

**Senate Steering Committee Minutes**

**October 3, 2024**

**3:00 p.m.**

**226 Tigert Hall, President's Conference Room**

or, if needed, via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97676284079?pwd=NjBRaHhhTUU1d2hYd0NsNjNBWkFaQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 976 7628 4079

**Passcode:** 643647

**Dial-in:** +1 305 224 1968

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**Present:** Sarah Lynne, Kent Fuchs, Joe Glover, Tobin Shorey, Catherine Striley, Chris Hass, Amelia Dempere, Tom Kelleher, Jeremiah Blanchard, Danaya Wright, Ashley Ghiaseddin, Taylor Rose, Ruth Steiner, Amanda Phalin, Amelia Dempere, Breann Garbas, Laurie Bialosky, John Kraft, Selman Hershfield, Kelly Jacoby, Bart Knowles, Trever Henderson, Linda Stump-Kurnick, Reem Abdelghany, and Gabriella Reich.

**Call to Order**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

- The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Faculty Senate Chair Sarah Lynne.

**Approve [September 5, 2024 Minutes](#)**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

- The minutes were approved.

**Reports**

**Chair's Report**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

- Chair Lynne:

-- relayed that President Fuchs will miss the October Senate meeting due to his scheduled presentation to the UFF National Board Assembly.

-- provided an update of newly confirmed Senate Speakers:

- NOV: Campus Master Plan & Bike/pedestrian safety updates - Linda Dixon, Director, UF Planning, Design, & Construction
- DEC: Dr. Shakira Henderson, Dean, College of Nursing
- JAN: CFO Taylor Jantz

-- announced that nominations for all faculty for University Committees, boards, and councils will open late October and closes January 31. The nomination form will be available on the Faculty Senate website. [Committee Service FAQ Sheet](#) is located @ <http://senate.ufl.edu/about/>.

-- announced Dance for Life Suicide Prevention & Mental Health nonprofit will host a Dance for Life Suicide Awareness Gala Event at the Phillips Center Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm.

This all-day event includes a wellness workshop by University of Florida graduate and mental health advocate Marissa Arnone, the Dance Alive National Ballet, "So You Think You Can Dance" winner Anthony Curley, Miss Florida & Miss Florida Teen, master ballet classes, an evening Celebrate Life show and more. For more information, view: [danceforlifefoundation.org](http://danceforlifefoundation.org).

--provided updates from this morning's BOT Meeting. The BOT approved: The general education courses annual review, a carry forward (CFWD) spending plan, ratification of Dr. Fuchs' presidential agreement, and the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) agreement regarding allotting a 4 percent faculty merit raise.

-SB 266 stipulates that all State University System (SUS) schools must submit their general education courses for review annually. The Provost's office worked on the gen ed list and the UF list of 479 courses are being moved up the ladder to the BOG for their vote. Chair Lynne discussed with the

committee the Core Curriculum Task Force connection to the UF core experience.

- A post tenure review update was provided by Associate Provost Chris Hass. Faculty who will go through the next annual review will be notified next week. Within the group of 300 participants, UF wants to allow a process for 50 faculty to volunteer. Packets are due in February, Department Chair letters are due March 15, the ratings by the Provost in April, and final decisions will be made on July 1.

- **President's Report**

**Kent Fuchs**, Interim President

- Dr. Fuchs discussed the relationship between the UF Health hospitals and the UF academic enterprise, particularly as they relate to the College of Medicine. UF Health hospitals continue to grow. Dr. Fuchs is engaging boards and leadership in an effort to bring together the roles of the Sr. VP of Health Affairs and the CEO of UF Health, a ten billion dollar enterprise.
- Interim President Fuchs discussed issues pertaining to university athletics. There is litigation pertaining to Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) and how college athletes are paid. Any settlement would substantially impact the athletic budget. No state legislation pertaining to this issue is expected. Dr. Fuchs broadly discussed the revenues being generated by student athletes and the changes over the years in the business models and their sustainability.

