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MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Richard Statom
                 President, Faculty Senate

From: Dr. Terry D. Richardson
                 Chair, Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee for Shared Governance Review

Date: September 3, 2009

Subject: Final Report of the Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee for Shared Governance
                 Review—Extended Charge

Brief Synopsis

The Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee Concerning Shared Governance Review (SGR) provides this brief synopsis of its findings. A detailed summary account follows.

    (1) The SGR Committee drafted a set of procedures for changing policy at UNA.

    (2) The draft procedure was presented to the Faculty and Staff Senates, and the Shared
          Governance Committee for review and input.

    (3) The SGR Committee incorporated the procedure into the *Shared Governance Document*
          as new Section C making all revisions to the document as necessary.

Summary Account

The Committee.
The SGR committee consisted of Drs. Larry Adams, Wendy Darby, Greg Gaston, Sandra Loew and Terry Richardson. At the December 2, 2008 session of the Faculty Senate, the SGR Committee recommended to the Senate that its charges be extended to included providing specific recommendations for making changes in the *Shared Governance Document* relating to how policy is made. The Senate approved this recommendation and President Larry Bates extended the Committee's charge to include providing these specific recommendations.

Committee Charge and Action.
The SGR was given the following charges by Dr. Larry Bates:

1. Provide specific recommendations for improvement and/or changes to the Shared Governance process and, if necessary, the *Shared Governance Document*

Approach.
In order to address the assigned charges, the SGR met several times to discuss wording for a new insertion into the *Shared Governance Document*. Other changes in the *Shared Governance Document* were also discussed. The SGR Chair worked closely with the Shared Governance Committee in completing the draft and final versions of the policy procedure.

Results.
During the time the SGR Committee addressed its first set of charges before being given this extension, it became quite clear that the only formal or required interaction between Shared Governance and any other representative campus body (Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, or Student Government Association) is making recommendations for filling Shared Governance committee vacancies (*e.g.,* see http://www.una.edu/sharedgovernance/ for flow chart in the *Shared Governance Document* and for "Steps for Making Changes at UNA"). The Faculty Senate is mentioned only three times in the Shared Government Document without reference to committee recommendations and two of these are in a flow chart and in a footnote. While this may indeed provide the avenue to empower the Faculty Senate to have ample say in policy matters, in the SGR committee's view it did not lend itself well to the realities of the UNA campus environment and would require, essentially, filling all Shared Governance committee vacancies with faculty senators. Changes to the *Shared Governance Document* were required to incorporate formal and requisite interactions between Shared Governance and the respective representative campus bodies.

Similarly, the previous review by this Committee made it clear that policy affecting various campus constituencies can and does get initiated, changed and implemented without ever coming before the constituencies' representative body, *i.e.,* Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, or Student Government Association. Furthermore, recommendations from representative bodies presented to Shared Governance for consideration can be changed or altered, perhaps away from the original intent, and implemented without being brought back before the body presenting the recommendation. Changes in the Shared Government Document are required to incorporate protocol that will necessitate all representative bodies being consulted before recommendations become policy and that substantive changes cannot be incorporated without the originator's consent.

The SGR Committee believes the *Shared Governance Document*, if revised as proposed and followed, eliminates the possibility that policy can be produced without ample time for input from representative bodies campus wide. Additionally, the revision, if implemented and adhered to, will make it impossible for policy proposals to be changed without the recognized input or concurrence of the originator of the proposal. Finally, the proposed procedure adds a time line for reviewing and commenting on policy proposals that should streamline and expedite the process for producing policy.

Recommendation.
The SRG Committee makes the following recommendations:

(1)   The Faculty Senate approve the *Shared Governance Document—Revised August 25th, 2009* and notify the Shared Governance Committee of its approval, and

(2)   The Faculty Senate President dismiss the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee for Shared Governance Review

Summary
In summary, it was clear that the *Shared Governance Document* does not require formal interaction between the Shared Governance system of committees and the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, or Student Government Association in any manner other than for filling Shared Governance committee vacancies. Furthermore, it was clear that policy could be initiated, changed and implemented without formal or even courtesy review by any campus representative body. Likewise, recommendations from each of these bodies could be changed without the consent of the originator. The proposed changes in the *Shared Governance Document—Revised August 25th 2009* require input from all representative bodies and insure that recommendations cannot be changed without input by the originator. The Committee recommends the *Shared Governance Document—Revised August 25th 2009* be approved by the Faculty Senate. It further recommends the SGR Committee be dismissed.