

Senate Steering Committee Minutes

August 17, 2023

3 p.m.

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

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99467348155?pwd=dIRNNTThNZ240aDITY0hBWG56MU4yZz09>

Meeting ID: 994 6734 8155 **Passcode:** 558898 **Dial in:** +1 646 558 8656

Present: Danaya Wright, Amanda Phalin, Scott Angle, Walter O'Dell, Sarah Lynne, Taylor Rose, Catherine Striley, Jorg Peters, Tom Kelleher, Angela Lindner, Stephanie Bogart, Laurie Bialosky, Rick Stepp, Jeremiah Blanchard, Richard Scholtz, Chris Hass, Ashley Ghiaseddin, James Wegman, and Joe Little.

Call to Order & Introductions

Danaya Wright, Chair

- Faculty Senate Chair Danaya Wright called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and introductions were made.

Approve [April 27, 2023 Minutes](#)

Danaya Wright, Chair

- The minutes were approved.

Reports

• **Chair's Report**

Danaya Wright, Chair

-- [Report of the Ad hoc Task Force on Shared Governance](#) + pp. 9-10: Resolution

-- [Reducing Administrative Burdens](#) - A button to submit an administrative burden has been added to senate.ufl.edu.

- Chair Wright introduced Associate Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs Chris Hass, who discussed post-tenure review steps, guiding language, evaluation criteria, distribution to colleges, the anticipated policy timeline, BOG requirements for the submission packet, and UF tenure submission and evaluation system aspirations. Associate Provost Hass is traveling during next week's Senate meeting so Chair Wright and Interim Provost Angle will share information from today's meeting at the Faculty Senate meeting.

- Chair Wright provided an overview of topics she focused on over the summer, including gathering information for SB 266 and post-tenure review, preparing for the New Senator Orientation, and attending the June Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting.

- Next week's Senate agenda will be entirely informational and will focus on what is happening across campus.

- At the BOG meeting in June, Past Faculty Senate Chair Amanda Phalin was elected as Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) and is therefore an ex-officio, voting BOG member. She will provide an update to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee each month.

- Joe Little will continue to serve as Parliamentarian and Richard Scholtz will serve as Vice-Parliamentarian.

- Chair Wright:

-- Will meet regularly with administration and continue outreach to offsite faculty.

-- Establish procedures for hybrid Senate meetings for feedback and approval by the Steering Committee.

-- Is preparing for next week's New Senator Orientation.

-- Spoke at the Provost's Retreat on Monday.

-- Has obtained greater support for the Faculty Senate administration, including a new .5 FTE

personnel to more closely match SUS colleagues' shared governance support, and Faculty Senate Chair salary support.

-- Shared her four primary initiatives as Faculty Senate Chair:

1. Shared governance or "C-cubed": collaboration, cohesiveness, and community.
 2. Academic integrity reporting and collaboration, in conjunction with the Teaching & Technology Office and the Center for Teaching Excellence.
 3. [Report of the Ad hoc Task Force on Shared Governance](#): was [posted](#) and sent to the Deans.
 4. Administrative burdens reduction. A button to [Report Administrative Burdens](#) is posted on the [senate.ufl.edu](#) home page. This provides faculty an opportunity to give specific and concrete feedback to administration on campus processes in need of reform.
- Other areas of focus for Chair Wright include follow-up on some of last year's items, including an update on: the Research and Scholarship Council [resolution](#) to develop a strategic plan for animal, human subject research resources, biosafety approval processes and infrastructure; the Provost search; the [IDEA living document](#); the new Huron budget model which can be reviewed by the Budget Council; and any issues raised in the College Faculty Council/Assembly Chairs monthly meeting with the Faculty Senate Chair.
 - This year's nine Distinguished Professor lectures, being hosted by Faculty Senate Chair-elect Sarah Lynne, will be live-streamed and recorded and will be followed by a reception with light refreshments. All details will be posted @:
<https://fora.aa.ufl.edu/FacultySenate/Pages/Faculty-Senate/DistinguishedProfessorLectureSeries>.
 - [Honorary degree nominations](#) are due October 1 and information will be sent to the faculty listserv.
 - The next Board of Governors (BOG) meeting is Aug 29-30 is at UF. An ACFS breakfast with BOG members is being held on Tuesday, August 29 at 9 a.m. in the Reitz Union. Steering Committee members are invited so please look for Chair Wright's forthcoming email invitation.

- **President's Report**

Ben Sasse, President

- Dr. Sasse did not attend due to a schedule conflict. President's Office staff member James Wegmann briefly discussed some of President Sasse's priorities with the state and campus, including identifying the state budget trajectory and investment returns, and goals to help reduce administrative overhead and paperwork. Lack of staff and streamlining funding priorities across college were also discussed as well as budget model reviews, such as budget centralization and decentralization across the university enterprise.

- **Interim Provost's Report**

Scott Angle, Interim Provost

- Interim Provost Angle provided an overview of his professional background and UF experience, and spoke about the university model which Dr. Sasse envisions. He plans to step down as Interim Provost on January 1, 2024. Both Drs. Angle and Phalin are serving on the Provost search committee and provided a brief update, including that they are expecting to soon interview three candidates.
- UF search updates were provided. The Levin College of Law Dean search will not begin until January. The Whitney Lab Director and the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering Dean searches are starting soon. The College of Nursing Dean search has not begun but will be overseen by UF Health President David R. Nelson.

- Part one of SB 266 deals with the core General Education courses and the second portion deals with all General Education courses. There are three areas of mandates for changes: a requirement that core communication courses must now include public speaking; SUS schools cannot deny a transfer student's General Education course transfer to their new institution; and there will be new reporting and auditing requirements of General Education courses regarding prohibited content, per the statute 1007.25. It was discussed that these requirements can be defined in regulations in a number of different ways, with differing effects, and the BOG regulation will likely not be out until October. The Chancellor met with the SUS Presidents on Monday to provide further clarification, but we are still awaiting specific guidance which means that we are not making any immediate content-related changes until we have appropriate guidance from the BOG. Following discussion, it was agreed that an August Faculty Senate presentation by Associate Provost Lindner would be helpful to faculty despite (or because of) the current number of unknowns pertaining to this new law/regulation.

Senate Hybrid Voting Update

Danaya Wright, Chair

- This item was not discussed due to time limitations but will be rolled out later this fall.

Approve [August 24, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda](#)

Danaya Wright, Chair

- The agenda was approved.

Adjournment

Danaya Wright, Chair

- The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.