

**Faculty Senate Steering Meeting Minutes**  
**December 3, 2013, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Tigert 226**

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Attendees (members): Barbara Wingo, Marc Heft, Sue Alvers, Nicole Stedman, Galia Hatav, Renee Goodrich, Florin Curta, Cheri Brodeur (phone), Pradeep Kumar, Sharda Udassi, and Joe Glover.

Guests: Paul Duncan, Jamie Heekin, Meera Sitharam, Kristin Larsen, Vanessa Colchado, Crimerly Santibanez, Liana Guerra, Olivia Garcia, Jonathan Waring, Colleen Baublitz, Yareliz Mendez-Zamora, Jose Miranda, Manara Castro, Hans Rojas, Diego and Costillo

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Marc Heft.

**Chair's Report**

**Marc Heft, Chair**

- Plenary Speaker at the Online Learning and the Future of Higher Education Conference is Sanjay Sarma from MIT.
- The proposed Academic Personnel Board reconfiguration is being reviewed at SCORS meeting tomorrow. We should have feedback at the January meeting.
- David Sammons asked the senate to follow up on his internationalization proposal for promotion and tenure. SCORS and the APC will review .
- Upcoming events
  - Distinguished Professor Lecture Series at 4 p.m. in Emerson Hall
    - January 27, 2014 – Leslie Thiele, Liberal Arts and Sciences
    - February 17, 2014 – Ranganathan Narayanan, Engineering
    - March 24, 2014 – Leonid Moroz, Medicine
  - February 24, 2014 - Town Hall Meeting in Emerson Hall at 4 p.m.
  - Town Hall Meetings
    - January 6, 2014 – Jane Adams, HPNP 1404
    - February 10, 2014 - Andy McCollough, 250 Norman Hall
    - March 10, 2014 – Joe Glover, location TBA

The minutes from November 2013 were approved.

**Provost's Report**

**Joe Glover, Provost**

- Provost Glover gave an update on the second wave of allocations for investing in faculty hires.
  - Twenty –two of the proposals were selected and more information was requested.
  - The full selection process should be completed before Christmas or right after New Year's.
- Provost Glover noted that he read the proposed resolution and accompanying information from the last Senate meeting on in-state tuition rates for undocumented students who have graduated from Florida high schools. When Florida International University instituted a waiver for these students, President Machen was concerned. He commissioned an outside general counsel specializing in immigration law. The legal opinion that President Machen received was that it is not legal at this time without action from the Florida legislature.
  - Meera Sitharam read the [FIU DACA Waiver form](#)
  - Cheri Brodeur suggested that the students use their energy to lobby the legislature.
  - Meera pointed out that the law will not change unless people speak up. She read the resolution that is an action item at the next Senate meeting.

- After the Committee's suggestions for rewording the resolution, Marc asked Meera to send the revised version to the Faculty Senate office by Thursday for posting. He also asked the students in attendance to send whatever information they might have to the Senate office so that it is posted with the agenda on Thursday.
- Provost Glover updated the Committee on the new Mission Statement. He explained that the draft version from the Mission Statement Task Force was discussed at the June meeting of the BOT Strategic Initiatives Committee. The Strategic Initiatives Committee took comments from members, trustees, and other administrators. The Mission Statement draft was referred to administrative staff who proposed another version. Provost Glover forwarded the second version to a wide audience of deans, administrators and Mission Statement task force members for comments. The Mission Statement is an agenda item for the December 5 Strategic Initiatives Committee meeting. He pointed out that no decision has been made and whatever happens, a revision will come back to the Faculty Senate for support.

### Dance Marathon

**Jamie Heekin**, Overall Director, UF Dance Marathon

- Jamie Heekin explained that Dance Marathon is more than just a dance. It is a year-long effort event to raise funds for UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.
- 2013 Dance Marathon raised more than \$1.6 million.
- Jamie asked the committee for faculty participation.
- Sharda Udassi noted that many faculty would like to get involved with different activities.
- Cheri Brodeur mentioned that the Gator Connections and Faculty with Children groups would probably like to participate.

### Florida Statute 286.0114

**Barbara Wingo**, General Counsel

#### **Public Comments at Public Meetings**

- The legislature passed a law that the public should have a reasonable opportunity to be heard before a vote is taken. According to the law, having a comment period before action is taken is considered reasonable opportunity. There can be procedures such as time limits for speaking and having one representative speak for a group.
- Faculty Senate Councils do not fall under this law because they make recommendations. However, Committees making decisions and the Senate do.
- Barbara asked what the Senate wants to do about the law? Should we have the procedure in the bylaws? She suggested that the Constitution Committee could write a draft bylaw setting parameters.
- A decision will be made as to what committees fall under the Sunshine Law.

### **Graduate Council**

**Paul Duncan**, Associate Dean, Graduate School

- Program Termination - [Ed.S. Higher Education Administration](#)
- Degree Name Change - [Graduate Degree in Urban and Regional Degree Name Change](#)

### Resolution for In-State Tuition Rates for

**Meera Sitharam**, Senator, Engineering

#### **Undocumented Students Who Graduate from Florida High Schools**

- Meera read the amended resolution that she plans to present at the December 12<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting.
  - WHEREAS, the current out-of-state tuition rates place unequitable financial strain on undocumented childhood arrivals in Florida, deterring qualified students from applying for admission or continuing their studies at University of Florida.

AND WHEREAS, this Faculty Senate has a commitment to maintaining equality of access to higher education for all qualified Florida students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Florida supports in-state tuition rates for undocumented students who have graduated from Florida high schools, and supports adoption of a local policy of tuition equity by the University of Florida Board of Trustees *at such time as the Florida State Legislature authorizes it.*

- Barbara noted that with the new law, it will be difficult for the Senate to move items to information then to action during the same meeting. There must be reasonable time for public comment.

## Council Reports

- **Infrastructure Council** **Sharda Udassi, Chair**
  - Marc Heft attended the meeting and suggested several issues that the Council might be interested in discussing.
    - Open Access: Infrastructure Council could help the ULC facilitate and review the final draft.
    - Online Education: Contact Andy McCollough or Betty Phillips to give online education updates
  - Parking and Transportation didn't have an October meeting, but mentioned that the committee received a Student Government resolution about university's road maintenance.
  - Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites did not have an October meeting because the only agenda item was the elevator in Broward Hall.
  - Sustainability is getting to know it's new director and redoing its goals
  - Infrastructure has decided that agenda items for future meetings will be:
    - UF Online – invite Andy McCollough
    - Open Access Policy – maybe for February
    - Big Data – Invite Elias Eldayrie
- **Budget Council** **Florin Curta, Chair**
  - Budget is continued discussion from last meeting on inflow RCM.
  - December's meeting will be a discussion on the RCM impact on Grant Management. Stephanie Gray will be the guest.
  - January's agenda is the cost of Graduate Education Henry Frierson as the guest.
  - Provost Glover is scheduled for February to discuss how the deans are accountable for their budgets.
  - March will be budgeting aspects of open access
- **Academic Policy Council** **Renee Goodrich, Chair**
  - Plans are to follow up Dean Sammons request on internationalization and promotion and tenure.
  - Review of Administrators is still an agenda item.
  - Will discuss online student evaluations at future meetings.
- **Welfare Council** **Galia Hatav, Chair**
  - The council discussed peer evaluations with Paula Golomberg and Mike Kane as guests. Both guests had great ideas.

Steering Committee approved the December 12, 2013 Faculty Senate agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.