The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved with changes and corrections.

Chair’s Report

Mary Ann Ferguson, Faculty Senate Chair

Concern was raised about handouts that were posted on the web less than seven days prior to the meeting. After some discussion the parliamentarian ruled that these attachments cannot be used during the College of Engineering presentation.

Announcements: Mary Ann Ferguson reminded the Senate that voting for councils and committees starts April 1 and ends April 15. Voting for Chair-elect is April 14 at the Faculty Senate meeting. The Senator Reception is April 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the President’s House. We have a new calendar on the Senate website. It can be found under “Calendar” on the homepage. Shared governance reports are due April 1. Dr. Ferguson reported that Senator Greg Evers has agreed to amend his gun legislation bill to withdraw his recommendation that would have allowed guns on campus. The Senate applauded Senator Greg Evers efforts. Chair Ferguson reminded the Senate that Roberts Rules of Order are used for Senate meetings and will be enforced.

Provost’s Report

Joe Glover, Provost

Joe Glover reported that the Legislature is in the middle of action at the moment and that things are changing on a daily basis. The House released its budget yesterday and the Senate will release its tomorrow.

Presidents of the Southeastern Conference have indicated that they want to increase the academic activities in the SEC. They provided $200,000 to fund an annual SEC Academic Conference that is intended to highlight the academic strengths of SEC schools and will be held in Atlanta, GA. Each university can nominate two proposals. At UF, the Deans will organize and decide what to submit. Deadline for deans to submit proposals for this year is May 2. Also, a SEC “Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award” was established. Each SEC university will have a process to select a “Teacher of the Year”. The person who wins the university award will receive $5,000 and compete with winners from the other 12 SEC schools. The overall winner will receive $15,000 and a free trip to Destin, FL to receive the award.

The Provost’s office plans to send out a weekly email with items of interest for faculty.

Action Items

- Review of Respective COC Roles
  Tim Johnson, Chair, Committee on Committees
  This item was approved.
Information Items

Progress Report on Engineering School  
Cammy Abernathy, Dean, College of Engineering

Dean Abernathy addressed the issues raised when the Formation of the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment was before the Senate at the last meeting. (The action item was tabled). Questions pertaining to the impact on students, clarification of administrative structure, budget impact statement, reasons for negative votes in the departments, Environmental Engineering Sciences decisions, Civil and Coastal Engineering decisions, conflict with the college constitution, and issues related to the process were answered.

- Motion was made and seconded to take the formation of the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment motion (from the February meeting) off the table for discussion and vote. A written ballot was requested by over 20 senators.
  This item was approved. The vote was 73 (69 votes in-house with 4 offsite) to 7 for taking the action item off the table.

- Vote to vote for the Formation of the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment.
  This item was approved. Vote was 65 (61 votes in-house with 5 offsite) to 7.

- Formation of the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment, College of Engineering.
  This item was approved by written vote requested by 20 senators. The vote was 65 (60 votes in-house with 5 offsite) with 2 abstaining to 5 for approval of the school.

Recommendation on Required Training  
Mark Orazem, Chair, Infrastructure Council

The Infrastructure Council was asked to look into the significant amount of mandatory online training for faculty. The council found that it is important that the training should: 1) satisfy the relevant federal and state statutes, limit liability to UF, educate faculty and staff and maximize efficiency, 2) be appropriately targeted, 3) have a repository for certification to avoid forcing unnecessary repeat training, 4) have training frequency reduced, 5) have the impact of the training monitored, 6) comply with Section 508 usability requirements, 7) be presented to a focus group prior to implementation, 8) be centralized to MyUFL system, and 9) provide simplified access to training in MyUFL and other sites.

Role of HR in Safety and Counseling  
Paula Varnes Fussell, Vice-President, Human Resource Services

Paula Fussell distributed a resource guide for troubled employees. This was patterned after the Student Affairs resource guide for students in distress. Other resources available are the Employee Assistance program and Employee Relations staff in HR.