- **Provost's Report**

**Joe Glover**, Interim Provost

- Angela Lindner has been named Interim Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs and will review Quest.
- Dr. Glover has engaged in work on the search for a new dean for both CLAS and the College of Arts. The former search committee is being chaired by Warrington College of Business Dean Saby Mitra and the latter by College of Journalism & Communications Dean Hub Brown.
- The next version of 'Provost Listens [provostlistens@UFL.EDU](mailto:provostlistens@UFL.EDU)' will be released to the faculty tomorrow and will ask for faculty guidance on what directions or strategic initiatives should be pursued by UF regarding AI. Dr. Glover has named an AI Task Force of faculty, staff and students to chart what's next for UF in AI. Task force co-chairs are Kati Migliaccio, Chair of the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, and Jane Southworth, Chair of the Department of Geography.
- There is no new information yet on advancing the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, Levin College of Law or College of Medicine dean searches.
- The strategic initiatives applications are being reviewed in three categories, including research, enhanced programs and infrastructure.
- Committee member inquiries:
  - Interim President Fuchs responded to an inquiry about establishing an office to address minimizing administrative burdens and he relayed that such a proposal will most likely be reviewed and evaluated by the next president.
  - Interim Provost Glover responded to an inquiry about utilizing unused classrooms to use as testing centers - with the addition of proper technology. Dr. Glover suggested reaching out to Assistant Provost Cheryl Gator with this proposal and looping in both CIO Elias Eldayrie and VP of Student Life Heather White. Potential new testing center logistics, locations, benefits, and challenges were discussed by the committee.

**Introduction of VP for Marketing**

**Dan Dillon**, VP for Marketing

- VP Dillon was unable attend and Chair Lynne read his submitted presentation summary.

At the Faculty Senate meeting, the following information on the University of Florida's brand platform will be presented:

- Faculty's approach to establish a brand platform for the University of Florida

- Comprehensive qualitative research approach to establish unique University of Florida brand positioning.
- Research tools in place to better understand constituent perception of the University of Florida relative to other brands of interest.
- Marketing organization structure that the UF marketing team developed to help brand the individual colleges, institutes and administrative units within the parent brand platform.

- The committee had no additional questions for VP Dillon.

### **HEARTSafe Campus Designation**

**Eliana Jaffa**, Executive Director  
Gator Emergency Medical Response Unit  
(GEMRU)

- Director Jaffa was unable to attend today's meeting and GEMRU team members Gabriella Reich and Reem Abdelghany presented an overview of GEMRU, including its roles on campus and organizational mission. GEMRU is completely staffed by UF student volunteers and works directly under UFPD. They perform essential services such as 911 standbys, medical standbys, and, at the request of UFPD, events and emergency events staffing assistance (i.e. during large or contentious events, hurricanes, etc.). GEMRU has responded to 650 calls this past year and has received a prestigious silver accreditation. GEMRU also provides community health initiatives and teaches: substance education training courses, emergency skills, CPR, and medical skills course. The organization emphasizes its peer-to-peer connection and prioritizes safety.

- Through the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF) and its HEARTSafe Campus Designation program, GEMRU aims to train over 5% of the total student body and faculty so that they are 'hands-only CPR' certified. The idea is that the higher the percentage of those on campus who are trained and taught to respond to cardiac arrest situations, the better chance that a person has a positive outcome if they were to go into cardiac arrest on UF's campus.

- Dr. Fuchs joined the committee in thanking the GEMRU team for their outstanding service to UF.

### **Presidential Qualities Resolution**

**Sarah Lynne**, Chair

- [Version 1](#) - the committee discussed the benefits of a succinct statement
- [Version 2](#) - the committee prefers this version and utilized it as their template for updates.
- Chair Lynne presented two versions of this resolution for consideration by the committee. They were both based on feedback from faculty in and outside of Faculty Senate, each of the five policy councils, and other community members such as senate liaisons and UF administrators.
- The committee re-crafted version two of this resolution and approved this [final resolution](#).

### **Professional Curriculum Committee (PCC)**

**Tobin Shorey**, Assistant Provost,  
Curriculum and Academic Policy

- [Medicine \(MD\) Program Reduction Credit Reduction](#)
- This is a request to reduce the number of credits for graduation in this program. The Medicine (MD) program is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The College of Medicine and PCC have approved the reduction of credits from 192 to 184 (or 4%), and the reduction of the number of weeks (per LCME accreditation) from 152 to 151, which is above the 130 weeks required by the LCME.
- This item was approved.

