



Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2022 - 2:00 p.m.
Reitz Union Chamber

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/ba90f48d53b2415c90cd61dc8c9f98431d?catalog=8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc421>

Call to order & Approval of [April 14, 2022 Minutes](#) David C. Bloom, Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Faculty Senate Chair David C. Bloom.
- The minutes were approved.

Reports

- **Chair's Report**

David C. Bloom, Chair

- There is no President's Report due to a travel conflict.
- The last of the new Deans introductions is today, as Faculty Senate welcomes Andra Johnson, Dean of UF/IFAS Extension & Director of Florida Cooperative Extension.
- Chair Bloom provided an update on the April Board of Trustees meeting. He addressed the following five points of conflict of interest (COI) and the faculty appeals process with the Board of Trustees and strongly re-affirmed faculty rights:
 - 1) Expert witness COI review. This issue was already addressed by the President's Task Force. The University has changed its conflict of interest review policy to include a) a committee that includes faculty that will review an expert witness disclosure request that is denied, and b) an appeals process has been established that will involve review by a separate standing committee that will include faculty representation.
 - 2) Other outside activities COI review. Requested that these activities follow the same revised review process (including the ability to appeal) as those for the new expert witness policies. Essentially, all outside activity requests submitted through UFOLIO that are rejected would have an automatic review by a committee that includes faculty and an opportunity for appeal.
 - 3) Freedom to speak to the press. Requested that the Administration reaffirm: a) that faculty can speak to the press as private citizens, when making it clear that they are not representing the University and b) that faculty have the right to speak to the press regarding areas of their expertise and use their UF credentials for identification purposes only, and c) that when speaking in these two capacities, the university will not restrict their constitutionally protected speech.
 - 4) Publication and control of research materials. Requested that the University reaffirm that faculty have the right to research and timely publication without interference by outside influence. This of course does not release the researchers from following all state and federal laws and the terms of the relevant research agreements and regulatory approvals.
 - 5) Academic freedom in education materials. Requested that the University reaffirm that faculty have control over the content of their syllabi and course materials, understanding there may be curriculum, accreditation, and similar requirements.
- Two other items which Chair Bloom addressed at the BOT meeting included: requesting an increase of employer contribution to Optional Retirement Program (ORP) employer contributions to at least 10% and increasing graduate and postdoctoral student resources to aid in student

recruitment and increasing research funding growth. Points relevant to remaining competitive with institutional peers were also addressed, including the ability of graduate students to support the state's need for trained research workers and the critical role graduate students play in the engine of UF research. Bright Future benefits as compared to graduate student stipends was discussed as well as the need to offer affordable housing.

- The Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) meets May 20 in Tallahassee. Chair Bloom and Faculty Senate Chair-elect Amanda Phalin are attending.
- Chair-elect Phalin will be in touch with Senators to discuss next year's Faculty Senate meeting format, including remote voting and participation options.
- Please complete your ballot to elect the nominees for university-wide and Senate committees, boards, and councils. All voting Senators received an email which included the nominee list and voting.aa.ufl.edu instructions. The [nominees](#) are also posted on the ['agenda/minutes' page](#) of senate.ufl.edu. The ballot closes on Friday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m.
- A faculty Presidential Search Listening Session takes place at 3:30 today in Reitz Chamber, with guests/hosts Trustee Rahul Patel and Consultant Alberto Pimentel.
- Chair Bloom stated that it has been an honor representing our great UF faculty as the Faculty Senate Chair and as a member of the Board of Trustees and thanked all for their support.

- **Provost's Report**

Joe Glover, Provost

- Provost Glover discussed Florida House Bill 7 (HB7) and an example of approaching a classroom topic within its parameters. HB7 guidance was sent to faculty, Department Chairs and Graduate Coordinators to share with Teaching Assistants and other staff. The Provost will continue to share any forthcoming updates on this law.
- Dr. Glover provided an overview of and answered inquiries about the post-tenure review bill passed by the legislature. The bill suggests some elements of post-tenure review and places responsibility for post tenure review adoptions in the hands of the Board of Governors (BOG). Based on the current draft of the law, the BOG is expected to draft a regulation sometime in the fall. The BOG expects each university to adopt its own post tenure review policy, so shared governance work on this initiative will likely begin this fall and be based on a five-year tenure review timeline.

Action Items:

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

Charlene Luke, Chair, UCRC

- This proposal aims to continue the fact-finding work of the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom and suggests a new sentence to be added to update the Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations, and Standards (AFTPRS) Committee mission.
- This item was approved.

[Presidential Qualities Resolution](#)

Richard Scholtz, Chair, Academic Policy Council

- This resolution affirms the qualifications of the thirteenth University of Florida President based on collated feedback from faculty, including Academic Policy Council (APC) members, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, and the Chairs of the College Faculty Councils/Assemblies.
- This item was approved.

Graduate Council

Paul Duncan, Sr. Associate Dean
Graduate School

[- Department of Aging and Geriatric Research Merger with the Department of Physiology and Functional Genomics](#)

- This is a proposal from the College of Medicine to merge two existing departments into a single one. It was suggested by the faculty and has been assessed as having no negative impact on graduate students or faculty. It has received the support of the deans, chairs, and faculty in these department.

[- Close Master of Arts in Teaching \(MAT\) - Political Science - International Relations](#)

- This program is targeted to training high school teachers who teach in this area and due to a lack of interest in enrollment, the department seeks to close this program.

- Both items were approved.

