University Constitution Committee Minutes
October 17, 2012 3:30– 5:00 p.m.
Pugh Hall Oral History Conference Room

Attendance:
Cheri Brodeur
Angel Kwolek-Folland
Tace Hedrick
Christine Fruin
Jacqueline Swank
Barbara Wingo
John Leavey
Patricia Morgan
Sue Alvers

John Leavey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Introductions were made and minutes from April and May 2012 were approved.

Clarification of Language – Cheri Brodeur, Faculty Senate Chair
Cheri mentioned to the committee that some colleges have some confusion as to the interpretation of Article VI, Section 3 (D) in the constitution.

> *The chair shall be nominated by the dean(s) of the college(s) after formal consultation with a committee of the department selected by its tenured members and after consultation with others in related fields outside the department. The nominations shall be forwarded to the President for approval. In those instances where the nominee of the dean(s) of the college(s) is not concurred in by the departmental committee, that committee's dissenting report should be forwarded to the President along with the nomination made by the dean(s).*

One interpretation is that the Dean receives input from the department advisory committee after the interview process is complete when hiring a department chair. Another interpretation is that the department advisory committee is involved with every process from appointing a search committee chair to the recommendation of hiring a department chair. The committee noted that the language is vague, but agreed that it means that the Dean receives input from the department before hiring a department chair. The dean receives the input, but is not required to follow through with what the department committee suggests. Most colleges have their own constitution that covers this situation. It was noted that this portion of the constitution was written many years ago and is probably out of date. The Committee proposed that this paragraph should be clarified and sent that proposal to the Steering Committee for discussion.

Voting and Departments in Dual Colleges – Sue Alvers
While working on the new allocations for April 2013 Faculty Senate elections, Sue came across an issue that the constitution and bylaws do not address. Two departments are considered part of two colleges. It's been agreed that for allocation purposes, the count of the departments should be split. However, this does not address which faculty should vote in which college. Angel mentioned that each member of each of the departments have identified a college for tenure purposes. That information can be used for voting purposes. Sue will contact each college to identify which college each faculty member has designated for tenure and return with that information at the next committee meeting.

New Business

- Cheri asked for some suggestions on how a college can make changes to a constitution if a quorum never attends a meeting or votes. A suggestion was made that if the college could at least pass one change as to what is considered a quorum that might allow the college to then amend other areas of its constitution.
- The committee reviewed the proposed amendment too Regulation UF 2.003. John Leavey will present at the Faculty Senate meeting tomorrow explaining that the committee has assigned the color code of "RED" to the regulation. A color code of "RED" means that this regulation change has elements that many faculty members might disapprove or deem to be controversial and, therefore, should be given thoughtful consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.