



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2022 - 3:00 p.m.

Reitz Union Chamber

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/330785fe522b4ab5b572ce03ae107e091d?catalog=8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc421>

Call to order &

David C. Bloom, Chair

Approval of [February 17, 2022 Minutes](#)

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

Reports

- **Chair's Report**

David C. Bloom, Chair

- Chair Bloom thanked the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom, which has concluded its work. The [addendum](#) to their [final report](#) is posted on the UF [Faculty Senate website](#). In assessing the committee's findings, Chair Bloom noted that while over the past several months the administration has stated its commitment to protecting academic freedom on our campus, work needs to be done to restore confidence and trust. While significant strides have been made by the faculty and administration working together to improve the reporting and appeals processes, continued participation in shared governance is essential. Faculty are encouraged to speak out and bring any concerns or issues impacting faculty ability to freely perform its work in scholarship, research, and teaching to the Faculty Senate's attention. This can be done confidentially as described in the report addendum in the above links. The UF Faculty Senate standing committee, the Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards ([AFTPRS](#)) Committee, which is also chaired by Dr. Raymond Issa, will be utilized to continue addressing issues raised in the Ad Hoc Committee. Moving forward, the Faculty Senate website will provide academic freedom information such as conflict of interest (COI) FAQs, and outside activity reporting and appeals processes. Feedback is encouraged.
- UF, along with four other State University System (SUS) schools, is conducting a search for a new President. Chair Bloom has tasked the Chairs of the College Faculty Councils/Assemblies with providing an enumeration of the qualities and qualifications preferred in a UF President. This input, as well as comments received from Faculty Senators, are being collated by the [Academic Policy Council](#) for incorporation into a resolution for Faculty Senate consideration and presentation to the Board of Trustees, which is expected to name search committee members later this month.
- Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Chair Bloom has received a number of inquiries related to whether UF has investments in Russia. UFICO (UF's investment managing arm) has relayed that UF had only a 0.2% exposure to Russian concerns and that this was in the process of being divested. There is a 0.01 percent exposure through mutual holdings and those entities are in the process of being divested once the Russian exchanges re-open.
- The National Academy of Sciences has requested help from universities to provide displaced Ukrainian faculty and researchers with resources and a place to work during the current crisis to allow them to continue their scholarly activities. Chair Bloom is coordinating with the Provost on a mechanism to provide a clearing house for such requests. Details will be communicated in

the near future.

- After the presentation of the slate of new BOT regulations last week, Chair Bloom received a number of concerns regarding Reg. 7.003(4)(a)(9) which related to removing free parking for emeritus faculty. While the Office of Business Affairs noted that there was no plan to do this, UF's General Counsel Office agreed that the language stating free parking was inadvertently omitted and is being re-inserted into the final regulation to be considered by the BOT in April. Chair Bloom expressed appreciation to the faculty and administration for bringing these concerns forward and expediently resolving them.

- Following Faculty Senate discussion and faculty concerns about the sustainability of the new UF Central Energy Plant, CFO Chris Cowen has offered to participate in a Faculty Senate Town Hall on Thursday, March 31, 2022 @ 3 p.m. to address the issue. Details, including a [list of panelists](#), the [Town Hall log-in link](#), [recording](#), and the [link to submit any questions in advance](#) are viewable [here](#) and on the [Faculty Senate home page](#).

- Nominations for the next Faculty Senate Chair-Elect close on March 31. Email nominations to the Faculty Senate Secretary @ lbialosky@aa.ufl.edu or FacultySenateChair@ufl.edu. Voting will take place by a written vote at the April 14 Faculty Senate meeting.

- An invitation is forthcoming for the April 14th 5:30 Faculty Senate Reception at the Powell University House.

- Join us at the conclusion of today's Faculty Senate meeting for the 5:00 p.m. Distinguished Professor Lecture and light refreshments. Julie K. Levy, Fran Marino Endowed Distinguished Professor of Shelter Medicine Education, Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine will present: *Spayathon for Puerto Rico: Lessons & Outcomes from 50,000 Surgeries* in the Reitz Union Chamber. [Live stream & recording](#) are also available for this presentation.

- Chair Bloom introduced Terra Dubois, Chief Compliance, Ethics, and Privacy Officer to address the findings of the committee which investigated allegations contained in the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom Report, specifically with respect to COVID-19 research integrity and data allegations. A three-member faculty panel provided a final report last week to Terra Dubois and VP of Research David Norton. It has been transmitted to and accepted by President Fuchs and is available at news.ufl.edu. In summary, the panel found that there was no merit to the allegations as presented. An executive summary, as well as the allegations, finding of facts, analysis, and conclusion can be viewed at:

<https://news.ufl.edu/media/newsufledu/documents/investigation-findings.pdf>. Following inquiries, it was noted that the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom Report is linked in the panel's report and the allegation which was reported to them was one of pressure to destroy COVID-19 data (as opposed to an allegation of COVID-19 data being destroyed).

President's Report

Kent Fuchs, President

- President Fuchs introduced VP for Government and Community Relations Mark Kaplan to answer inquiries and provide a [legislative update](#), including an overview of the statutory regulations and legislative resources which have emerged from the legislative session which just ended.

- Following an inquiry related to increasing graduate student funding, Chair Bloom noted that the Faculty Senate is partnering with Graduate School Dean Nicole Stedman and the BOT to increase opportunities in this area.

- **Provost's Report** **Joe Glover, Provost**
 - Dr. Glover reviewed the content of memos distributed this week related to the AI Initiative, including its administrative organization and how UF is approaching the initiative.
 - Warrington College of Business Dean Saby Mitra is chairing the search committee, which will commence April 12, for the new Dean of the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering. The Isaacson Miller firm will assist the university in conducting the search.
 - An update will be provided next month regarding the search for the new Dean of the International Center, to replace the current Dean who will step down in August.