Information Items:

[Resolution in Recognition of Service](#)

David C. Bloom, Chair

- This resolution, in recognition of Sr. Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Paul Duncan's outstanding service upon his retirement, was unanimously approved. Dr. Duncan received a standing ovation.

[University Athletics & Academics](#)

Scott Stricklin, University Athletic Director

- UAD Stricklin presented UF student-athlete academic statistics and trends, including demographics, internships, community service, GPA, honors, and graduation success rates. An overview of a new endowment for female athletes, UF's current national rankings, SEC & NCAA team championships, and the new significant impacts of the student-athlete Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) was also provided.

Scripps Update – Postponed due to travel

David R. Nelson, Sr. VP for Health Affairs &
President of UF Health

[Introduction to the Dean of UF/IFAS Extension & Director of Florida Cooperative Extension Service](#)

Andra Johnson, Dean of UF/IFAS Extension
& Director of Florida Cooperative Extension
Service

- Dean Johnson was introduced and provided an overview of UF/IFAS Extension strategic vision plans, a current road map, and priorities, including expanding IFAS Extension online. The community, customer-centric organization will focus on advancing the UF land grant university mission and increase engagement with such university organizations as Faculty Senate to help establish a gateway to UF and its resources.

[4-H Pathways/Campus Engagement](#)

Stacey Ellison, 4-H Associate Program
Leader

Michael Gutter, Associate Dean for
Extension

- Associate Dean Gutter and Program Leader Stacey Ellison discussed the activities and structural organization of the 4-H enterprise and how it partners with UF, including programs for residential, environmental, and learning programs throughout state. Florida was one of four states invited by the U.S Dept. of Agriculture and Pathways to form a team of experts in the field to increase engagement and explore resources. 4-H's impact on whole communities and its successes in public health, financial

literacy, and campus engagement were shared. Program and research initiatives, such as a forthcoming AI project launch with the College of Engineering and engaging 4-H students on campus were also discussed.

Resolution for Development of a Strategic Plan for Animal and Human Subject Research Resources

David C. Bloom, Chair

- To accommodate the Presidential Search Listening Session, this item is tabled until Fall 2022.

IDEA Update

Sarah Lynne, Chair, Welfare Council

- To accommodate the Presidential Search Listening Session, this [item](#) is tabled until Fall 2022.

Multi-Year Contracts

Sean Trainor, Chair, Compensation & Equity Committee

- To accommodate the Presidential Search Listening Session, this item is tabled until Fall 2022.

Presidential Search Listening Session

Begins promptly at 3:30

David C. Bloom, Chair & UF Trustee

Rahul Patel, UF Trustee

Alberto Pimentel, Consultant

- Following the Presidential Search Listening Session, the Faculty Senate meeting concluded with:

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

1) University of Florida Faculty Senators

- CLAS Senator Hannah Vander Zanden raised concern about compensation, benefits, affordable housing opportunities, and living wage support for UF Graduate Assistants. She shared numbers from the UF Biology program, including its guaranteed salaries and the [MIT living wage](#) for Gainesville. Chair Bloom concurred with the need to continue to advocate for such support, particularly given the steep recent increase of the cost of living in Gainesville and a focus on the 'average' graduate stipend number at UF, which doesn't reflect the true disparity which exists across campus/UF programs.

- UNIV LIB Senator Hélène Huet suggested faculty show support to UF Graduate Assistants by attending the virtual sessions of the UF Graduate Assistants union bargaining sessions which are currently underway.

2) University of Florida Faculty

- There was no discussion by UF faculty.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Attending

Senators

Luis Alvarez-Castro

Lisa Anthony

Angela Bacsik

Katie Basinger

Lauren Berkow

Jeremiah J. Blanchard

Stephanie Bogart

Brent Broaddus

Michael Bumbach

Andrea Caloiaro

Teresa Cavanaugh

Nico Cellinese

Luisa (Amelia) Dempere

Thomas Denagamage

Yousong Ding
Petra E. Duran-Gehring
Sara Moscovita Falzarano
Yuguang (Michael) Fang
Jamie Foster
Klibs Galvao
Breann Garbas
Kristina Garcia-Guettler
Jamie Garner
Reetu Grewal
Liwei Gu
Charles Haddad
Dennis Hiltunen
Amie Hoefnagel
Hélène Huet
Lisa King
Sujata Krishna
Jose Lemos
Lora Levett
Kiran Lukose
Sarah Lynne
Lucas Majure
Diba Mani
Crystal Marull
Mindy McAdams
Victoria Menzies
Walter Lee Murfee
Christine T. Myers
Walter O'Dell
Ana Puig
Keith Rambo
Czerne Reid
Mary Risner
Jemmie Robertson
Richard Scholtz
Megan Sheridan
Matthew C. Smith
Patricia Sohn
Ruth Steiner
Catherine Striley
Saundra TenBroeck
Stephanie Toelle
Apichai Tuanyok
Steve Tufts
Hannah Vander Zanden
Nathalie A. Wall
Kendall Webb
Karen Whalen
Trent Williams, Jr.
Gene Witmer
Erich Wyckoff

Jennifer Zedalis

Liaisons

Sylvain Doré
Paul Duncan
Joe Glover
Chris Hass
Andra Johnson
Charlene Luke
Amanda Phalin
Taylor Rose
Scott Stricklin
Sean Trainor

Student Senators

Hope Lerman

Guests

Ryan Dunn
Stacey Ellison
Mike Gutter