

**Faculty Senate
Special Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 21, 2024
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

via **Zoom-only** [Registration Link](#) {with Gatorlink sign-in}

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Channel/8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc45f/watch/013706f949ee4b318f49e471132f75b71d>

Call to Order & Approval of [May 2, 2024 Minutes](#)

Sarah Lynne, Chair

- This special meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Faculty Senate Chair Sarah Lynne and the minutes were approved.

Reports:

• **Chair's Report**

Sarah Lynne, Chair

- Chair Lynne began the meeting by describing the circumstances that led to calling this special UF Faculty Senate meeting. An individual who was unaffiliated with the University of Florida misrepresented their religious/ethnic identity and claimed to be either a UF student or a relative of a UF student in interactions with a UF faculty member in an attempt to get the faculty member to make statements in support of one side of an ongoing international conflict. This situation represents a safety issue for our faculty and students as well as intersecting with our faculty's role in providing support to students in distress. Chair Lynne called this special Faculty Senate meeting to provide resources to support faculty and to address how faculty can navigate these challenges while fulfilling their core teaching, research, service, and extension missions.
 - Chair Lynne provided updates on last week's Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting. She mentioned that the next BOT meetings include a September retreat and a December meeting. The Board of Governors (BOG) meets next week on June 27-28.
 - Chair Lynne provided an update on the new Sports Rec membership fee changes. A Student Life or RecSports representative was not available for today's meeting but they provided clarifying information related to changes to membership fees.
- Chair Lynne mentioned that Student Life will host a virtual "office hour" the week of July 22nd for any interested UF faculty to help answer any inquiries. Please reach out to Chair Lynne for the details.
- UF and Enrollment Management is working on an initiative to streamline academic management to increase positive student experiences and that of supporting faculty and staff. Please email FacultySenateChair@aa.ufl.edu to participate in any of the eight working groups: curriculum; course catalogue; scheduling; degree audit; advising and registration; technical; data reporting analytics; and change communication and training.
- Chair Lynne also discussed that she is charging the University Constitution & Regulations Committee (UCRC) to review implementing a standing summer Faculty Senate meeting in June to strengthen faculty engagement in shared governance. She is also recommending to consider implementing a Zoom only rather than a hybrid platform for a June meeting, but UCRC will discuss.

- **President's Report**

Ben Sasse, President

- President Sasse was unable to attend but shared a statement read by Chair Lynne (*Video: 7:50 – 8:19*)

- **Provost's Report**

Scott Angle, Provost

- Referring to the reason for calling this special meeting, Provost Angle discussed that faculty have been targeted not just at UF but at other State University System (SUS) universities so caution is encouraged when a situation may not seem quite right. In such instances, faculty may wish to consider, while they are conversing, specifically asking if they are being recorded.
- The post-tenure review has been completed and preliminary data were shared. The UF audit of this process is about to finish up and President Sasse will next sign off on the final decisions so that final letters can be distributed. Faculty Senate feedback is sought on the process for implementation next year.
- Following inquiries, Provost Angle discussed the four categories of final outcomes and preliminary findings, noting that the final data is not yet in. Dean options and faculty accountability and rewards were briefly discussed. The Provost has forwarded his recommendations regarding compensation to President Sasse for his review. Faculty teaching and research improvement supports were also discussed. Please submit any faculty feedback to the Provost's Office

Action Items:

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

Tobin Shorey, Assistant Provost,
Curriculum and Academic Policy

- [New Degree Proposal: Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law \(PPEL\)](#)

- [New Degree Proposal: Bachelor of Arts in Great Books and Ideas \(GBI\)](#)

- Assistant Provost and UCC Co-chair Toby Shorey presented the above items. Drs. William Inboden (Professor & Hamilton Center Director) and Robert Ingram (Professor & Hamilton Center Associate Director) were present to assist in answering inquiries.

Following discussion, a motion to approve the PPEL proposal carried with 45 in favor and 18 opposed. (*Video: 45:06 – 1:29:48*)

Following discussion, a motion to approve the GBI proposal carried with 41 in favor and 24 opposed. (*Video: 1:29:58 – 1:36:13*)

Information Items:

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

Tobin Shorey, Assistant Provost,
Curriculum and Academic Policy

- [Change The Common Prerequisites Manual \(CPM\) Approval Process](#)

- This is a proposal to remove the 'Faculty Senate approval' vote on common pre-requisite manual additions. The current practice of adding common prerequisites approvals to Faculty Senate agendas represents a merely ministerial action; such items currently exist to notify the BOT of a program update or change in prerequisites which then goes to the BOG for placement in the manual established by the BOG and there are no substantive changes to any programs. Removing this item from the Senate agenda and approval process will streamline and encourage departments to bring their program manuals up to date.

Graduate Council

***Tom Kelleher**, Associate Dean
for Academic Affairs

- [Genetics and Genomics MS Credit Reduction](#)

- *Stacy Wallace, Associate Director, Academic Support Services, Graduate School, presented on behalf of Dr. Kelleher, who is traveling today. The College of Medicine requests a reduction from 33 to 30 credits for the Genetics and Genomics MS degree. This better aligns this major with a traditional Master of Sciences 30-credits degree.

