

**Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
April 12, 2012
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
McKnight Brain Institute Auditorium**

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved with a small correction.

Chair's Announcements

Scott Nygren, Faculty Senate Chair

- Online election is continuing. Last count only 30% of senators voted, so please vote. The election ends at 3 p.m. on Monday, April 16.
- Reminder: Reception scheduled today at the President's House at 5:30 pm.
- Because the chair-elect election is today but the chair's term ends on June 1, there will be two chairs-elect for a short period of time.
- Last Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year is May 10. There will be another reception after that meeting .
- August 23 meeting is rescheduled to August 30. State of the university address will be in the Reitz Union Auditorium and orientation and reception after the Faculty Senate meeting will be in the Rion Ballroom.
- Dedicated the Faculty Senate meeting to Bill Luttge who passed away March 24. Dr. Luttge was instrumental in the creation of the McKnight Brain Institute and building.

Action Item

Chair-Elect Election

After each candidate gave a 5 minutes presentation about his qualifications for Chair-Elect, the senate elected Marc Heft on the second written ballot. (First ballot: Florin Curta – 15, Marc Heft – 37, Pradeep Kumar – 37; Second ballot: Marc Heft - 49, Pradeep Kumar - 41).

Honorary Degrees

Ken Berns, Chair, Honorary Degrees Committee

The Senate approved the candidates for honorary degrees: Mary Ann Cofrin, Daniel Lewis and Jerry Uelsmann.

Chair's Report

Scott Nygren, Faculty Senate Chair

Scott Nygren just returned from Tallahassee with President Machen and Provost Glover. They were there to argue in favor for the pre-eminence bill that would grant greater autonomy for the University of Florida. One theory of the current economic shortfall is due to an aging population, legislatures around the country will be unable or unwilling to provide adequate higher education funding for years to come. In these conditions, the best chance for UF's survival and success would be greater campus autonomy, which is why the university is fighting for approval of the legislation. As of today, the Governor has not made up his mind whether he will sign this bill.

Dr. Nygren then reviewed the provisions of shared governance during times of reorganization to help guide colleges during current budget discussions. Constitution Article IV Section 1 (E)

Faculty shall have a shared governance role in determining any changes to the structure and character, including but not limited to forming consolidating, transferring, closing

and renaming, of the colleges, schools and departments in which they are appointed. Such changes shall require the approval of the Faculty Senate. Procedures for this process are set forth in the bylaws. (Refer to Senate Bylaw 22)

He also noted the resolution by the College of Education concerning reorganization passed by the Faculty Senate in February 2010. Shared governance depends on effective conversation between administration and faculty in which neither has the authority to proceed on its own. Faculty cannot oppose the change that we have to face at the moment because budget cuts have been signed into law. Administration cannot impose reorganization without a vote by the faculty senate and participation of faculty.

President's Report

Bernie Machen, President

There are several issues with the budget. The administration expects the self-insurance bill to be signed next week which means we will start moving at a much more rapid pace in preparation. The pre-eminence bill will be decided within the next two weeks. State budget is pretty well set. President Machen agreed with Dr. Nygren that this is not a process that the administration can impose without faculty input. The budget data is public. The university will have all the time that it needs for all questions to be addressed.

Amount of cuts are bigger than the university wanted. The strategic decision made last year to postpone payment of \$12M is now due. Non-revenue generating units are getting 5% cuts. Revenue generating units have received their generated revenue notice. President Machen emphasized that the graduate student component is important.

Provost's Report/Topical Discussion

Joe Glover, Provost

RCM was introduced at the time when the state budget was in decline. From faculty experience it may seem difficult to separate what is part of the declining budget and what is RCM, but they work according to different principles. The explanation of the RCM budget allocation system is that dollars should flow to where they are being generated or where the demand is as measured by student credit hours. Student credit hours are the major component in the distribution system. At this time, the Provost has allocated all recurring money to the colleges. Units that provide services – such as the libraries, physical plant and police – tax the colleges. Space and energy are also charged to the colleges. Dr. Glover noted that there are some concerns about the system. Funds are actually distributed by weighted student credit hours because some courses are more expensive to teach than others. There is continuing discussion to ask if the weighting is fair. Also there is some concern about interdisciplinary subjects and how RCM fits. Many of the deans do not see a problem and say that they work it out between colleges. From the upper administration point of view, RCM only extends to the colleges and support units. It is the dean's decision whether they wish to continue with RCM to the department level.

Intermission/Announcement

Scott Nygren, Chair

Dr. Nygren welcomed all the students to the Senate meeting. Usually students are not allowed to speak at Faculty Senate meetings, however this is an unusual situation. Dr. Nygren introduced Jose Soto, who spoke for Graduate Assistants United.

Mr. Soto noted that there is a lot of uncertainty. Members of Graduate Assistants United are concerned about the cuts in some colleges and short faculty response periods, especially in Engineering. GAU is asking that the administration rethink the Engineering Dean's current proposal. The following are the requests to the Dean from Graduate Assistants United about the College of Engineering:

- Lengthen the discussion period
- More transparency
- No unjustified recurrent cuts on CISE
- No unjustified budget cuts on CISE

- Maintain CISE staff members that are up for termination
- Require a ¾ majority vote of approval for her proposal from faculty, students and graduate students.

Dr. Glover pointed out that formulating what to cut in college budgets is not a simple task. The deans are trying to find a way to cut without hurting his/her college. He suggested that if a faculty member or student comes forward to criticize, they should have an alternative proposal for discussion.

