

Faculty Senate Steering Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2012

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Tigert 226

Attendees: Sandra Russo, Cynthia Morton, Barbara Wingo, Marc Heft, Hartmut Derendorf, Deanna Pelfrey, Mark Tillman, Naomi Young, Kathy Long, Mary Ann Ferguson, Cheri Brodeur, Scott Nygren, Sue Alvers, and Mike Katovich.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Scott Nygren announced the following:

- Voting for Council and Committee membership is ongoing until April 16 at 3 p.m.
- Faculty Senate is meeting in the McKnight Brain Institute Auditorium for the April 12 meeting
- Chair-elect election will be at the Faculty Senate meeting on April 12. Also a friendly reminder that the Faculty Senate reception starts at 5:30 p.m. on April 12.
- May's Steering Committee meeting will be April 26.

The March 2012 minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

Scott Nygren, Faculty Senate Chair

- Things are currently in flux because of the budget. College budgets will soon go out to the deans.
- A hearing is scheduled with the Governor about the preeminence bill. President Machen, the FSU president, Provost, Scott Nygren and others are scheduled to meet with the Governor in the morning of April 12. Bill Proctor, who sponsored the Preeminence bill and is chair of the Florida House Education Committee, was asked to attend.
- Scott will invite President Machen and Provost to participate in a Topical Discussion on the budget at the April 12 Faculty Senate meeting.
- A suggestion was made to invite question submissions for the President on the blog before the meeting.
- Kathy Long or a representative will present an update on FEO at the April 12 Faculty Senate meeting.
- Scott gave a short report on the Board of Trustee retreat. James Duderstadt, former president of the University of Michigan, gave a report on the future of public research universities. Due partly to state allocations for Medicare, states will be unable to budget adequately for higher education for almost an entire generation. A handful of research universities have had autonomy to help them survive. The administration is trying to plan for the future whether the governor signs the preeminence bill or not.

FEO (Faculty Enhancement Opportunity)

Kathy Long, Associate Provost, Academic Affairs

- During Fall 2011
 - FEO had 46 proposals with 37 funded using \$825,000 central dollars with RCM (which the President provides) with a total of \$1.4 million.
- Spring 2012
 - FEO had 69 proposals with 36 funded using \$659,000 central dollars with RCM with a total of \$898,000.
- In the spring we had more proposal than funding. Kathy is impressed with the amount of effort the committee does. They are thoughtful and work hard.

Provost's Report

Joe Glover, Provost

- Joe Glover gave a short report on the ongoing budget meeting. Administration hopes to send out the budget to the deans tomorrow. Several representatives will travel to Tallahassee next week to speak to the Governor.
- Each dean was asked by the Dr. Glover how they would deal with a 5% cut in their budget.
- Dr. Glover agreed to participate in the Topical Discussion on the budget and RCM at the April 12 Faculty Senate meeting.

Honorary Degrees

Hartmut Derendorf, Member, Honorary Degrees Committee

- Honorary Degrees Committee has three candidates up for Faculty Senate approval.
 - Mary Ann Harn Cofrin for Doctor of Letters
 - Daniel Lewis for Doctor of Fine Arts
 - Jerry Uelsmann for Doctor of Fine Arts

Council Reports

Welfare Council

Deanna Pelfrey, Chair

- Welfare Council has a meeting tomorrow
- Self-Insurance
 - At the last meeting, the council learned that there will be 6 or 7 plans including one for the graduate students.
 - University of Florida employees will have 3 plans to choose including one like an HMO and another like the PPO that we have now.
 - Jodi Gentry from HR will present an update on the Communications Group
 - At the previous meeting, Kathy Long discussed the use of peer evaluations for tenure and promotion. Academic Affairs is willing to have workshops for new faculty on evaluation best practices.
 - Cheri Brodeur gave a short presentation on gender inequities. She's researching the cost, etc. of having a survey

Academic Policy Council

Cynthia Morton, Chair

- APC meets Monday
- Cynthia sent a survey out to the deans to get feedback on the Graduate Initiative and how they handled it. Feedback has been very low. Cynthia plans to send out another communication to the deans to get more responses.
- Bernard Mair came to the last meeting to discuss the Good Life Course and how the TAs will be used.
- Online evaluations were discussed. It was noted that the state requires "uniformity" in the evaluations. Peer evaluations would be helpful in helping junior faculty teaching.
- APC will discuss the block exam policy at Monday's meeting. Students' block exams are conflicting with their previous scheduled classes.

Budget Council

Marc Heft, Chair

- Elected Brian Harfe as the new chair for 2012-2013
- Marc Heft is attending the University Budget Council meetings. Matt Fajack, CFO, has a large amount of information on his website about the budget and RCM.
- Marc has written a summary of the responses from the Deans that the council sent out a few months ago. Most thought the concept of RCM is a good model except during decrease funding.

Infrastructure Council**Mark Tillman, Co-Chair**

- Infrastructure did not meet last month. However, April's meeting will have several items on the agenda. The council will take up a discussion about recording lecture, intellectual property, privacy laws, and licensing of notes.

Research and Scholarship Council**Sandra Russo, Member**

- Discussed the T-32 grants that require 60% tuition paid by the grant and 40% from the student. As tuition increases, there will be more burden on the student.
- Graduate school offered to do the tracking of grants for the principle investigator.
- Getting to be cheaper to hire a post-doc or staff than hiring students on grants.
- Lee Catledge is coming to the next meeting to give updates on online effort reporting.

Nominating Committee**Mike Katovich, Chair**

Elections are ongoing for council and committee memberships. The Committee will soon meet about Presidential Committees. He asked that Scott please mention to the administration to honor the names that the Nominating Committee submits for Provost appointments. These are faculty who did not win in the election but are interested in sitting on committees.

Agenda for April Faculty Senate Meeting

Agenda for April 12, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting was approved with revisions.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.