

University Constitution and Regulations Committee (UCRC)

Minutes

31 January 2022

Via Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93300549824?pwd=V0FyY2ZGNkxkcWxqbVlqaWpBYmxodz09>
10:00 a.m.

Present: Charlene Luke, Katie Vogel Anderson, Chris Hass, Laurie Bialosky, Danaya Wright, Alyson Adams, Amanda Phalin, Paul Duncan, Ashley Ghiaseddin, Taylor Rose, Tim Brophy, and Maria Leite.

- 1. Call to Order** – Charlene Luke, UCRC Chair
 - The meeting was called to order by UCRC Chair Charlene Luke at 10:00 a.m.
- 2. Approval of 20 December 2021 Minutes**– Charlene Luke, UCRC Chair
 - The minutes were approved.
- 3. Spring UCRC Meetings Update:**
 - BOT Regulations review: The February 14 UCRC meeting is confirmed and the UCRC Zoom invitation was updated and distributed. UCRC Administrative Liaison Taylor Rose will share regulations for lighting at the next meeting. They will be presented as an ‘Information Item’ at the February Faculty Senate meeting.
 - UCRC Administrative Liaison Associate Provost Hass briefly addressed the Compensation & Equity Committee’s [Faculty Titles Resolution](#) approved by Faculty Senate. There are concerns about the ‘Instructional’ modifier overlapping with the ‘Lecturer’ title series and this committee will play a role in helping to provide clarity.
- 4. [Academic Assessment Committee \(AAC\) Proposed Senate Bylaw Amendment](#)** – Tim Brophy, Chair, [AAC](#) & Maria Leite, Assistant Director of Institutional Assessment
 - [Academic Assessment Committee \(AAC\)](#) Chair Tim Brophy shared a proposal for needed constitutional language changes to update the AAC mission and membership make-up. He also shared these websites as references: <https://assessment.aa.ufl.edu/assessment--accreditation-/academic-assessment/> and <https://assessment.aa.ufl.edu/slo-visualization-project/>.
 - UCRC asked that the language be tweaked to clarify that Academic Learning Compacts (ALCs) are only required for undergraduate degree programs and that Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and program goals are assessed by the AAC for each undergraduate, graduate, professional and certificate academic program at UF.
 - UCRC approved the [proposal as amended](#).
- 5. Graduate Council Bylaw Amendments Update** – Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean, Graduate School
 - UCRC invited Sr. Associate Dean Duncan to follow up on the [February 2020 Committee on Committees report](#) to ask if assistance is needed for any possible Faculty Senate Bylaw changes or updates to the Graduate Council’s description. He clarified that the description is accurate, but the Graduate Council’s listing as a ‘Joint Committee’ could be altered or re-classified in some way to reflect that, while it is a shared governance body made up of graduate faculty-elected faculty members and appointees, the classification is a bit shoe-horned (as compared to the other three

classifications of committees noted in this table describing memberships:

<http://senate.ufl.edu/committees--councils/>

- The Graduate Council is currently also listed as a Joint Committee on the Faculty Senate website:

<http://senate.ufl.edu/committees--councils/committees/uf-joint-committees/>.

- UCRC agreed that any further clarification desired by the Graduate Council can be drafted by the Graduate School and the Graduate Council and forwarded to UCRC for any future discussion, should they wish.

6. Update on UCRC presentations/reports to Faculty Senate Steering & Faculty Senate, including UF Constitution's Special Meeting Provision - Charlene Luke, UCRC Chair

- The [Special Meetings Memo for January 31 meeting review](#) was discussed and approved as per this [presentation summary of UCRC-approved items for consideration at the February 3, 2022 Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting](#).

- UCRC agreed that today's new verbiage addresses the concerns raised during the January 20 Senate meeting pertaining to the Special Meetings language. UCRC discussed and agreed this can be revisited if incessant or abusive calls for special meetings should occur.

- Along with the BOT regulations lighting taking place at the next (February 14th) UCRC meeting, these items will be presented at the February 17th Senate meeting as Information Items and at the March 17th Senate meeting as Action Items. All faculty and UCRC members are encouraged to join the meetings, detailed below:

- **Steering** is 3-5 p.m. in 226 Tigert (President's Conference Room) or, if needed, via Zoom: (This is the link for Spring semester Steering meetings):
<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95866427251?pwd=SEtKblkyOGNpbHdGcmJTNVlXQXNJQT09> Meeting ID: 958 6642 7251 Passcode: 289690 Dial in: 301-715-8592
- **Senate** is 3-5 p.m. in Reitz Union, Chamber Room, Ground Floor. [Live-streamed & recorded](#).

Other:

- Faculty Senate Chair David Bloom is sunsetting the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom formed this Fall and move its activities to a permanent committee, the currently existing AFTPRS Committee:

[Constitution of the University of Florida](#), Section 4. OTHER SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES. In addition to Senate Operations Committees, several other Committees are elected from the faculty wholly by the Senate or, where specifically indicated, by other means. These are:

(A) Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards.

The Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards (AFTPRS) Committee shall be composed of fifteen members elected by the Faculty Senate who will serve staggered three-year terms. Nominees for membership on this committee shall be tenured faculty holding the rank of professor (or equivalent) or above. The Chair is elected by the Committee. It shall be the duty of the Committee to conduct hearings on charges involving University practices bearing upon tenure or academic freedom or matters involving University practices generally applicable to faculty members bearing on professional ethics and the general welfare of the faculty.

- Following an inquiry, it was clarified that this would not be a regulatory change, but university policy documents should encompass any updates or changes. UCRC discussed the need for the Faculty Senate to be given the ability to work on and communicate with the administration on issues related to this committee's work to maximize faculty participation. UCRC suggests that Chair Bloom and AFTPRS and Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom Chair Raymond Issa visit a future UCRC meeting to further discuss.

Following an inquiry, the interaction between university policies and regulations were discussed; while the latter generally provides a 'big picture', identifies the originating authority, and can take a very long time to change (i.e., a six month window is not unusual), the former is reflective of implementation and can be much more nimble.

- UCRC discussed that meaningful faculty involvement in policy development would help Faculty Senators and faculty feel more comfortable about the direction of any new changes.

7. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Resources:

[Constitution of the University of Florida](#), as amended by April 15, 2021

[UF Senate Bylaws](#), as amended by April 15, 2021

[UCRC Operating Procedures](#), as amended by May 2015