

**Senate Steering Committee Minutes**

**October 5, 2023**

**3:00 p.m.**

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

**<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93351231856?pwd=NkthSk41NVhrWnZnY01aZkpBSGpWdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 933 5123 1856 Passcode: 217185 Dial in: +1 646 558 8656**

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**Attending:** Danaya Wright, Linda Dixon, Diane Schanzenbach, Taylor Rose, Tom Kelleher, Scott Angle, Penny Fultz, Jorg Peters, Walter O'Dell, Ashley Ghiaseddin, Stephanie Bogart, Nancy Clark, Amanda Phalin, Catherine Striley, Rick Stepp, Joe Little, Richard Scholtz, Chris Hass, Amy Hass, Sarah Lynne, and Lauren Lemasters.

**Call to Order**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

- Faculty Senate Chair Danaya Wright called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m.

**Approve [September 7, 2023 Minutes](#)**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

- The minutes were approved.

**Reports**

• **Chair's Report**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

Chair Wright:

-- Met with Mckenzie consultants regarding helping to reduce administrative duties and burdens.

-- Update on post tenure review discussed with President.

-- Shared the [Distinguished Professor lectures](#) scheduled.

-- Will share with the Board of Trustees (BOT) faculty concerns about faculty living in high cost of living areas and insufficient state mileage/meals per diem; these are state level initiatives which Past Faculty Senate Chair and Board of Governors (BOG) member Amanda Phalin will address with State University System (SUS) Chancellor Ray Rodrigues.

-- Is working on hybrid meeting technology options for Faculty Senate meetings.

• **President's Report**

**Ben Sasse, President**

There was no President's Report. Lauren Lemasters, Presidential Assistant and Student Life Liaison, attended on behalf of the President's Office.

• **Provost's Report**

**Scott Angle, Interim Provost**

- Interim Provost Angle followed up on post-tenure review. The Steering Committee discussed that unclear metrics for performance standards are creating professional and personal anxiety for faculty. Dr. Angle is relaying this to the President and noted that, to help expand faculty perspectives, balance is needed in the discussion of post tenure review.

- The Provost Office consultants will begin analyzing the office shortly. Dr. Angle will meet with all Provost Office staff and deans.

- There has been much discussion regarding process with Huron.

- President Sasse asked about centers on campus and noted that we have double the number of centers and institutes than other comparative institutions. Some should be closed, and Dr. Angle will be working with the Deans to review and make these decisions, particularly for centers that are no longer very active. The review process is lead through Research annually. Chair Wright would like to work with Dr. Angle on this.

## **Introduction, Post-tenure Review, and Faculty Recruitment**

**Diane Schanzenbach**, Associate Provost & Senior Advisor to the President for Academic Excellence

- Associate Provost Schanzenbach addressed post tenure and promotion review. She is working on procedures to help launch the process. Items discussed by the Steering Committee included: when the General Counsel Office may be able to weigh in on the process and directives; collective bargaining effects on union and non-union faculty.
- VP & General Counsel Amy Hass commented that we do not know the timing. It is state law that the university report to the BOG by the end of the fiscal year (June).
- Associate Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs Chris Hass noted that the University and the union are in the midst of bargaining.
- Chair Wright noted that there needs to be a clear interpretation to relay to faculty asap. Associate Provost Chris Hass replied that this can't occur until an agreement is reached in the bargaining process.
- In unit and out of unit faculty will likely have the same timeline to complete their review.
- Other SUS institutions are also mired in similar post tenure review implementation issues, but some have their entire faculty represented by a union.
- The need for clarity on areas of faculty evaluations were discussed, including moving from pass/fail to four levels. Faculty are evaluated on their specific areas, then recommendations are made by the Dean and presented to the Provost.
- Although this process is mandated to adhere to legislation, the process could also be a catalyst to recommending BOG investment in faculty raises, compensation, and resources.
- The BOT will likely vote on the regulation in December.
- Concerns are being heard from faculty and better administrative communication with all faculty is needed, particularly with the ongoing active media coverage. Recognizing that legal requirements are causing delays, to increase clarity and transparency, Chair Wright will communicate updates to faculty, and would be appreciative of language guidance from Associate Provosts Hass and Schanzenbach.

## **Graduate Council**

**Tom Kelleher**, Graduate School

- [Close Master of International Construction Management](#) Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- This is a proposal to close the online Master of International Construction Management (M.I.C.M.) program due to low enrollment, graduation rates, and obsolete pre-recorded program content. The proposal will come to the next Senate meeting.

## **Campus Planning Update**

**Linda Dixon**, Director of Planning  
Dept. of Planning, Design & Construction

- Director Dixon will present to Senate an overview of: plans for updates to the physical campus, the watershed management plan, McCarty Woods Preservation Plan, and other physical campus updates.

## **Shared Governance Resolution**

**Danaya Wright**, Chair

- Stephanie Bogart noted that the Welfare Council unanimously approved this resolution. It will be presented to Senate this month.
- Catherine Striley-suggested using interested/affected parties instead of stakeholders and the change will be made.

## **BOT Regulations**

**Taylor Rose**, Senior Counsel

- The University Regulations & Constitution Committee (UCRC) meets next week to light the regulations and present to Senate. Regulations are not ready but should be ready for the October meeting. The UCRC meeting tomorrow is cancelled.

## Council Reports

### Budget Council

**Jorg Peters, Chair**

The [Budget council](#) has begun updating the [Financial Transparency Portal](#). At the next meeting, council will explore how block grants fit into the flow chart.

### Infrastructure Council

**Walter O'Dell, Chair**

- Council met yesterday and on September 18 and discussed the contents of Linda Dixon, Director of Planning, Design, Planning & Construction Division's, October Senate presentation, including the Lake Alice watershed management plan.  
-- Updates were also provided on the thermal energy plant. The university has decided to enter into a new contract with Duke to upgrade the existing facility.  
-- [GatorOne Card and Apps](#) were discussed by Robin Stewart, Director of Administration & Finance, Business Services. The Gator One system is integrated in most of the campus except for the Health Science Center/Shands.

### Research and Scholarship Council

**Ashley Ghiaseddin, Chair**

- Council met a week and a half ago and focused on the streamlining of administrative work and ongoing strategic plan for animal and human subject research resources issues, which will be reviewed by an outside consultant. The Office of Research is discussing terms with the outside vendor and VP of Research David Norton has agreed to present all updates to the Faculty Senate in December. He will also address the questions from research faculty regarding applying for grants that have diversity components and application requirements.

### Welfare Council

**Stephanie Bogart, Chair**

- Council met last month and:  
-- Unanimously voted to support the Shared Governance Resolution and suggested considering adding a specific definition of shared governance.  
-- Discussed collecting data on current College Milestone Recognitions to review what the university could implement. This could boost faculty morale and unity.  
-- Continued discussing ideas to promote faculty collaboration and engagement.

### Academic Policy Council

**Nancy Clark, Chair**

- Council met September 15:  
-- Jenna D. Gonzalez, Disability Resource Center (DRC) Director presented live captioning accommodation and the DRC programs for supporting students with disabilities. The [slides](#) are posted on the [council web page](#).  
-- Post-tenure faculty review update from Associate Provost Hass and programs of strategic emphasis background and updates, including a new 3<sup>rd</sup> party T&P program.  
-- Suggestions for October/AY topics were discussed, including updated syllabi language and Chat GPT policy syllabus language.  
-- Recurring updates on Gen Ed SB266 will be made by Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, Angela Lindner.

### Approve [October 19, 2023 Faculty Senate Agenda](#)

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

- The agenda was approved.

### Adjournment

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

- The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.