

Senate Steering Committee Minutes

April 6, 2023

3 p.m.

135 Tigert Hall (Student Affairs Conference Room 142), or if needed, via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99846036989?pwd=L0hEeU9FbjEweEJMeIVGUzhQajZEUT09>

Meeting ID: 998 4603 6989 Passcode: 983832 Dial-in: +1 309 205 3325

Present: Amanda Phalin, James Wegmann, Ben Sasse, Catherine Striley, Walter O’Dell, Keith Rambo, Richard Scholtz, David C. Bloom, Laurie Bialosky, Danaya Wright, Sean Trainor, Charlene Luke, Hélène Huet, Chris Hass, Angela Bacsik, Angela Lindner, Rick Stepp, Juan Nino, and Taylor Rose.

Call to Order

Amanda Phalin, Chair

- Chair Phalin called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approve [March 2, 2023 Minutes](#)

Amanda Phalin, Chair

- The minutes were approved.

Reports

• **Chair’s Report**

Amanda Phalin, Chair

- o ([Proposed Provost Qualities Resolution](#))
 - Academic Policy Council (APC) Chair Richard Scholtz presented the APC’s resolution outlining critical qualifications faculty would like be considered in the search for UF’s next Provost.
 - Following discussion, this item was approved and will move to the Faculty Senate floor as an Information Item this month. Due to the search timeline, the committee discussed that it would be appropriate for Chair Phalin to entertain a motion to move this Senate Information Item to Action at the April Senate meeting.
- o Welfare Council will discuss the progress on and practicability of presenting the [IDEA document update](#) to Faculty Senate this academic year.
- o Past Faculty Senate Chair David Bloom, Faculty Senate Chair-elect Danaya Wright, and Chair Phalin attended the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) meeting and BOG-ACFS breakfast and other BOG meetings. Good conversations were had with legislators and SUS / Faculty Senate colleagues, including discussions regarding which higher education legislative and lobbying actions are being taken at what level.
- o The Steering Committee discussed the faculty and leadership awareness of and potential actions to pursue regarding relevant house and senate bills. Significant information has been provided and any proposed amendments and justifications which Faculty Senate leadership can share will also be helpful. The Steering Committee discussed one example of creating a one-page infographics with relevant legislative specifics and implications to the university.
 - Next week is the mid-point of this legislative session.
- o [SOP for Senate e-voting](#) – Chair-elect Wright noted the importance of having a robust discussion this item that will have a major impact on future Senate meetings and culture. E-voting, if approved, is not expected to occur until Fall 2023 at best. While the survey conducted by Chair Phalin late last Spring indicated an overwhelming interest in e-voting participation and availability, the approval of operating procedures is critical, and could be changed next fall or as the e-voting process gets underway.

[Bylaw changes](#) will come second, and after the temperature is taken for Faculty Senators' appetite to implement any e-voting policies and procedures.

- It was agreed this item could be considered for action at the May 4 Senate meeting.

- Chair Phalin, Chair-elect Wright, and the Faculty Senate Secretary will meet and discuss the SOP, any approved changes, and Steering Committee concerns regarding the understandings and responsibilities of Faculty Senators in attending and voting at the Senate meetings, including technology concerns related to support, the timing incongruence/gaps between the in-person and online attendees; the responsibility of the Faculty Senate Chair to the Senators; and the responsibility of the Senate Secretary for records and Sunshine Law adherence.

- o Annual council reports are due @ FacultySenateChair@aa.ufl.edu by COB Wednesday, April 26 for presentation at the (next) April 27 Steering meeting. Thank you so much for all you have done in leading the councils during this busy AY!

- o Reminder to join us for this month's Distinguished Professor Lectures:

April 13, 2023 @ 5 p.m.

[Valeria V. Gordan](#)

Associate Dean for Research & Distinguished Professor

Restorative Dental Sciences Department

College of Dentistry

Bridging Research Results to Everyday Clinical Care Using the PBRN Model

Harrell Medical Education Building (Health Center), Room 135 &

via Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95139856956> / Meeting ID: 951 3985 6956 / Passcode: 2023

Reception to follow in Room 135 Lobby

April 18, 2023 @ 4 p.m.

