The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved.

**Chair’s Report**

Scott Nygren, Faculty Senate Chair

Dr. Nygren gave a short report about his trip to Tallahassee last week to attend the Board of Governors and the Advisory Council of Faculty Senate meetings. He was impressed by Dean Colson, the new chair of the Board of Governors. House Speaker Weatherford is interested in distance learning and gave a presentation.

**President’s Report**

Bernie Machen, President

- President was asked to speak before one of the House education committees a week and a half ago about University of Florida, what it is and what it plans to be. During his presentation, he requested that the University have more autonomy.
- The Academic Affairs office has been having conversations about courses that all students can take, no matter the major. The logical place to add these types of courses is in Gen Ed. President Machen presented a proposal to the legislature asking that it allow any university that wished, require at least 9 or 10 credit hours of Gen Ed taken on the campus where the degree is awarded. We might be able to have a combined effort with Santa Fe College.
- State budgets came out this week. House budget proposal has a 12.5% cut to the University.
- President is ready for faculty’s final input on the 3%. Plans are to make a final decision in the next couple days. Beginning March 2012, the university will pay faculty a retirement payment of 3% of base salary for reimbursement of the amount that the state legislature is requiring faculty to pay toward the pension fund. This will bring the take home pay back what it was back in June 2011. If the court case ends up requiring us to restore the 3% toward retirement pay, then the University will take the 3% that’s approved for March 2012 and apply it to the restoration. If we have to make a retroactive payment, the 3% will be used for that also.
- IFAS Faculty Assembly asked the President to consider their resolution to extend the protected five year retirement sick leave payout to 10 years for those retiring in 10 years. It appears to the assembly that faculty who plan to retire in 10 years and have accrued many hours of sick leave will break even if the regulation is extended. President Machen asked that they send their information/data to him the next day.

**Provost’s Report**

Joe Glover, Provost

- Call for proposals for this year’s SEC Academic Conference Competition. Funding of $200,000 is provided from the SEC Presidents and the conference meets in Atlanta. University of Florida submitted several proposals last year. If faculty want to participate, they should contact their Dean.
- Most of the Deans seem to feel that RCM is working OK, but needs some tweaking or adjustment. They do not seem to think that RCM is fundamentally broken. CFO and administrators are working on how to improve.
**Action Item**

**Digital Media Art Program Name Change**

Bernard Mair, Assoc. Provost, Undergraduate Affairs

This item was approved.

**Advisory Vote – Increase College of Medicine Tenure Probationary Period from Seven to Ten years**

Marian Limacher, Senior Assoc. Dean for COM Faculty Affairs & Professional Develop.

This item was approved.

**SACS & QEP Endorsement**

David Miller, Director, QEP

_The University of Florida Faculty Senate endorse the development of a Quality Enhancement Plan to enhance the learning environment, with a focus on the topic of internationalization._

This item was approved.

**Information Item and Topical Discussion**

**Self-Insurance**

David Guzick, Sr. Vice President Health Affairs
Deanna Pelfrey, Chair, Welfare Council

Dr. David Guzick gave a presentation on [Self-Insurance Plan: GatorCare](#)

Deanna Pelfrey reported on the communication and work that the Welfare Council has been doing with self-insurance. She requested that if faculty have ideas or comments, to please visit the Faculty Senate Website.

Questions and concern during discussion:

- Concern about lack of details.
- Will UF&Shands continue to have excellent health care if Dr. Guzick retires?
- Will we have outside choices? Important to have an element of choice.
- Concern that faculty do not know the details before we ask the legislature to allow us to self-insure. Want to be able to compare details before we go self-insured.
- Will other insurances be linked into Gator Advantage?
- Suggestion: Need more signage and transparency
- Is there a way to make sure the community doctors are continuing their training and keeping updated on science based findings?

**Information Items**

**The Good Life (HUM 2305)**

Bernard Mair, Assoc. Provost, Undergraduate Affairs

The UCC approved that HUM 2305 should be a required course for all freshmen who enroll for the first time in Summer B 2012 or later. This will satisfy three credits of Humanities general education.
Program Terminations

Ken Gerhardt, Associate Dean, Graduate School

The following programs terminations are requested due to a lack of students. These programs were created during WWII.

- Electrical Engineering
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Environmental Engineering Sciences
- Aerospace Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics

David Bloomquist, Dept Civil & Coastal Engineering

Due to time constraints, this item is moved to February Senate meeting.

Creative Scholar-In-Residence

Lucinda Lavelli, Dean, College of Fine Arts
Jamie Gillooly, Asst. Professor, Biology

Creative Scholar-in-Residence is funded by Creative Campus. Participants spend one or two semesters away from their home college doing research in a different college. More information is available on the Provost’s website.

At Risk: Kognito

Meggen Sixbey, Assistant Coordinator
Crisis & Emergency Resource Center

At Risk: Kognito is a 45 minute simulation with the use of avatars where students learn the common indicators of psychological distress and how to approach at-risk students.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Senators Attending

Charles Adams
Monika Ardelt
Manuel Arreola
Scott Banks
Sanford Berg
Alexander Berkovich
Donald Bolser
Gijs Bosman
Cheri Brodeur
Babette Brumback
Amy Buhler
Eileen Buss
William Castleman
Nico Cellinese
Paul Chadik
Jean Cibula
Nereyda Clark
Donald Cohen
Joseph Costa
Deb Cupples
Barbara Durbow
Michael Dukes
Larry Duncan
Kevin Farmer
Liz Felter
Mary Ann Ferguson
Rui Fernandes
Lauren Lake
Abraham Goldman
Renee Goodrich
Wayne Griffin
Charlie Guy
Charles Haddad