: (Student-Athletic Handbook)
“Missed Classes: Class attendance is one of the biggest keys to academic success. Per NCAA regulations, you may not miss class to attend a practice. Periodically, student-athletes must be absent due to travel
for away-game competition. These are normally excused absences. The University of Montevallo allows each department to establish its own attendance policy regarding class attendance and excused absences. The attendance policy for each course should be listed on the course syllabus. It is your responsibility to know and abide by the attendance policy for each class. It is also your responsibility to make arrangements to make up any assignments that are missed due to team travel and should be addressed prior to the absence. Student Assistants should make all effort to attend each class not impacted by travel.”

University of North Carolina - Pembroke (Student Handbook)
“Class Attendance Policies: Regular class attendance is important to the educational experience of each student and to the academic integrity of the university curriculum. Students are expected to attend every class beginning with the first session. Regular class attendance is a student responsibility. A student is responsible for all the work, including tests and written work, of all class meetings. No right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any given number of class meetings. The University reserves the right to administratively withdraw students who have never attended classes for the semester. For all general education classes, instructors will keep attendance records. If a student misses three consecutive class meetings, or misses more classes than the instructor deems advisable, the instructor will notify the Center for Academic Excellence (administrator of the Early Alert program) for appropriate follow-up. Departments may also develop and distribute attendance policies and procedures to be followed for students who miss an excessive number of classes. For all classes, instructors have the discretion to determine how the attendance policy will be implemented, the circumstances under which make-up work may be allowed, and whether attendance will be used as a criterion in determining the final grade. Excessive absences may result in failure. Faculty will distribute a written statement of their attendance policy as part of the course syllabus. Students should not enroll in a course if participation in University sponsored activities will cause them to miss an excessive number of classes, as determined by the instructor.”

University of South Carolina - Aiken (Student-Athlete Handbook)
“Missed Classes: You may not miss class to attend a practice. This is a violation of NCAA rules. USC Aiken allows each school/department to establish its own attendance policy regarding class attendance and excused absences. The attendance policy for each course should be listed on the course syllabus. It is your responsibility to know and abide by the attendance policy for each class. If you will miss class to attend a contest, it is your responsibility to inform your professor prior to missing the class. You should inform your instructors as early as possible in the semester which days you will be absent due to athletic contests. It is recommended that at the beginning of the semester you provide each professor with a schedule of when you will be missing class for contests. If you will miss a test or other assignment, it is your responsibility to try to make arrangements with your professor prior to the class period when the test or assignment is due. Professors are not required to make special arrangements for you to take tests or complete assignments; however, most professors are willing to work with you if you give them prior notice. You should work with your advisor to create a schedule that will minimize the number of practices and classes you will miss. Other than missing classes for a contest, you should only miss classes in an emergency. Class attendance is one of the biggest keys to academic success. If you miss class you should meet with another class member to catch up on what you missed, and discuss missed material with your professor if necessary.”
Georgia Southern University (Georgia Southern Catalog)

“Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes. Each professor has the responsibility for setting specific policies concerning class attendance beyond the first class meeting, including whether they will accept excused absences and whether they will allow work missed to be made up. Professors should clearly state policies to each class and make clear what constitutes excessive absences. Departments may establish policies concerning class attendance provided there is unanimous agreement by faculty members within the department. The student is responsible for all material presented in class and for all announcements and assignments whether or not the student is in attendance. For Financial Aid reasons, attendance of all students will be officially verified before financial aid will be disbursed. Students who have been recorded as "Not attending" may not receive their financial aid and will be dropped from the class roster. Students may check their attendance status via WINGS. The University does not issue an excuse to students for class absences. In case of absences as a result of illness, representation of the University in athletic and other activities, or special situations, instructors may be informed of reasons for absences, but these are not excuses.”