

Senate Steering Committee Minutes

August 9, 2018

3 – 5 p.m.

Tigert 226

Present: Katie Vogel Anderson, Suzan Alteri, Angela Lindner, Paul Duncan, Ana Spiguel, Ray Thomas, Lily Lewis, Laurie Bialosky, and Patricia Sohn.

Call to Order at 3:01 p.m.

Katie Vogel Anderson, Chair

Approval of the [May 10, 2018 Minutes](#)

Katie Vogel Anderson, Chair

The minutes were approved.

Reports

Chair's Report

Katie Vogel Anderson, Chair

- Faculty Senate initiatives from the last academic year which are moving forward include:
 - a. The Sibson consultant group hired by the Office of Human Resources is reviewing retirement and employment benefits. Data is being compiled and Jodi Gentry, VP of Human Resources, will have more updates in the fall.
 - b. Tom Mitchell, VP of Development and Alumni Affairs, and David Norton, VP for Research, agreed to include a faculty member on their respective DSO's.
 - c. Due to the current transitions in UF Health and the College of Medicine, faculty representation on the UF Health/Shands DSO has not yet been established.
- New Faculty Orientation
 - a. Human Resources is creating a new faculty orientation program, entitled "Experience UF", to span over the academic year.
 - b. Senators who are available to join the Faculty Senate Chair are invited to a program on 10/10/18 at 5:30 p.m. at Wilmot Gardens.
- The Faculty Senate chair will attend council meetings throughout the fall and will meet with college governance council chairs later in the year.
- It was agreed to invite UFPD to send a representative to Senate meetings as a resource/partner for any questions regarding campus safety.
 - a. This is currently the practice for student senate meetings.
 - b. Captain Jeffrey Holcomb will be available for the September and October Senate meetings.
- Distinguished Professors have been named and invites are being sent for lectures, which will take place directly after a Senate meeting, in the Reitz Union Chamber room. This year's Distinguished Professors are:
 - a. William Hager – College – Liberal Arts and Sciences
 - b. Krista Vandenberg – College – Public Health and Health Professions
 - c. Simon Phillipot – College – Engineering
- An Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee email to solicit nominations will be sent the last week of August for the October 1st nomination deadline.
- The Commencement Task Force has been named and the first meeting is on 8/24/18.
- A welcome was extended to Chris Hass, who is the new Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs.
- Chris Hass and Lily Lewis, Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Academic Communications, are invited to present to Senate information regarding the new course evaluations system.

- a. Lily shared [feedback regarding the naming of the new course evaluation system](#) from stakeholders such as the Student Advisory Council. Before the new system name is rolled out and website work begins, faculty is encouraged to forward additional feedback to Lily by August 17th.

President's Report

Kent Fuchs, President

- o President Fuchs presented his report to the Steering Committee through a pre-recorded video statement while he participated in day-long commencement marshal training. The training includes new materials and leadership.
- o December and May commencement is moving to a single, university-wide ceremony at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium followed by individual unit-wide recognition ceremonies.
- o The Commencement Task Force is being led by David Parrott, VP for Student Affairs, and Ian Green, Student Government President, and its membership, listed at: <http://news.ufl.edu/articles/2018/08/summer-commencement-set-changes-planned-for-december-may.php>, consists of 1/3 faculty, 1/3 students, and 1/3 staff.
- o Commencement suggestions for task force members and President Fuchs are encouraged and can be sent to commencement-taskforce@ufl.edu.
- o President Fuchs will present the State of the University Address at the opening of the Senate meeting on 8/23. The address will be given within the context of "what's next?" in the UF trajectory. UF's major accomplishments, challenges, and opportunities in the year ahead will be addressed including:
 - a. 250 of 500 new faculty have been hired.
 - b. UF has passed the half-way mark in its \$3 billion dollar fundraising campaign.
 - c. UF has obtained a record \$838 million in research awards, nearing its goal of obtaining one billion dollars per year in research funds.

University Curriculum Committee

**Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
for Undergraduate Affairs**

- [BA in Art](#)
 - This is a request to change the name of the current degree to a Bachelor of Arts in Art to better align with peer institutions and better represent the degree content.
 - This item was approved.

Graduate Council

**Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean
Graduate School**

- [Close the Master of Advertising](#)
 - This request is from the College of Journalism and Communications, which would like to close this program and return to the historic Masters pattern within the college.
 - This item was approved.

Approve [August 23, 2018 Faculty Senate Agenda](#)

Katie Vogel Anderson, Chair

- This item was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.