

Committee on Committees (COC) Minutes

Monday, October 26, 2020

12:30 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99132667092?pwd=c3lza1hkaDVzREJ3WktSUDR6Kzl4dz09>

Present: Steven Swarts, Rick Yost, Paramita Chakrabarty, Patrick Klager, Laurie Bialosky, Michelle Leonard, and Richard Scholtz.

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions** – COC member Steven Swarts called the meeting to order on behalf of Alyson Adams, Committee on Committees Chair.
 - The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m.

- 2. Approve September 28, 2020 minutes**
 - The minutes were approved.

- 3. Chair's Report:**
 - COC discussed the two Spring 2020 updates below.
 - The [University Libraries Committee \(ULC\)](#) is in agreement with University Libraries Dean Judith Russell's request to add the Director of the Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center as an ex-officio member of the University Libraries Committee. The Law Library is grouped within the College of Law unit (rather than the University Libraries unit) in the Faculty Senate shared governance structure and its faculty census, so having this individual as an ex-officio member of the ULC (which is a Senate Committee) would be very helpful in keeping their lines of communication open.
 - Due to separate and recent job promotions for Joe Mandernach and Matt Hodges, they requested that their [Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee](#) seats be filled by Heather Ashley, Alumni Relations Senior Director of Reunions & Programs, and Margaret 'Meg' Hendryx, UF Alumni Association Assistant Vice President of UF Advancement / UF Foundation. Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee Chair Dr. Rick Yost is in agreement with this request for both to serve as administrative liaisons on this committee.
 - In accordance with [University Constitution, Article V, Section 7\(C\)](#) (p.21), President Fuchs and 2019-2020 Faculty Senate Chair Ray G. Thomas approved both items at their May 7, 2020 meeting.
 - Committee on Committees has no objections. The Faculty Senate Secretary communicated these approvals to the respective committee chairs.
 - Nominations for university-wide and Faculty Senate committees and councils open this month. Please encourage your colleagues to submit nominations. Michelle Leonard and Alyson Adams' COC terms will end in 2021. An announcement will be emailed to all faculty and the nomination form will be posted on the [Faculty Senate home page](#) and its [committee summary page](#).
 - VP of Research and Chair of the [Research Policy Committee](#), Dr. David Norton, will be invited to the November meeting and follow-up's will be made with both Sr. Assoc Dean Dr. Paul Duncan regarding [Graduate Council](#) and Matthew Williams, Director of UF's Office of Sustainability and Energy Integration, regarding the [Sustainability Committee](#), which is a joint committee.

- 4. [Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee](#)** – Rick Yost, Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee Chair
 - Dr. Yost provided a membership overview and the following summary:
 - The [nomination forms](#) and [committee website](#) were recently updated to provide increased clarity about who is eligible for which nomination and exactly what is required for the submission of a nomination packet. This has increased the committee's efficiency.

- Contacts are also listed on this Faculty Senate committee web page.
- All faculty, Faculty Senators, and administrators are encouraged to submit nominations for review by this committee. Anyone can nominate an individual for an Honorary Degree but it must be supported by individuals who are prominent in the candidate's field of accomplishment and in a position to judge the candidate's contributions and achievements.
- Two one-hour meetings per year are held following the October 1 and March 1 submission deadlines.
- Submission packets are reviewed in advance by each committee member.
- The committee maintains a good balance between the number of applications received and evaluated.
- Faculty Senate must review and approve all Honorary Degree candidates.
- Committee approvals are then submitted to the Provost and President for approval.
- The Board of Trustees renders final approval.
- Nominees for the three [Distinguished Awards](#) are sent directly to the President and Provost for review and approval.
- The committee typically receives about six to eight nominations per cycle, two to three of which are generally honorary degree submissions.
- No nominations are weighted against one other but are each considered independently and must stand on their own merit.
- The committee protocols and what it means to obtain an Honorary Degree was discussed by COC. Because the Honorary Degree may help showcase the university and what it has to offer, Faculty Senate has engaged increasingly in diversity discussions. The committee continues to encourage a diverse nominee pool from which they can evaluate and select.
- Award nominees need not have attended UF to be eligible for some award nominations; requirements are detailed at: <http://fora.aa.ufl.edu/FacultySenate/Pages/Honorary-Degrees-and-Distinguished-Awards-Committee/DistinguishedAwards>.
- A primary COC function is perform an across-the-board review to determine if any change of procedures, memberships, etc. are needed in each committee or council reviewed. Dr. Yost agreed that the number of committee members are appropriate for packet review and discussion.
- The committee met last week and received four nominations. It is suspected that the reduced number of nominations this fall are due to COVID impacts. There is currently a backlog of approved awardees who have not yet been able to travel to UF commencements to receive their awards.

5. Draft Update of 2020 Committee on Committees Report to the Senate

- The current draft, Google-share documents https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OLih4-8ZdN_SuiAsBzQDTveezoD24rLsEvEHU0S1H48/edit and <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ty8qaaQqwRS8BCVWay7VXSiFCFo9k6vQgjYmRM5fpu8/edit> borrow heavily on minutes from the previous three years. COC would like to break out the minutes to convey a summary of each presentation and if any recommendations are being brought forward by this committee.
- Each piece should contain, in this order: the title of the committee, who made the presentation, the report date, a summary statement, and then the recommendation from this committee, and possibly the reviewer's name.
- As it exists in draft format, this committee's final report to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee will be broken into two major segments: by [Joint Committees](#) & [Faculty Senate Committees](#) and, secondly, the [Senate Policy Councils](#).
- COC agreed to alphabetize these items rather arrange by report date, to aid overall organization and any future reference searches.
- Due to the number of committees and councils needing review, the reporting cycle to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee tends to be about three years.
- Column C shows who still needs to report to COC.

- Richard Scholtz's review will include the University Constitution & Regulations Committee (UCRC), as he is a UCRC past chair; all other COC members will be assigned committees or councils alphabetically. Reviewers should please review the appropriate minutes.
- Link to Councils doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OLih4-8ZdN_SuiAsBzQDTveezoD24rLsEvEHUOS1H48/edit
- Link to Committees doc: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ty8qaaQqwRS8BCVWYy7VXSiFCFo9k6vQgjYmRM5fpu8/edit>
- View: <http://senate.ufl.edu/committees--councils/> for a committee/council overview:

Name
Faculty Senate Committees
Joint Committees
Presidential Committees
(5) Senate Policy Councils

Name	Faculty membership consists of:	Seat filled by:	Reports to:
Faculty Senate Committees	UF Faculty	Nominated by UF Faculty & elected by UF Faculty Senators	UF Faculty Senate
Joint Committees	UF Faculty	Nominated by UF Faculty; Typically 50% elected by UF Faculty Senators and 50% Appointed by UF President/President's Designee	UF President & UF Faculty Senate
Presidential Committees	UF Faculty	Nominated by UF Faculty & appointed by UF President	UF President
(5) Senate Policy Councils	*Current (at the time of the election) Faculty Senators	Nominated by UF Faculty & elected by UF Faculty Senators	UF Faculty Senate

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Resources: [Constitution of the University of Florida](#) & [Bylaws of the Faculty Senate](#)