Continuation of Provost's Report/Topical Discussion

Joe Glover, Provost

We received cuts of \$58-59M from the legislature this year. Some of these cuts have been offset by new tuition but tuition does not cover all the cuts. Net allocation from the state was distributed by RCM to the colleges. The average allocation to the support units was cut by 5%.

College of Engineering Resolution

During the Comment/Information period, Joe Wilson, College of Engineering, presented a resolution and requested that it be moved to the information agenda, then the action agenda and then final vote.

College of Engineering Resolution

WHEREAS the University has not officially declared financial exigency in keeping with the Faculty Senate resolution of December 2009 concerning reorganization of the University and,

WHEREAS all of the University's departments support the three interdependent and synergistic missions of the university: teaching, research, and service, and

WHEREAS the instruction of students at the University will suffer greatly if the research missions of the departments are compromised,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The principles of shared governance as stipulated in Senate Bylaw 22 shall be followed before removal or transfer of graduate programs from any Department in an attempt to address budget shortfalls, whether temporary or permanent.

- **Motion was made and seconded that the College of Engineering resolution is added as an Information Item on the agenda.**

This item was approved.

- **Motion was made and seconded that the College of Engineering resolution currently on the agenda as an Information item be moved to the Action Items.**

Discussion: Dr. Glover reminded the Senate that we have to deal with the budget. We have to come together as faculty and administration to deal with it. If we cannot come together, then the Board of Trustees will act.

Discussion: Joe Wilson noted that the motion does not speak to any particular situation but is a general acknowledgement of our understanding of the shared roles that we all have with this shared government process.

This item was approved. Vote was 40 to 18.

- **Motion was made and seconded that the Faculty Senate approve the College of Engineering resolution.**

This item was approved. Vote was 53 to 6.

Information Item

Faculty Enhancement Opportunity Award Report

Kathy Long, Associate Provost, Academic Affairs

FEO was started three years ago as a pilot project with \$2M/year of nonrecurring money for three years from the President's Office. There was also additional support from each of the units where FEOs were awarded. First year of the project was 2008-09. This was year four. The President agreed to extend the FEOs with \$1.5M for this year. Award letters went out today from the Provost office for 2011-2012.

- Totals to Date
 - 398 proposals submitted
 - 287 proposals approved and funded
 - Over \$5M in FEO funds disbursed

Remembrance

Dr. Marc Heft remembered Dr. Bill Luttge who passed way recently. Dr. Luttge played a major role in interdisciplinary, neuroscience and spinal research along with the creation of the McKnight Brain Institute. Dr. Heft asked for a moment of silence in Dr. Luttge's memory.

The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Senators Attending

Monika Ardelt
Manuel Arreola
Scott Banks
Alexander Berkovich
Donald Bolser
Gijs Bosman
Cheri Brodeur
Babette Brumback
Amy Buhler
Eileen Buss
Paul Chadik
Jean Cibula
Donald Cohen
Joseph Costa
Jerry Culen
Deb Cupples
Barbara Curbow
Florin Curta
Larry Duncan
Liz Felter
Mary Ann Ferguson
Rui Fernandes
Jane Gannon
William Giuliano

Abraham Goldman
Renee Goodrich
Wayne Griffin
Charlie Guy
Charles Haddad
Frederick Hamann
Shannon Hamlett
Jacob Hammer
Brian Harfe
Candace Harper
Edward Hart
Christopher Hass
Galia Hatav
Marc Heft
Richard Hill
Shannon Holliday
David Holmes
Aida Hozic
David Janicke
Margeaux Johnson
John Kammeyer
Mike Katovich
Phil Kaufman
James Keesling

Pradeep Kumar
John Leavey
Rob MacKay
Martin Main
Tim Martin
John Mecholsky
Renwei Mei
Marjorie Moore
Debra Murie
Vasudha Narayanan
Michael Nussbaum
Scott Nygren
Carol Ojano-Dirain
William Properzio
Neta Pulvermacher
David Quillen
Jamie Reilly
Robert Ries
Beverly Roberts
Maria Rogal
Andrew Rosalsky
Vicki Sarajedini
James Seale
Christiana Shaw

SA Sherif
Steve Shugan
Laura Sjoberg
Keith Stanfill
Craig Stanley
Carol Stewart
Jake Streit
Ghatu Subhash
Colleen Swain
Joseph Tepas
Kevin Thompson
Mark Tillman
Amy Tobler
Scott Tomar
Sharda Udassi
Hans van Oostrom
Neill Wallis
Ann Wehmeyer
Karen Whalen
Bernard Whiting
Joe Wilson
Suzanne Wilson
Janet Yamamoto
Mary Ellen Young
Henry Zmuda

Liaisons

Kenneth Berns
Paula Fussell
Joe Glover
Kathleen Long
Bernie Machen
Barbara Wingo
Naomi Young

Students

Graham Picklesimer
Dusty Pfundheller

Guests

Arunava Banerie
Candi Churchill
A. Antezari
Joan Frosch
Alice Harmon
Richard Heipp
Ravi Jampany
Hazel Jones

Sunny Khatri
Kenneth Kidd
Henrietta Logan
Patrick McHenry
Steve Orlando
Gerhard Ritter
Raul Sanchez
Manu Sethi
Meera Sitharam
Jose Soto
Alper Ungor
Phil Wegner