



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2021 - 3:00 p.m.

Zoomcast:

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/0685b466da2e46c9ba0efbd082d7ca081d?catalog=8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc421>

Call to Order & Approval of [April 15, 2021 Minutes](#)

Sylvain Doré, Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Faculty Senate Chair Sylvain Doré.
- The minutes were approved.

Reports:

[Chair's Report](#)

Sylvain Doré, Chair

- COVID numbers are still relatively low and vaccines are plentiful so please encourage all to vaccinate, as part of this public health initiative. Governor DeSantis' executive memo prohibits vaccine requirements and immunization passports, and HIPPA regulations prevent asking for a vaccine confirmation.
- Prior to educating faculty about the implications of the legislature's proposed ideological survey, further information is pending, including how it will be deployed and used.
- Faculty have expressed concern about the right of recording in classes. This was addressed in a previous Faculty Senate resolution, and Chair Doré has contacted General Counsel to request further clarification, including how "lecture" is being defined, and how to best incorporate this information in a syllabus, ideally for Summer B implementation. The Provost suggests that Faculty Senate create a syllabi statement for review by his office and the General Counsel's.
- Chair Doré discussed some potential long-term consequences of recent legislation related to graduate student recruitment, including foreign influence in academic institutions. All foreign students must now complete a DS160 form. The information requested is now more detailed and more widely shared with Florida institutions, and not just with Immigration Officers, as in the past. There is concern that this may create hesitancy for potential students, who may simply choose to enroll in institutions outside of Florida.
- Legislative budget news is positive, including a \$20 million allocation to continue Artificial Intelligence (AI) faculty recruitment.
- Thank you to Board of Trustees (BOT) Chair Hosseini for his tireless work in support of UF and the State University System (SUS). A past Board of Governors (BOG) Chair, his UF BOT term was recently renewed.
Chair Hosseini has asked the Faculty Senate Chair for assistance in finding an acute and permanent solution to childcare issues. This will be increasingly important as all return to campus in Summer B, as encouraged by President Fuchs and in the Governor's Executive Memo this week. Resumption of normal activities are expected by July 1. VP Jodi Gentry will deliver a childcare plan at the June 10 BOT meeting.
- Increasing the institution's contribution to the employee retirement plan has been contemplated. Chair Doré noted that UF is just over 5%, while most of our peer institutions are above 10%. Decreasing this gap can increase UF's faculty recruitment competitiveness.
- Chair Doré has discussed reviewing and potentially setting a minimum salary for UF faculty. Once numbers are obtained, efforts can be made to ensure that those below a certain threshold will achieve

equity. Adding the word 'equity' to the University Constitution and the Compensation Committee reflects such priorities.

- Faculty Senate Chair-elect Bloom will invite the new Dean of Graduate Student Affairs, Dr. Nicole Stedman, to Faculty Senate, and will continue the focus on a positive graduate student experience.
- Chair Doré screen-shared his [Chair's Report slides](#) as well as Associate Provost Angela Lindner's response to his request to explore other options within and to the GatorSafe App.
- President Fuchs has encouraged more in person socializing and Chair Doré thanked all who attended yesterday's wine and cheese.
- The Faculty Senate Reception, sponsored by the President's Office, will be held on Tuesday, August 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Powell University House.

- **President's Report**

Kent Fuchs, President

- President Fuchs is attending Commencement and has provided his [President's Report via video](#).

- **Provost's Report**

Joe Glover, Provost

- Dr. Nicole Stedman, a faculty member in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), has been appointed as the next Dean of the Graduate School. Her term begins June 1 and she will present Graduate School plans and goals at the June Board of Trustees meeting.
- A \$20 million recurring authorization to hire 100 faculty to work in AI and applications has been approved by the legislature. Dr. Glover looks forward to hearing the continued responses to the call for proposal to the deans to allocate the remaining available faculty positions in AI. Yesterday, at the Data Center on Waldo Road, Dr. Glover was able to observe a speed trial for the HiPerGator AI. Results are being sent to compete in a world competition which ranks the speed of supercomputers across the globe.

Action Items:

[IDEA Resolution and Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility \(IDEA\) Action Items: A Living Document](#)

Sarah Lynne, Chair, Welfare Council

- This item was approved.

University Curriculum Committee

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
Undergraduate Affairs

- [Creation of New Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation \(PM&R\)](#)

- This item was approved.

Information Items:

Introduction of the CFO and UF Budget Update

Chris Cowen, UF Chief Financial Officer

- New Chief Financial Officer Chris Cowen introduced himself and discussed his office's structure and goals in supporting the transparency and the work of the university in terms of budgetary constraints, priorities, sustainability, revenues, and allocations.