Action Items:

Graduate Council

Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean
Graduate School

- [Department Name Change from Otolaryngology to Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery](#)
 - This name change request has been made by the faculty members in the Department of Otolaryngology in the College of Medicine.
 - This item was approved.
- [PhD and MS in Engineering Education](#)
 - The proposed programs aim to prepare graduate students for roles in research, practice, and leadership in engineering education.
 - This item was approved.

[2025-2026 & 2026-2027 Academic Calendar](#)

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost of
Undergraduate Affairs

- Associate Provost Lindner presented the 2025-2026 & 2026-2027 Academic Calendars for Senate consideration and answered inquiries.
- This item was approved.

[University Constitution & Regulations Committee \(UCRC\) Report](#)

Charlene Luke, Chair, UCRC

- The [UCRC Report](#) was presented and discussed, including clarifications regarding the proposed committees' missions, membership make-ups and timelines, and the opportunities for faculty input.
- This item was approved.

Information Items:

[University Constitution & Regulations Committee \(UCRC\) Report – Special Meetings](#)

Charlene Luke, Chair, UCRC

- The UCRC provided [clarifications to its special meetings proposal](#), including that a special meeting time will be established within regular business hours to ensure that all can attend, and that safeguards and procedures are in place to ensure that a clear path is available for special meetings.

[International Engagement and Researcher Screening](#)

Cassandra C. Farley, Director, UF Research Integrity, Security & Compliance (RISC)

- Director Farley discussed UF's support for international engagements and collaborations. An overview of requirements to comply with Florida legislation was provided. Screening

details for international visitors and scholars, researchers, and new hires who access research data or materials were reviewed. Resource links were also shared.

Introduction to the Chief Diversity Officer

Marsha Currin McGriff, Chief Diversity Officer & Senior Advisor to the President

- CDO McGriff introduced her office's goals, philosophies, scope of work, three-year plan, and resources, including the Campus Diversity Liaisons.

Graduate Council

Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean
Graduate School

- [Proposal to establish the Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies](#)

- This proposal is to establish the Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (GSWS) at the University of Florida. Existing faculty and resources are being used for any needed transitions to establish the department.

- This proposal is supported by the college's faculty and by the UF Graduate Council.

Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) Awards

Chris Hass, Associate Provost for
for Academic and Faculty Affairs

- Associate Provost Hass provided the annual report of the OAA awards, which are given to faculty in recognition of faculty excellence including teacher scholar awards, advising, and mentoring.

Professional development, research, and travel awardees were also named and applauded.

- Faculty are encouraged to nominate colleagues for these awards.

Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Dr. Ladapo Hiring Process

Richard Scholtz, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee

- This Ad Hoc Committee provided an update from its interviews and information-gathering related to College of Medicine, Health Science Center, and UF HR searches and practices, and faculty tenure votes and processes. A final report will be presented to the Faculty Senate at its April meeting.

Open Discussion from Senate Floor - *Three-minute limit per speaker.*

- 1) University of Florida Faculty Senators
 - There was no discussion from UF faculty.
- 2) - There was no discussion from UF faculty.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Attending

Senators

Luis Alvarez-Castro
Theresa Antes
Angela Bacsik
Ludmila Veloso Barbosa De Faria
Katie Basinger
Norman Beatty
Donald Behringer
Lauren Berkow
Mario Binelli
Jeremiah J. Blanchard
Eleni Bozia
Brent Broaddus
Andrea Caloiaro
Nico Cellinese
Konstantina Christodoulopoulou
Maddy Coy
Cynda Crawford
Megan Daly
Santanu K. Datta
Yousong Ding
Randell Doty
Sara Moscovita Falzarano
Yuguang (Michael) Fang
Monica A. Fernandez
Jamie Foster
Breann Garbas
Jamie Garner
Ashley Ghiaseddin
Liwei Gu
Charles Haddad
Barry Hartz
Jillian Hernandez
Selman Hershfield
Amie Hoefnagel

Helene Huet
Robert W. Huigens, III
Sobha Jaishankar
Lisa King
John Kraft
Sujata Krishna
Jaclyn Kropp
Ji-Hyun Lee
Jose Lemos
Maureen Long
Sarah Lynne
Lucas Majure
Diba Mani
Crystal Marull
Anne Mathews
Mindy McAdams
Carey Minter
Marjorie Montanez-Wiscovich
Walter Lee Murfee
Timothy M. Murtha
Christine T. Myers
Walter O'Dell
Madan Oli
Monika Oli
Ariel Pomputius
Keith Rambo
Czerne Reid
Mary Risner
Albert D. Ritzhaupt
Jemmie Robertson
Hardev Sandhu
Richard Scholtz
Karla Shelnut
Matthew C. Smith
Ruth Steiner
Richard Stepp
Catherine Striley
Saundra TenBroeck

David Therriault
Stephanie Toelle
Vilma Torres
Apichai Tuanyok
Steve Tufts
Hannah Vander Zanden
Nathalie A. Wall
Shawn Weatherford
Trent Williams, Jr.
Sarah Wolking
Danaya Wright
Erich Wyckoff
Jennifer Zedalis

Liaisons

Paul Duncan
Kent Fuchs
Joe Glover
Chris Hass
Mark Kaplan
Angela Lindner
Charlene Luke
Marsha McGriff

Student Senators

Devon K. Mims
Micah Page
Ryan Scott
Daniel C. Schultz
Alex Wong

Guests

Mayra Cordero
Melissa Curry
Cassandra Farley
John Neubert
Amanda Phalin