UF Teaching and Learning Center  
Kathleen Ann Long, Associate Provost, Office of Academic Affairs

With the help of the Academy of Teaching Scholars and support from the Provost’s office, plans are to recreate the Teaching and Learning Center. Startup is Fall 2011 and will be a part of a two-year pilot program. Some of the services that the Center will provide are: boot camps for new faculty, demonstrating non-traditional teaching techniques, workshops and seminars, online library of teaching and learning resources, consultation and assessment services, and monthly newsletters.
FEO Report

Kathleen Ann Long, Associate Provost, Office of Academic Affairs

This is the third year of the Faculty Enhancement Opportunity Awards pilot project. FEO has received $2 million for the past three years from the President’s Office. FEO dollars did not take the place of any existing sabbatical/PDL funding. FEO is intended to be flexible and all units at UF should be able to participate. As of January 2011 FEO task force has approved and funded 171 proposals out 213. Awards for spring 2011 cycle are now being reviewed.

2011 Student Experience in the Research University Survey  

Marie Zeglen, Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs

Marie Zeglen and Jeanna Mastrodicasa gave a short presentation on the results of the past SERU surveys and reminded the Senate that the SERU survey for 2011 is going on now. It takes about 20 minutes and students have provided wonderful feedback.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Senators Attending

Mary Adkins
Monika Ardelt
Lorena Baccaglini
Alexander Berkovich
Ashley Booth
Gijs Bosman
Jane Brockmann
Cheri Brodeur
Amy Buhrer
Nina Caputo
William Castleman
Louis Catrafesta
Nico Cellinese
George Christou
Jean Cibula
Nereyda Clark
Donald Cohen
Betsy Creveling
Oscar Crisalle
Deb Cupples
John Dobson
Michael Dukes
Kevin Farmer
Liz Felter
Mary Ann Ferguson
Jane Gannon
Robyn Gleason

Renee Goodrich
Kelly Gray-Eurom
David Groisser
David Hahn
Frederick Hamann
Brian Harfe
Edward Hart
Galia Hatav
Marc Heft
Shannon Holliday
Aida Hozic
Gary Ihas
John Kammeyer
Mike Katovich
Phil Kaufman
James Klausner
Mirka Koro-Ljungberg
Jason Kruse
Lauren Lake
John Leavie
Stephen Lewis
Chihray Liu
Rob MacKay
Todd Manini
Tim Martin
John Mecholsky
Renwei Mei

Mike Meldrom
Martha Monroe
Giuseppe Morelli
Cynthia Morton
Carol Murphy
Vasudha Narayanan
Michael Nussbaum
Scott Nygren
Mark Orezem
David Ostrov
Marc Ottenga
Deana Pelfrey
Nancy Poehlmann
Neta Pulvermacher
David Quillen
David Reed
Robert Ries
Andrew Rosalsky
Sandra Russo
Kenneth Sassaman
SA Sherif
Katie Sieving
Susan Sinnott
Maya Stanfield-Mazzi
Keith Stanfill
John Stevely
Ghatu Subhash
Joseph Tepas  
Barry Tillman  
Mark Tillman  
Sonal Tuli  
Sharda Udassi  
Lori Waxenberg  
Tonia Werner  
Bernard Whiting  
Tom Wichman  
Joe Wilson  
Joel Yelich  

Liaisons  
Cammy Abernathy  
Paula Fussell  
Joe Glover  
Kathleen Long  
Wolfgang Sigmund  

Guests  
Carol Kem  
Jeanna Mastrodicasa  
Marie Zeglen  
Tim Johnson  
David Prevatt  
Chris Terran  
W.A. McCollough  
Jackie Ayers  
Trey Hamilton  
Fazil Najafi  
Yafeng Yin  
Jen Day Shaw  
Bernard Mair  
Fonnesi Maffrey