[Frank J. Bova](#)

Distinguished Professor

Department of Neurosurgery

College of Medicine

Changes in the Bench to Bedside Development Process: 1977-2023

McKnight Brain Institute, DeWeese Auditorium, Room #LG-101A MBI (1149 Newell Dr,

Gainesville, FL 32610) & via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/92703539776?pwd=NS9jY3ZjTVR3L3p0Vmc5RTdENjk3UT09> Meeting ID:

927 0353 9776 Passcode: 903629

Reception to follow @ Harrell Medical Education Building / HMEB Scott Commons Lobby Area

/ 5 PM – 6:30 PM (Address: 1104 Newell Dr, Gainesville, FL 32601)

- These details and details for all upcoming lectures are posted on the [Faculty Senate](#)

[Distinguished Professor Lectures web page.](#)

- o The Chair-elect election takes place by written ballot at this month's Senate meeting. The two 2023-2024 Chair-elect candidates are (in alphabetical order):

[Sarah D. Lynne](#), Associate Professor, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, IFAS/University of Florida ([Video](#))

[Juan Claudio Nino](#), Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering ([Video](#))

- o Reminder: RSVP for the April 20th 5:30 Senate Reception @ Powell University House.

- o At Senate, Chair Phalin will share a slide from HR Education & Awards Coordinator, [Verlissa Ford](#), discussing the *Employee Education Program (EEP) and another slide from Hazel C. Levy, Associate Director, UF **Center for Precollegiate Education and Training (CPET).

* *EEP details:* Employee Education Program (EEP): Professional development opportunity for staff and faculty EEP enables fulltime [eligible](#) staff and faculty to receive:

- Six credit hours of tuition assistance per semester term
- State of Florida public university closest to their work location

- Degree and non-degree courses at undergraduate and graduate level
 Summer Semester EEP Application Deadlines:
 Summer A/C – 5PM May 2
 Summer B – 5PM June 20
 website: <https://learn-and-grow.hr.ufl.edu/education-programs/employee-education-program/>

** CPET details: OPPORTUNITIES TO COLLABORATE WITH UF's CPET:

SSTP: UF's Center for Precollegiate Education and Training (CPET) is currently recruiting STEM research mentors for 2023 **UF's Student Science Training Program (SSTP)** from **June 11th – July 29th, 2023**. This program has been running at UF for over 60 years. If you are available to mentor a summer student in your lab, kindly complete the [Lab Mentor Intake Form](#). Please feel welcome to reach out to Danae Perry (d.perry@ufl.edu), the *SSTP Director* and *CPET Youth Coordinator* with questions about SSTP. Additionally, please feel welcome to share information about the program with colleagues who may also be interested in mentoring a high achieving high school student (entering 12th grade) in their research lab this summer. YOUTH AND K12 TEACHER PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT: CPET is also available to help faculty develop, implement, and evaluate educational outreach to K12 teachers and minors in **any discipline**, not just in the sciences, but including for the *Broader Impacts* component of NSF grants. Please contact Dr. Hazel Levy (hclevy@ufl.edu), *CPET's Associate Director*, with any questions about developing youth outreach opportunities and/or K12 teacher training programs.

- **President's Report**

Ben Sasse, President

President Sasse:

- Updated Steering on the [faculty letter sent last month](#) about broad topics he and the board have been working on over the past seven weeks.
- Provided an update on the McKinsey (Provost search consulting firm) interviews. Post-interviews, a more deliberative process will occur.
- Discussed that although tuition can't change in the short term, he opposes price controls and is seeking ways to expand university revenue.
- Provided comments and updates on the legislative session.
- Discussed what kind of relationship he expects to have with the new Provost.
- Discussed centralization vs. decentralization, specifically the need to preserve the advantages of both and relinquish the rest.
- Discussed entrepreneurialism in research and teaching at UF and the need to expand support for it.
- Discussed his vision for experiential learning.

University Athletics & Academics

Scott Stricklin, University Athletic Director

- UAD Stricklin could not attend today and forwarded a summary of items he will discuss at Senate, including an update on UF Athletics and overviews of student-athlete academics.

[Proposed Welfare Council Message to Faculty](#)

Hélène Huet, Welfare Council Chair

- The Steering Committee agreed with the intent of the message and content, with the feedback to add the name of the incoming Welfare Council Chair and provide a few specific and concrete examples of items being worked on in council.

University Constitution & Regulations Committee

Charlene Luke, Chair, UCRC

(UCRC) Report - [Professional Curriculum Committee](#)

- The proposal to amend Bylaw 20, 22, and 4(a) was reviewed.
- Associate Provost Lindner clarified the three separate arms for curriculum approval: PCC, Graduate

Council, and UCC. The new PCC doesn't interact at all with general education.

