Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
November 17, 2011
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Reitz Union Auditorium

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

Minutes of the October 2011 meeting were approved.

Chair’s Report

Scott Nygren, Faculty Senate Chair

Dr. Nygren made a few announcements:

- Meeting scheduled for April 19 is rescheduled to April 12. The change was made to coordinate the Senate meeting with the end of the year President’s reception afterwards. Location for the rescheduled meeting is the McKnight Brain Institute.
- Senators should have received an email from Jodi Gentry from HR about focus groups and the ongoing self-insurance study. HR will have two focus groups: November 29 and another December 2. Please volunteer to participate in these focus groups.
- Regulation that is going before the Board of Trustees. The President has assured us that the regulation will not be implemented unless the 3% raise is on the table. The reason for this is that the 3% cut in retirement funds is in the courts and maybe declared illegal.
- Graduate Program Initiative - Department self-improvement reports are due next Wednesday, November 23, 2011.
- Legislative session begins in January. Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for mid-January together with the Advisory Committee on Faculty Senates. Dr. Nygren will attend both meetings.
- Nominations are open on our web page for councils and committees. We’ve had only 12 people sign up. Dr. Nygren emphasized the importance of participating in shared governance.

President’s Report

Bernie Machen, President

President Machen reported on the following items.

- **The budget** - The state’s revenues are continuing to be unrealized. He foresees budget issues next year. Our graduate tuition rate is still under market rate. We do plan to continue (with the Board of Governors approval) to increase our full 15% tuition increase. The President noted that two thirds of the undergraduates from last year graduated with no debt. The remaining third were in debt by an average of $16,000. The national debt load average is over $25,000. Our undergraduate tuition is about $2400-$2500 per year below the national average.
- **Self-insurance** – Self-insurance is becoming relative to us. This will likely be the focus of legislative effort this year. The university plans to ask the legislature for authority to self-insure. We are asking for whatever the per capital dollar amount is put into the state health plan, that the state gives to us to put into our own health plan for our employees. We will have to be creative and careful to allocate the funds.
- **Leave Regulation and 3% raise** – Some state employee unions have sued the state that it’s illegal to force employees to pay 3% to the pension fund. If the lawsuit is successful, the 3% would have to be put back into employees paychecks. If this happens it will not come from the legislature, but the
university will have to find that 3%. For that reason, President Machen is requesting the Leave Regulation approval by the Board of Trustees pending the outcome of the legislation.

- **Response to the Governor** – We are delivering this afternoon our response to the Governor. It will be posted on the Governor’s website late tomorrow.

**Provost’s Report**

Joe Glover, Provost

Dr. Glover didn’t have a report, but is available for questions that anyone has. Reminder that the Graduate Program Initiative report deadline is coming soon. These are reports that are due to the college deans so that there can be discussion.

**Action Item**

Decrease in the College of Medicine credit Hours

- This item was approved.

**Program Terminations**

Ken Gerhardt, Assoc. Dean, Graduate School

- Master of Family, Youth and Community Sciences
- Master of Health Sciences Program
  - These items were approved.

**Information Items**

**Calendar**

Bernard Mair, Chair Curriculum Committee

- Request to Schedule Homecoming on Nov. 9-10 in the 2012-2013 academic calendar
  - Due to the football schedule
  - We have two home games in October - October 6 & 13 against LSU and Auburn
  - Next home game is Nov 10 which is what is being proposed for the homecoming game.
  - One factor to consider about deciding a homecoming game is the availability of tickets to visitors. The athletic association provides a certain number of tickets to the opposing team. If the opposing team does not purchase all the tickets, they are returned to the athletic association. LSU and Auburn traditionally purchase all of their allocated tickets which means that there would be no tickets for the alumni.
  - Another factor is that Nov 11 (following Monday) is Veterans Day. Would provide less disruption with two holidays back to back.

- Approve the 2015-2016 Calendar
  - Policy is to have five years’ worth of approved calendars on the website. Currently we have four years.
  - This is traditional except for tentative homecoming and also the Wednesday before Thanksgiving 2015 is tentative.

**Teaching and Learning Center**

Kathy Long, Assoc. Provost

Office of Academic Affairs

There has been consideration for creating a Teaching and Learning Center. There is general support for the concept of this center to help with the teaching mission for faculty members. During the last several years, we have encountered significant funding constraints on campus that likely make it difficult to do a national search for a director and hire staff for the center. At the moment the idea is on hold, but not discarded. In the interim,
we have a new website (www.teach.ufl.edu). It is becoming a portal to a whole variety of resources to assist faculty in their teaching activities.

University Constitution Committee

Constitution Committee wants faculty to be aware of new regulation number 1.201 Leaves. The chair of the Faculty Senate sent out a previous notice asking for comments before the November 11 deadline. That deadline has passed, but the committee wanted to draw attention to this regulation. Scott Nygren noted that the administration is still interested in what faculty have to say about this regulation.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Senators Attending

Monika Ardelt
Scott Banks
Alexander Berkovich
Donald Bolser
Ashley Booth
Gijs Bosman
Cheri Brodeur
Mary Brownell
Babette Brumback
Amy Buhler
William Castlemo
Nico Cellinese
Jean Cibula
Donald Cohen
Deb Cupples
Barbara Curbow
Florin Curta
Harry Daniels
Michael Dukes
Larry Duncan
Kevin Farmer
Liz Felter
Mary Ann Ferguson
Rui Fernandes
Jane Gannon
Lauren Garber-Lake
Wayne Griffin
Charlie Guy
Charles Haddad
Frederick Hamann
Jacob Hammer
Galia Hatav
Richard Hill
David Holmes
Aida Hozic
David Janicke
Mike Katovich
James Keesling
John Leavey
Renwei Mei
David Miller
Marjorie Moore
Paul Mueller
Debra Murie
Scott Nygren
Deanna Pelfrey
David Quillen
Jamie Reilly
Beverly Roberts
Maria Rogal
Andrew Rosalsky
Greg Sawyer
James Seale
Rich Segal
Brent Sellers
Christiana Shaw
Steve Shugan
Katie Sieving
Keith Stanfill
Carol Stewart
Colleen Swain
Mickie Swisher
Margaret Temple-Smith
J. J. Tepas
Kevin Thompson
Mark Tillman
Amy Tobler
Scott Tomar
Jenny Tucker
Sonal Tuli
Hans van Oostrom
Bradley Walters
Jay Watkins
Lori Wachsenberg
Ann Wehmeyer
Karen Whalen
Bernard Whiting
Joe Wilson
Janet Yamamoto
Mary Ellen Young
Henry Zmuda

Liaisons

Henry Frierson
Paula Fussell
Kathleen Long
Bernard Machen
Joe Glover
Michael Perri
Barbara Wingo

Students

Ashley Carnifax
Graham Picklesimer

Guests

Naomi Young
Stephanie Hansen
Ken Gerhardt
Bernard Mair