

Senate Steering Committee Minutes

January 11, 2018

3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

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Attendees: David Quillen, Laurie Bialosky, Sue Alvers, Ana Spiegel, Susan Schaffer, Angela Bacsik, Steve Pritz, Angela Kwolek-Folland, Angela Lindner, Ann Wehmeyer, Jamie Collins, Ray Thomas, Melissa Johnson, Alice Rhoten-Vlasak, Kent Fuchs, Jim O’Connell, Sylvain Dore, Joe Glover, Nicole Stedman, Katie Vogel-Anderson, Judy Traveis, and Scott Stricklin.

David Quillen called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and the November 30th minutes were approved.

Chair’s Report

David Quillen, Chair

- Recruitment for Faculty Senate Chair, councils, and committees is underway. Please encourage faculty to nominate.
- A comparison of retirement benefits among peer institutions will be presented at the next Faculty Senate meeting, at the upcoming President’s cabinet meeting, and to the Advisory Councils of Faculty Senates (ACFS) in Tallahassee on January 26th.

President’s Report

Kent Fuchs, President

- President Fuchs is spending time in Tallahassee to advocate for an increase in: faculty funding to help with the goals of hiring 500 additional faculty and decreasing the student-faculty ratio; graduate program assistants support; and infrastructure support, including the School of Music building and Information & data sciences building.
- Several university administration searches are underway, including in the offices of University Relations and General Counsel. As the searches progress, please let Dr. Fuchs know if you are interested in meeting with any of the finalists.
- A highlight of former UF provosts will be written in The Alligator’s monthly column.

Provost’s Report

Joe Glover, Provost

- Provost Glover will present details regarding UF’s current rankings, particularly among peer and competitive institutions, at the February meeting. Rankings metrics such as faculty profiles, graduation and admission rates, alumni engagement, and degrees offered will be examined.
- A schedule conflict due to the 1-25 Board of Governor’s meeting will likely prevent the Provost’s report from being presented at the upcoming 1-25 Faculty Senate meeting.

University Curriculum Committee

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
Undergraduate Affairs

- [Update to the Common Prerequisite Manual](#) for the Accounting Major

- This item will go before the Senate at the January meeting. The update to the common prerequisite manual for the accounting major aligns with similar Florida university programs.

Graduate Council

Judy Traveis, Assistant Dean
Graduate School

- [Masters in Real Estate](#)
 - This item requires additional documentation and clarification that it is an undergraduate item. It will go back to the previous step in the approval process before being presented to the Faculty Senate for approval.
- [Master of Fine Arts in Design and Visual Communications](#)
 - This item will be presented before the Senate at the January meeting and has been unanimously approved by the Graduate Council.

Guidelines on Managing Classroom Behavior

Angel Kwolek-Folland, Associate
Provost, Academic and Faculty
Affairs

- This was prepared in response to an Academic Policy Council (APC) request and was generated from a variety of faculty resources. APC Chair Susan Schaffer will present this guideline as part of her council report and it will be added to the faculty handbook.

Academic Calendar Options

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
Undergraduate Affairs

- In addition to the current academic calendar model, two academic calendar options will be presented to Faculty Senate including a discussion of calendar restraints and limitations.

Revised OA Publishing Fund Policy

Angela Bacsik, Chair, University
Libraries Committee

- An updated Open Access Publishing Fund policy has been approved by the University Libraries Committee (ULC). The [web link](#) containing the application for available funding will be presented to Faculty Senate. The ULC is tracking the monthly expenses of this Provost-funded initiative.

Course Evaluation Project

Angel Kwolek-Folland, Assoc.
Provost, Academic & Faculty Affairs

- The Welfare Council and Academic Policy Council worked to pull together a course evaluation project. Information is available on the website including a list of considerations of vendor products and a survey which is available until mid-February.

University Technology Licensing

Jim O'Connell, Asst. VP for
Commercialization
& Director, Office of Tech. Licensing

Jim O'Connell will introduce the Office of Technology Licensing and detail resources available to faculty through his office.

University Athletics & Academics

Scott Stricklin, UF Athletic Director

- Due to a schedule conflict, Scott Stricklin will present his vision of achieving success in athletics and academics at the February rather than January Faculty Senate meeting.

Council Reports

Academic Policy Council

Susan Schaffer, Chair

- Joel H. Brendemuhl, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Professor and Associate Dean will discuss the Academic Integrity Task Force findings at the next council meeting. The council has also been working on: the course evaluation project; guidelines on managing classroom behavior; and has discussed academic calendar options.

Welfare Council

Alice Rhoton-Vlasak, Chair

- The Welfare Council did not meet in January but did hear from The Alachua County Labor Coalition in December. The council listened to their concerns and referred them to the Infrastructure Council.

Budget Council

Meera Sitharam, Chair

- Faculty Senate Chair David Quillen read a [written report by Budget Council Chair](#) Meera Sitharam who was unable to attend the Steering meeting due to a teaching conflict.

Research and Scholarship Council

James Collins, Chair

- Irene Cooke, Assistant Vice President for Research and Executive Director of Animal Care Services, presented information about animal care services, including improving communication by encouraging more faculty engagement in the program and sharing the office's long term goals and plans. This will be presented at the February Steering and Faculty Senate meetings.
- Glenn Morris, Emerging Pathogens Institute Director, spoke with the council about challenges in international research. VP of Research, David Norton, will be invited to speak to the council and the steering committee to discuss the university's infrastructure to help coordinate global research.

Infrastructure Council

Ann Wehmeyer, Chair

- The council is in ongoing discussions regarding the OPS issue raised by the Alachua County Labor Coalition following Hurricane Irma. The group has been asked to focus their discussion on a resolution which breaks down the broader issue of what they feel is systematic problems of OPS employment. Jodi Gentry, VP of Human Resource Services, spoke at the last council meeting and provided a background of OPS history and policies at the university.

- VP of UF Advancement, Tom Mitchell, presented concepts of a sister building to Emerson Alumni Hall, including plans for a faculty lounge site, to the council.

The Steering Committee approved the January 25, 2018 Faculty Senate agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.