## **Council Reports**

### **Infrastructure Council**

**Selman Hershfield**, Chair

- Council reviewed the presidential qualities resolution and submitted the information to Chair Lynne.
- Council may review changes to the Regional Transit System (RTS) bus service and its impacts on campus. Council reviewed the presidential qualities resolution.

### **Research and Scholarship Council**

**Ashley Ghiaseddin**, Chair

- Council reviewed and submitted the presidential qualities resolution. This topic encompassed nearly all of the meeting time so the next meeting will focus on identifying council topics of interest for this AY.

### **Welfare Council**

**Breann Garbas, Chair**

- Council has met twice since the last Steering Committee meeting and has reviewed and submitted a presidential qualities resolution.
- Council will look at HR bereavement leave policy enhancement and meaningful recognition for faculty university service/employment milestones and achievements.
- An awards task force for non-tenure track faculty has been established. It will compare colleges' monetary awards for teacher of the year, advisor of the year, etc. for any disparities and pursue increasing monetary awards. It will also look at such awards at UF peer institutions.
- Council is assisting the Provost's Office with the beta testing of the UF Faculty Excellence and Advancement (FEA) system. Members choosing to assist were asked to log into FEA and review the institutional data loaded into their profiles to check for accuracy and completeness. They also were provided a link to an error tracking form. Sections available for review include Courses taught and Course evaluations, Publication data, and Grant information.

### **Academic Policy Council**

**Karen Whalen, Chair**

- Dr. Whalen could not attend due to a travel conflict.
- APC met September 19 and discussed the [GatorEvals Committee Proposal on MLY Alerts Model](#) which was presented by John Jordi, Instructional Assessment Coordinator, Center for Teaching Excellence & Alexandra Bitton-Bailey, Director.
- Council heard a summary update of the presidential qualities resolution (which it submitted in August) and a Provost Office update on UF's responses to SB 266, which pertains to General Education courses.

### **Budget Council**

**John Kraft, Chair**

- Council reviewed and submitted the presidential qualities resolution.
- Council discussed continuing work on establishing a short summary of budgetary information by college. A template is being crafted.
- Council also discussed new RecSports membership limitations, including the removal of the free use of the pool and faculty participation in intramural sports.
  
- Dr. Hass relayed that, this afternoon, the SUS Chancellor mandated that the faculty review a list of textbooks needing faculty review. The committee discussed how to best move forward with this new administrative burden. Dr. Hass will relay the committee's stated concerns and their message to the Provost that there will be strong faculty pushback on this newly required task if there is no compensation, course releases, or other forms of compensation for this legislated, significant investment of time and energy.
- Governor Phalin also relayed that [regulation 8.003](#) will be voted on at the next BOG meeting. Regarding the Gen Ed course review, there is an opportunity to submit for reconsideration courses that were removed from the Gen Ed list this first round.
- Governor Phalin discussed the difference between identity and identify politics with the Chancellor. It is expected that the Gen Ed list will be returned to the BOG multiple times for their reviews, but, in general, Governor Phalin reports that the issue is moving in a bit of a more positive direction now.
- The committee discussed the relevancy of class modes (i.e. like experiential learning) rather than actual topics when the Gen Ed lists are generated and reviewed. Governor Phalin noted that they're working through this and other elements impacting the list(s).

### **Approve [October 17, 2024 Faculty Senate Agenda](#)**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

- The agenda was approved as amended to:
  - remove the President's Report (due to Dr. Fuchs' travel conflict)
  - replace the 'University Curriculum Committee (UCC)' Information Item with the correct committee

title of 'Professional Curriculum Committee (PCC)'.

-- replace Tobin Shorey with Lauren Solberg, PCC Co-Chair, as the presenter of this Information Item.

-- replace Tom Kelleher with Stacy Wallace, Graduate School, Associate Director, Curriculum and Programs as the presenter for Graduate Council Action item.

**Adjournment**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

-The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.