

Faculty Senate Steering Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2014 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tigert 226

Attendees: Chris Haas, Barbara Wingo, Margaret Temple-Smith, Nicole Stedman, Sue Alvers, Pradeep Kumar, Bradley Walters, Marc Heft, Jeannine Brady, Paul Davenport, Bernie Machen, Joe Glover and Florin Curta.

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by Pradeep Kumar. Introductions were made and the May minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

Pradeep Kumar, Chair

- Pradeep explained that he didn't have much of a Chair's report. The Presidential Search was ongoing and he asked Marc Heft to give a short report on that later in the meeting.

President's Report

Bernie Machen, President

- Legislative budget looks good at this point. UF is to receive increased funding due to Board of Governor's performance criteria. The university should also have enough for raises. At the moment, plans are for merit raise of 3.5% for faculty and 2.5% for staff. Also promotion raises of 9% are budgeted.
- State health insurance is not increasing this year.
- Funding was awarded for several buildings. Plans are to break ground for the new Chemistry Building and Newell Hall will be renovated for students. Provost Glover mentioned that the basement of Marston Science Library should be renovated in time for Fall term and will seat 700 students.
- Decision has not been made on the replacement of the CLAS Dean Paul D'Anieri on the Presidential Search Committee. Dean D'Anieri has accepted a promotion at another university.

Provost's Report

Joe Glover, Provost

- UF has joined of a formation called UNIZIN, a consortium of four universities including UF, University of Michigan, Indiana University and Colorado State. This consortium was formed to try and get control of online education.
 - Uses a secure Canvas LMS
 - Building a learning depository
 - Includes learning analytics
 - UF CIO Elias Eldayrie is on the Board
- Recently had a ground breaking for Infinity Hall which is a public/private partnership that is located close to Innovation Hub. This dormitory will house about 300 entrepreneurial students and is scheduled to be finished in Fall 2015.
- The university has 37 confirmed preeminence hirings.

Presidential Search

Marc Heft, Past Chair &

Member, Presidential Search Committee

- Presidential Search Committee has convened. The search committee consists of UF faculty, administrators and chaired by Steve Scott, member of the Board of Trustees.

Council Reports

- **Budget Council** **Florin Curta, Chair**
 - Budget Council reviewed how the rules of RCM apply from the university to the colleges. The council then had questions about the financial dealings once funding is distributed to the colleges. At its last meeting the council worked with Matt Fajack's office to create a template and guidelines for use by the college's budget committees.
 - Discussion on the financial aspects of open access was postponed to a fall meeting.
- **Infrastructure Council** **Bradley Walters, Chair**
 - Bradley was elected chair at the Infrastructure Council's May meeting and explained about contributing committee chair's reports to the Council.
 - Parking saved about \$50,000 by going to a different decal.
 - Received a good review about information technology on campus.
 - Paul Davenport noted that there was a discussion at the last Parking and Transportation Committee meeting about privatizing parking on campus. The Steering Committee asked the Infrastructure Council to explore this subject in the Fall.
- **Academic Policy Council** **Nicole Stedman, Member**
 - Discussed the online evaluation system. ITC gave a report about the rates of completion and the new mantra of "40 is the new 80" for a response percentage rate.
 - Discussion on faculty review of administrators is ongoing
- **Welfare Council** **Chris Hass, Chair**
 - Council worked on the implementation of the ombuds position.
 - Discussed and researched the creation of a faculty lounge.
 - Worked with SCORS to identify ways to facilitate minority female assistant professor promotions to associate professors
 - Pradeep noted that it would be good for Welfare to work with the graduate school to improve mentoring of graduate students. Chris agreed to invite Paul Duncan to a future Welfare Council meeting.
- **Research and Scholarship Council** **Marc Heft, Past Chair**
 - SCORS does not have a chair currently, but Marc mentioned that the council had been working on a Distinguished Professor recommendation due to the concern about the lack of nominees.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.