

Senate Steering Committee Minutes

April 5, 2018

3 – 5 p.m.

Tigert 226

Present: Katie Vogel Anderson, Alice Rhoton-Vlasak, Laurie Bialosky, Jamie Collins, Ray G. Thomas, Richard Scholtz, Ana Spiguel, Susan Schaffer, Sylvain Doré, Melissa Johnson, Joe Glover, Angela Linder, Ann Wehmeyer, Jillian Lord, and Meera Sitharam.

Call to Order

Katie Vogel Anderson, Acting Chair

The meeting was called to order by acting Chair Katie Vogel Anderson at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of the [March 1, 2018 Minutes](#)

Katie Vogel Anderson, Acting Chair

The minutes were approved.

Reports

Chair's Report

Katie Vogel Anderson, Acting Chair

- President Fuchs is unable to attend this meeting due to travel conflicts.
- David Quillen is unable to attend this meeting due to a Family Medicine Board recertification schedule conflict, but he will provide a DSO (Direct Service Organizations) faculty membership overview at the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting.
- Council chairs were reminded to elect a 2018-19 chair and to submit their end of the year report.

Provost's Report

Joe Glover, Provost

- Faculty are encouraged to alert news and public affairs communicators when grant funding, awards, or patents are received to help increase news stories about faculty research. Cathy Lebo, Assistant Provost and Director of Institutional Planning and Research, is working to assist faculty in locating research partners and new ways to collaborate across campus. Plans are being shared with research teams and the Senate in April with a roll out target of May.
- More than a half dozen simultaneous, high level administrative personnel searches are underway. A number of announcements will be made in April and throughout the late spring. Search committee information and updates are being made via <http://hr.ufl.edu/talent-search/> and campus-wide email.

Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) Awards

Angel Kwolek-Folland, Associate Provost
Academic and Faculty Affairs

- This item has been tabled to the May 2018 Steering Committee and Faculty Senate meetings.

[Constitution Committee Report](#)

Richard Scholtz, Chair
Constitution Committee

- University Constitution and Regulations Committee Chair Richard Scholtz presented the committee's proposed [Faculty Senate bylaws changes](#). Updates are needed to bring the bylaws into concurrence with current senate practice and the sunshine laws and to standardize committee spellings and names.
- Bylaw 4(C)4(D) Information Agenda will be reviewed by Senate Parliamentarian Ana Spiguel when she conducts the new senators' orientation in August and immediately before their terms begin. Senators will be reminded then to bring agenda items through the committees and urgent items to the Steering Committee.

University Curriculum Committee

Angela Lindner, Associate Provost
for Undergraduate Affairs

- [Bachelor of Science in Real Estate](#)
The Warrington College of Business requests the termination of the BSBA degree in Real Estate due to a lack of demand.
- [Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#)
This is a request to decrease its credit hours.
- [Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering](#)
This is a request to decrease its credit hours.
- [Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering](#)
This is a request to decrease its credit hours.
- [Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Curriculum Change of Credits](#) -
This is a request to decrease its credit hours.
- [Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic and Latin American Languages, Literatures and Linguistics](#)
This is a request to consider a new Bachelor of Arts in in Hispanic and Latin American Languages, Literatures and Linguistics and will eventually replace the two current BA's in the Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese Studies.
- Angela noted that a modified curriculum and a credit hour adjustment request are two separate processes and requests in the approval system and this is being communicated to faculty and units submitting requests.

Council Reports

Research and Scholarship Council

Jamie Collins, Chair

- VP of Research David Norton spoke at the last SCORS meeting to provide an update on international research. Up until about two years ago, individual academic units handled all aspects of international research but it is now being overseen by the Office of Research to help facilitate challenges such as hiring personnel, leasing facilities, and banking in cash-based economies. The Office of Research has sought to hire in-country consultants and has worked to create legal entities such as non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and non-profits to assist in navigating some of the challenges associated with international research. These services are funded through grants' direct costs. With about 791 million dollars of research being conducted at UF and about 3 billion dollars of research proposals being submitted, research has increased dramatically while the placement of infrastructure is ongoing. To assist with the university's goal of being a top five public university, UF is aiming to reach the billion dollar mark in research funding.
- David Norton also discussed the [Office of Research policy change regarding the submission of research proposals](#) and agreed to remove the mandatory \$6,000 late fee for faculty who do not submit research two business days prior to the sponsor's published deadline. The fine was meant to encourage timely grant submissions and increase competitive applications. 70 percent of grants submitted to the Office of Research have issues which are fixed seamlessly by the office's administrative staff and without the involvement (or awareness) of the PI's.
- It was agreed to invite David Norton to address the Steering Committee and Faculty Senate in May.

Infrastructure Council

Ann Wehmeyer, Chair

- The council did not meet in March due to spring break.

Academic Policy Council

Susan Schaffer, Chair

- The council is continuing work on the faculty evaluation task force and Joel Brendemuhl will

provide an update on the Academic Integrity Task Force. Trysh Travis, Co-Chair and Faculty Liaison of the UF Quest Curriculum Committee and Associate Professor of the Center for Women's Studies & Gender Research, will provide an update on Quest at the next council meeting.

Welfare Council

Alice Rhoton-Vlasak, Chair

- The council is working to increase access to campus resources for mentoring and is developing a list of recommendations of central items to be addressed and adopted, including best practices. Focus will be on accessing both career and life mentoring. Because mentoring may be nuanced and very specific and different within each college, individual colleges and deans may be in the best position to implement college or field-specific mentoring practices. The relevance of mentoring in hiring and promotion was discussed as well as increasing middle-career mentoring opportunities. Currently, every Assistant Professor on tenure track at UF is required to have an identified mentor.
- The council is also inviting Dr.Carolynn Tucker to present faculty gender research findings.

Budget Council

Meera Sitharam, Chair

- Julie Rhee, Office of Research Finance Director & University of Florida Research Foundation, Inc. ([UFRF](#)) Secretary, spoke to the council about the UFRF's organizational mission, structure, budget, role in technology licensing and transfer, and the UFRF's function as a DSO. The council has one more wrap-up meeting for the semester and will finalize work on the [UF Financial Transparency Portal](#) available on the [Budget Council webpage](#).

Approve [April 19th Faculty Senate Agenda](#)

Katie Vogel Anderson, Acting Chair

- The agenda was approved as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.