Faculty Resources & Guidelines for Navigating Contemporary Challenges

- [University of Florida Police Department](#) **Bart Knowles**, Interim Chief, UFPD
 - Interim Chief Knowles wants to ensure faculty feel comfortable with and know how to reach out to UFPD. Increasing faculty awareness of all the avenues to do so for multiple scenarios is of the highest priority for Interim Chief Knowles and the UFPD, who also stressed the importance of relaying any concerning information to the UFPD threat assessment team. [An overview](#) of these priorities, and the resources available to achieve them, was shared with the Faculty Senate along with contact information.
- [Counseling & Wellness Center](#) ***Ernesto Escoto**, Executive Director, CWC
 - *CWC Interim Director Dr. Rosa West presented on behalf of Dr. Escoto who is unavailable today. [Counseling & Wellness Center resources were shared](#) with the Faculty Senate, including helping students in distress; positively responding to someone or approaching someone, identifying when to refer someone to the CWC, CWC training opportunities, and CWC contact information.

Open Discussion from Senate Floor - Three-minute limit per speaker.

1) University of Florida Faculty Senators

- Senator Robert Hatch (MED) requested that Faculty Senate ask the university to postpone their July 1st change to the RecSports membership fee structure and/or relay the concerns he has been hearing from colleagues regarding faculty costs and access to Lake Walburg and the Florida pool.
- Senator Carolyn Holland (MED) shared her concerns about today's meeting being perfunctory, non-standard and unproductive, with rushed and limited discussion.
- Senator Martens-Habbena (AG) suggests Faculty Senate adopt a policy that 15 minutes are allotted for casting a vote.
- Senator Santanu Datta (PHHP) inquired about adding a third voting option of 'abstain'. Parliamentarian Rose clarified that this is not allowed.

2) University of Florida Faculty

- Malini Schueller (CLAS) relayed: concerns about today's voting process; provided context related to layoffs in CLAS and the elimination of DEI positions at UF; expressed concern that the Great Books degree was duplicative; mentioned concerns related to the Hamilton Center's focus on western civilization and the principles of a free society; and mentioned letters sent by the former CLAS Dean to four department chairs.
- Chair Lynne provided context regarding current and past Senate meeting voting.
- Parliamentarian Rose addressed a request by Senator Jorg Peters (ENG), clarifying the rules of the floor pertaining to discussion.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Attending*Senators*

Holly Abeels
Michael Aherne
Luis Alvarez-Castro
Angela Bacsik
Imre Bartos
Norman Beatty
Matt Benge
Lauren Berkow
Sally Bethart
Mario Binelli
Sarah Brunnig
Megan Butala
Andrea Caloiaro
Rachel Carrico
Nico Cellinese
Cynda Crawford
Tamara Lee Cushing
Santanu K. Datta
Paul Davenport
Michael K. Davis
Luisa (Amelia) Dempere
Thomas Denagamage
Scott Denton
David Deremer
Richard B. Dickinson
Randell Doty
Eric JingDu
James Essegbey
Jeanne Ewert
Sara Moscovita Falzarano
John N. George
Frank Gibson
Liwei Gu
Marshall Haning
Robert L. Hatch
Selman Hershfield
Amie Hoefnagel
Carolyn Holland
Jill Ingram
Raymond Issa
Sarah Rajkumari Jayasekaran
Samantha Kennedy
Valeria Kleiman
John Kraft
Jaclyn Kropp
McKenzie Landrum
Ji-Hyun Lee
Mengyu Li

Qing Lu
Charlene Luke
Kiran Lukose
Sarah Lynne
Diba Mani
A. Corinne Manley
Alexandra L. Mannix
Katherine Marin
Willm Martens-Habbena
Crystal Marull
John Alexander Mendoza-Garcia
Don Monk
Judi Shade Monk
Christine T. Myers
Cuong Nguyen
Juan Nino
Monika Oli
Silvana Paula-Moraes
Jorg Peters
Sandip Ray
Esther F. Romeyn
Eleonora Rossi
Judi Schack-Dugre
Megan Sheridan
Jinnie Shin
Sudeep S. Sidhu
Benjamin Smith
Hugh A. Smith
Matthew C. Smith
Svetlana Stepchenkova
Adam Wayne Stern
Catherine Striley
Melanie G Taylor
David Therriault
Cyntrice Thomas
Hannah Vander Zanden
Jason von Meding
Nian Wang
Gene Witmer
Stefanie Wulff

Student Senators

Kevin Senior

Liaisons

Scott Angle
Chris Hass
Taylor Rose
Tobin Shorey

Mary Watt
Danaya Wright

Guests

Kim Bagley
Sabrina Bardi
Michelle Danyluk
Ryan Fuller
Cheryl Gater
Brian Harfe
Antonio Hendricks
Rebecca Holt
Aaron Hoover
William Inboden
Robert Ingram
Kelly Jacoby
Stan Kaye
Bart Knowles
Kristin Larsen
Lauren Lemasters
Lora Levett
Gillian Lord
Jason Mastrogiovanni
Mitchell McGruder
Leslie McKenna
Steve Orlando
Amanda Phalin
David Reed
Cynthia Roldan
Malini Schueller
Garrett Shanley
Sherry Shaw
Lauren Solberg
Jack Stenner
Hans van Oostrom
Katie Vogel Anderson
Stacy Wallace
Timothy Wang
Rosa West
Stefanie Wulff