- A motion to amend the bylaws as reflected [here](#) carried.
- Professor Luke will present the [updated slides](#) reflecting these changes at the Senate meeting.

Multi-Year Contracts Resolution

Sean Trainor, Chair, Compensation & Equity Committee

- Dr. Trainor walked the committee through revisions to this resolution (via a track and changes text) which was originally presented in 2021 for faculty discussion and feedback. Changes reflect these conversations.
- At the Senate meeting, Dr. Trainor will present the [final, updated resolution](#) and the [resolution's track and changes](#) to help clarify and outline past proposal considerations and discussions.
- To provide clarification that this is a process by which faculty across campus have vetted, a suggestion was made to add language mimicking that which was used in the faculty titles resolution.
- Dr. Trainor answered inquiries pertaining to the implementation of the policy at the college, unit, and university levels and clarified that the current CBA allows for multi-year contacts.
- It was agreed that adding a timeline will add accountability. A motion to add "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida shall transitional all eligible non-tenure track faculty to rolling three-year contracts no later than the start of the Fall 2024 semester and that, at the request of Faculty Senate Chair, UF Human Resources shall report to the UF Faculty Senate on the progress of this transition." carried.

University Curriculum Committee

- [BS Media Production, Management & Technology Digital Film & Television Production Track Credit Reduction](#) **Angela Lindner**, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs
- [BS in Media Production, Management, and Technology Management and Strategy Track Reduction](#)
- [BS in Media Production, Management, and Technology Media and Society Track Reduction](#)
- [BS Journalism Credit Reduction](#)
- [BS Advertising Reduction of Required Hours for the Agency Track](#)
- [Reduction of Required Hours for the Persuasive Messaging Track of Advertising Major](#)
- [Reduction of Required Hours for the Advertising Agency Track of Advertising Major](#)
- [Changes to the BS Soil and Water Sciences Major in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences](#)
- [BS Public Relations Reduction in Credits](#)
- The Steering Committee inquired about the reduction in credit hours for degree programs and these proposals, and Associate Provost Lindner clarified that while the faculty govern their own curriculum, the UCC provides a 'checks and balances'. The department and college level faculty provide the expertise required to generate the proposals. Associate Provost Lindner also emphasized that student centered-quality education is the key driver to such curriculum changes, which are not simply accreditation-driven. These changes are also coming primarily from units who are out of alignment with others on campus.
- These items were approved.

Council Reports

Research and Scholarship Council

Angela Bacsik

- [Letter to Research Deans](#) (re: effects of pending legislation on the competitiveness of research funding proposals)
- Updates from the [Research Policy Committee](#), led by VP David Norton, were provided at its March 21 meeting, including research metrics and expectations for the year; a Graduate School proposal to fund a bond to fund a BSL IV research space is moving forward. Deans are being asked about research funding opportunities.

Infrastructure Council**Keith Rambo**

- [April Infrastructure Council Report Summary](#).

Budget Council**Ashley Ghiaseddin**

- Elected Catherine Striley as the next Chair
- Discussed next year's plans, which included working on updating the Budget Portal website on the [Budget Council web page](#).

Welfare Council**Hélène Huet**

- Elected new Welfare Council Chair this Friday for 2023-2024.
- A paid leaves HR presentation was provided by Brook Mercier on the use of Paid Parental Leave and Paid Medical Leave since 2020 for staff and faculty; discussed how much it would cost UF to expand both leaves from 8 weeks to 12 weeks.
- The other two topics were discussed earlier in Steering (i.e. the faculty message and the Compensation and Equity Committee update on its latest resolution.)

Academic Policy Council**Richard Scholtz**

- Listened to ways to adjust the syllabus authoring process.
- Elected Nancy Clark as next year's APC Chair.
- In a special session, crafted the Provost Attributes resolution.

- It was suggested the annual council reports be shared with Faculty College Council/Assembly Chairs.

Approve [April 20, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda](#)**Amanda Phalin, Chair**

- The agenda was approved as amended:
 - The APC's Provost Qualities Resolution will be added as the first information item.
 - The UCC links will be re-ordered and re-named as instructed by Associate Provost Lindner.

Adjournment**Amanda Phalin, Chair**

- The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.