

Faculty Senate Steering Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2012
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Tigert 226

Attendees: Barbara Wingo, Brian Harfe, Marc Heft, Deanna Pelfrey, Bernard Mair, Jay Watkins, Scott Nygren, Cheri Brodeur, Neta Pulvermacher, Maria Rogal, Mike Katovich, David Quillen, Pradeep Kumar, Sue Alvers, Joe Glover and Azra Bihorac.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

August minutes were approved with revisions.

Chair's Report

Cheri Brodeur, Faculty Senate Chair

- President Machen gave the State of the University address at the August 30 Faculty Senate meeting. Bernard Mair introduced the new Florida statute pertaining to General Education. We will have more discussion on the Gen Ed statute at the October meeting.
 - Bernard explained that instead of the universities and colleges deciding on all the General Education, the state will determine half the courses. Core course have been reduced from 12 to 10. Bernard is on the state committee which has already started the year long process of course determination.
 - Cheri Brodeur noted that there are many faculty who have questions about how this will impact teaching.
- During Cheri's campaign for Faculty Senate Chair, she promised to work on breaking down university silos. One of the ways to do this is to have faculty gather together to talk and discuss their research. Tom Mitchell has offered to setup coffee machines on the first floor of Emerson Hall so that faculty can meet and talk. There will also be get-togethers for new faculty with the first one at Blue Gill. Date and time have not been decided.
- Several committees including the Steering Committee have recommended that the university have a faculty ombudsman. Cheri asked the Welfare Council to research what our peer schools do and write a position description that the administration can review. Dr. Glover noted that the student ombudsman has no power and is not on anyone's side. Cheri stated that the person in this position must have a broad knowledge of campus.

Proposed Policies

Bernard Mair, Assoc. Provost,
Undergraduate Affairs

- Policy for Co-Listed Graduate/Undergraduate Courses
 - This is new policy for joint graduate and undergraduate courses. It guarantees that undergraduates are not held to graduate level standards while upholding the integrity of the graduate program so that graduate students are completing graduate level work.
- Undergraduate Teaching Assistants
 - This basically provides a definition of roles and the minimum conditions that undergraduate teaching assistants must meet in order to comply with federal, state and university regulations.

International Exchange Scholar Procedure

Neta Pulvermacher, Assoc. Prof.,
Theatre and Dance

- Neta is concerned that international students and scholars have financial difficulty because of the red tape from the US government plus the university's fiscal policies. Many arrive in the states with no US dollars and cannot cash a university check to help them through their stay. Some faculty assist by giving international students and scholars funds from their own pocket. She noted that the International Center told her that it is not responsible for payments to visitors. Neta also emphasized that it is difficult to invite international scholars when they are not paid on time. Dr. Glover mentioned that some of the difficulty is from federal and state laws. This matter was referred to the Budget Council. Neta is to contact Brian Harfe with more information.

Mission Statement Task Force

Scott Nygren, Liaison, MSTF

- Scott suggested that the Mission Statement Task Force item be taken off the September Senate agenda. Meetings are scheduled throughout the semester and currently, the task force is still in its preliminary stages. Jodi Gentry from Human Resources will attend the next meeting to facilitate and assist the task force.

Presidential Search Update

Scott Nygren, Member, Search Committee

- Scott asked that the presidential search update is added to the chair's report at the Faculty Senate meeting. He stated that he was appointed Chair of the Campus Interview Subcommittee.
- Marc Heft noted that at the focus group, he mentioned about the backgrounds of AAU Presidents. For those who do not know what AAU is, the website is: <http://www.aau.edu/>. University of Florida is the only university in the state of Florida that is a member.

Council Reports

- **Research and Scholarship Council** **Azra Bihorac**, Chair
Research and Scholarship Council will meet September 10. The council plans to focus on several things: Effort Reporting, Plagiarism, Interdisciplinary Research, Undergraduate Research and other issues that might be assigned during the year.
- **Welfare Council** **Deanna Pelfrey**, Chair
Welfare will meet next week. Steering Committee asked Welfare Council to investigate the hiring of an ombudsman for faculty. Other items are budget cuts and how that impacts faculty recruitment and retention, and self-insurance for those not in the state insurance plan.
- **Academic Policy Council** **Maria Rogal**, Chair
Academic Policy will meet next week. Plans are to follow up with the doctoral program improvement plan, posthumous degree policy, online evaluations, impact of recorded lectures and how that relates to evaluations, intellectual property.
- **Budget Council** **Brian Harfe**, Chair
Budget Council met a couple weeks ago. Provost Glover and CFO Matt Fajack spoke. Three issues the council wishes to review: RCM; Post doc vs graduate student pay; and RReserves, do we have them and if so what are the rules?

- **Infrastructure Council**

Jay Watkins, Chair

Infrastructure is scheduled to meet next Friday. Not much to report at this time.

Agenda for September Faculty Senate Meeting

Agenda for September 27, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting was approved with revisions. It was decided that there should be a presentation of each of the councils to remind the senators what issues are before the councils.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.