UF Human Resources Updates

Jodi Gentry, VP of Human Resources

- VP Gentry provided an update regarding: the Chief Diversity Officer search; paid family leave; the PTO conversion pause; Baby Gator; and [UF's retirement competitiveness](#).

[University Athletics & Academics](#)

Scott Stricklin, University Athletic Director

- University Athletic Director (UAD) Stricklin presented athletics update of current national rankings;

student-athletes academics and enhancements; SEC team championships; and commitments to student-athletes.

UFPD Response to Resistance

Linda J. Stump-Kurnick, UF Police
Department Chief

- Chief Stump-Kurnick shared 2020 statistics related to police activity; traffic safety and enforcement; response to resistance; active shooter presentations; and UF alerts. Active assailant and emergency Planning Cohort resources were also shared and pedestrian safety was discussed.

Evaluation of Teaching – Peer Assessment

Hans van Oostrom, Chair
Academic Policy Council (APC)

- APC Chair Hans van Oostrom presented a summary of the APC's findings to implement peer review of teaching. This report provides a path and rubric for a more wholistic view on how teaching is evaluated.

The UF Grad Student Experience – A Living Document

Amanda Phalin, Member
Research and Scholarship Council

Senator Amanda Phalin presented this document which aims to identify guiding principles to enhance the student graduate experience, a recent focus of the Board of Trustees and the Faculty Senate.

University Curriculum Committee

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
Undergraduate Affairs

- [New Early Childhood Education BAE Degree:](#)

- The UF College of Education proposes to establish a new degree program: Bachelor of Arts in Education, Early Childhood Education major.

- [Close IDS Major Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures](#)

- This is a request to close the IDS Major Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, with both its tracks. Students have not been enrolled in this major for quite some time, and it has been superseded by two other majors: International Studies and Foreign Languages & Literatures (Arabic and Hebrew Specializations).

Graduate Council

Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean
Graduate School

- [New Master of Integrated Sustainable Development \(MISD\) Degree](#)

- This is a request from the College of Design, Construction and Planning to offer a new Master of Integrated Sustainable Development (MISD) Degree.

Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) Awards

Chris Hass, Associate Provost for Academic
and Faculty Affairs

- Associate Provost Hass announced the OAA Awards in the areas of teaching/scholarship; exemplary teaching; advising/mentoring; and research/professional development. Leadership programs and OAA Award Committee members were also recognized.

Successful College Collaborations Series

Saby Mitra, Dean
Warrington College of Business
Michael Perri, Dean
College of Public Health & Health
Professions

Anna McDaniel, Dean
College of Nursing

- Dean Mitra provided an [overview](#) to Senate of the Warrington College of Business' current, emerging, and future collaborations with the Colleges of Pharmacy, Law, and Engineering.
- Dean Perri shared [slides](#) with Faculty Senate which outlined successful college collaborations, including PHHP's Breathing Research and Therapeutics Center.
- Dean McDaniel provided a snapshot of [College of Nursing collaborations](#) which strengthen their teaching, practice, and research efforts.

BOT Regulations

Padraic Levings, Chair, University
Constitution & Regulations Committee
(UCRC)

- Three regulations were reviewed and lighted by the UCRC. These regulations will be considered and voted on by the Board of Trustees at the June Board of Trustees meeting.
- The UCRC has adopted a color-coded key for easily informing Senators of proposed regulation changes that may affect Senators or their colleagues:

- **Red** – proposed changes affect the faculty; please review and comment as appropriate.
- **Yellow** – proposed changes may affect or be of interest to faculty; senators may want to review and comment as appropriate.
- **Green** – proposed changes likely have minimal effect on faculty and do not necessarily warrant further review by the senators.

- Reg. 2.019 "Alcoholic Beverages"

- This regulation is being revised and its guidelines and procedures moved to policy.

- Reg. 2.020 "Food Service on Campus"

- This regulation is being repealed and moved to policy.

- Both of the above items do not reflect substantive changes and are part of the ongoing effort to strip the procedures and policies out of regulations; to increase clarity, items which are more of policy guidelines in nature will be moved to policy and procedures documents and away from regulations.

- Both items were lit **Green** by UCRC.

- Reg. 3.0375 "Tuition Costs"

- This regulation is being updated to reflect a new, lower rate for the repeat course surcharge for undergraduates, as set by the Board of Governors (BOG) and it adjusts the academic year references to 2021-22.
- This item was lit **Green** by UCRC.

Open Discussion from Senate Floor - Three minutes per speaker.

- 1) University of Florida Faculty Senators
- 2) University of Florida Faculty

- There was no discussion from the Senate floor.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Attending

- View meeting registrants [here](#).