

Senate Steering Committee Minutes (Draft)
November 30, 2017
3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Tigert 226

Attendees: Angela Lindner, Alice Rhoten-Vlasak, David Quillen, Nicole Stedman, Katie Vogel-Anderson, Ray Thomas, Ann Wehmeyer, Kent Fuchs, Joe Glover, Sue Alvers, Ana Spiegel, Laurie Bialosky, Richard Scholtz, Jamie Collins, and Richard Yost.

David Quillen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and the October minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

David Quillen, Chair

- The Parking and Transportation Committee is reviewing a new membership make-up to include staff. This item will now be considered by the Committee on Committees and the Constitution Committee to provide clarifications such as the number of and what type of staff the new membership will include.
- Faculty Senate will consider a request by the UAA to mark November 3rd as the 2018 UF Homecoming date. A second option is October 6th.
- New Faculty Senate staff member Laurie Bialosky will replace Sue Alvers who retires January 31st.

President's Report

Kent Fuchs, President

- Dan Mullen has been hired as the new UF Football Coach.

Provost's Report

Joe Glover, Provost

- Provost Glover received a congratulatory letter from The Gator Club of Miami (UF Alumni Association club) recognizing UF's ascent into the top 10 national public universities list. Strong alumni outreach and admission services continue at the UF Coral Gables site.
- Admissions applications have spiked 20%, resulting in an additional 6,000 applications for a total of 38,500 applications as of this date. Applications from Florida students and Coalition applicants have risen. Challenges for this positive news includes ensuring sufficient staffing to review applications as well as accurately calculating the number of final acceptances.
- The Board of Trustees will meet December 14th – 15th.
- There is no new information regarding block tuition which is still under review.

Honorary Degree Candidates

Rick Yost, Chair

Honorary Degrees Committee

- Dr. Yost presented two candidates for Honorary Degree. These nominations will go before the Senate at the December meeting.

- The committee encourages award nominations.

Council Reports

Welfare Council

Alice Rhoton-Vlasak, Chair

- HR Benefits officer Stewart King is working on a potential new retirement plan and introduced the ALEX the online benefits assistance program.
- Council would like to increase better across campus mentoring and investigated this by reviewing peer institutions' websites and programs.
- Council is reviewing three online course evaluation options which would interact with Canvas.
- Dr. Tucker will present male faculty equity information.
- Childcare issues are being explored, particularly the link to limited campus parking and long wait lists, and how these issues fit into the university's concept of city/university integration.
- Council reviewed the location and utilization of breastfeeding pods offered on campus. The Council encourages the university to incorporate more pods into its future building and campus renovation planning.

Research and Scholarship Council

James Collins, Chair

- Council discussed open access publishing with the university library, including hybrid journals and the public access mandate by organizations such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Council may recommend not supporting or excluding hybrid journals.
- Jim O'Connell, UF Assistant Vice President & Director of the Office of Technology Licensing, will present patent research and research protection information at the next Steering Committee meeting. UF ranks third in the nation as the highest number of university patent holders.

Infrastructure Council

Ann Wehmeyer, Chair

- Presentation to the Council by Kenneth Allen, Director of Emergency Management, and Frank Phillips, Associate Director of Space Management & Analysis, on the "[Damage Assessment Program](#)" EM site for the reporting of damage during major storms and emergencies. Anyone may log in through Gatorlink, report damage and upload photos, and view site. Public-facing damage and outage notifications will continue to be pushed out through social media and the UF home page.

The Steering Committee approved the December 7, 2017 Faculty Senate agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.