

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2024**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Reitz Union, Senate Chamber**

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Channel/8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc45f/watch/a7c0e0a5e8fa480f94f53fdd1395b0731d>

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**Call to Order**

**Sarah Lynne, Chair**

**& Approval of [October 17, 2024 Minutes](#)**

- The 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:

-- Reminded Senators that Dr. Fuchs needs to leave each Thursday for a 4:00 SEC meeting and also that the December Senate meeting will be held on a Tuesday (December 10) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Reitz Auditorium (and not in the Ground floor Chamber Room).

-- Discussed the [Intellectual Freedom and Viewpoint Diversity 2024 Survey](#) that was presented at the Board of Governor's meeting and presented [Chair's Report slides](#).

--Announced that a new lactation pod will be added to the Medical Plaza. This is a result of faculty outreach to the Office of the UF Faculty Senate and collaboration between multiple administrative units including UF Business Affairs, UF Health, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

--Announced that a Faculty Service Recognition Program will launch this year, mirroring a program in place for staff which recognizes individuals in 5-year increments for continuous time working at UF. The expansion of this recognition program to faculty was the result of collaboration between the Welfare Council of the Faculty Senate and UF Human Resources.

--Mentioned that the UF Board of Trustees will be meeting December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. An update on Baby Gator expansion will be presented at that meeting and the Board is expected to vote on a search firm for the Presidential Search.

**President's Report**

**Kent Fuchs, Interim President**

- Dr. Fuchs provided updates on multiple leadership searches, including the CFO and Sr. VP for Health Affairs. The VP for Marketing position, which was newly created by Past UF President Sasse and vacated by Dan Dillon, will not be filled during Dr. Fuchs' presidential tenure.

- Dr. Fuchs would like to reclassify Presidential Committees to University-wide committees to better reflect that the engagement of these committees are through the VP offices rather than his. Please reach out to either the committee chair or the appropriate VP with any committee-specific inquiries.

- The strategic initiatives and the 10x10x10 proposals efforts initiated by Dr. Sasse were reviewed by the Offices of Research, Provost, & President, and a decision was made to direct this approximately 50-million-dollar investment to discretionary investments, including infrastructure, to continue academic excellence; the suggestions will be brought to the BOT.

- Dr. Fuchs answered inquiries about the presidential search, the Title IX/compliance office and university-wide committees.

## Provost's Report

**Joe Glover**, Interim Provost

- Dr. Glover announced the formation of Engineering Dean Search Advisory Committee and search for the dean of the Wertheim College of Engineering. David Norton, UF vice president for research, will chair the committee, assisted by the search firm Isaacson, Miller.
- The search for a new dean for both CLAS and the College of Arts is underway and ongoing.
- Dr. Glover discussed the Blue Sky AI Task Force of faculty, staff and students to identify what is next for UF in AI.
- Interim Provost Glover discussed Gen Ed course review updates. The Gen Ed course list has been reviewed since the summer and a final list is due to the Board of Governors this month.
- Dr. Glover answered Senators' inquiries (video: 44:51 to 1:05:37).

## Action Items:

### [Presidential Qualities Resolution](#)

**Sarah Lynne**, Chair

- Following faculty feedback and submissions from the [five Faculty Senate councils](#), the Steering Committee approved this resolution which is an update to the [May 5, 2022 Presidential Qualities Resolution](#) and which will be used to inform members of the Presidential Search Committee and the BOT of faculty presidential qualities preferences.
- This item was approved.

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

**Lauren Solberg**, Co-Chair, PCC

#### [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.

### [Honorary Degree Candidate](#)

**Ruth Steiner**, Chair, Honorary Degrees & Distinguished Awards Committee

- Dr. Steiner shared [slides](#) detailing information about the unanimously approved Honorary Degree candidate being put forward by the Honorary Degrees & Distinguished Awards Committee.
- Honorary Degree candidate Sachio Semmoto was approved.

## Information Items:

### [Introduction of UF Health CEO & President](#)

**Stephen Motew**, UF Health CEO & President

- Dr. Motew shared his vision for UF Health and answered inquiries. This is a brand-new role and strategic goals were discussed, including enhancing and transforming the UF Health care components of academic research and education, and health care delivery. Dr. Motew provided a high-level view of the UF healthcare system, its strategic direction, and how it integrates into UF. He discussed the role of improving the UF academic mission via the UF Health care 6.2-billion-dollar enterprise, and the opportunities it brings for cross-collaboration and betterment of people's lives.

### [Campus Master Plan & Bike/Pedestrian Safety Updates](#)

**Linda Dixon**, Director  
UF Planning, Design, & Construction

- Director Dixon answered inquiries and provided an overview of the Campus Master Plan including

updates on upcoming and completed projects. A bicycle and pedestrian safety focus on completed and upcoming projects were highlighted, as well as updates on funding status and collaboration between the university and local and state government transportation and planning agencies, including the City of Gainesville.

#### **Academic Affairs**

- [Merger of Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology with the Department of Physiology and Aging](#)

-- This is a request from the College of Medicine to merge these departments to create one department to be called the Department of Physiology and Aging. Curriculum and degrees will not change but the department structure will.

**Chris Hass**, Associate Provost  
for Academic & Faculty Affairs

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

- [Creation of New Master of Studies Law \(MSL\) Degree](#)

-- This is a new degree request from the UF Levin College of Law for a Master of Studies in Law (MSL). It is designed for working professionals who do not have a J.D. but who must regularly navigate or comply with legal requirements and regulations. It is a 30 credit multi-modality degree and was approved by the PCC last month.

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

#### **University Curriculum Committee (UCC)**

- [BS Construction Management Credit Reduction](#)

-- This is a request from the Rinker School of Construction Management to reduce this degree's credit hours by five credits. It was approved unanimously at the October UCC meeting.

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

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

- 1) University of Florida Faculty Senators
  - Chair Lynne entertained general questions and questions pertaining to her Chair's Report, including regarding the Presidential Search Committee by Senator Hannah Vander Zanden (CLAS) and by Student Faculty Senator Antonio Hendricks about graduate housing.
- 2) University of Florida Faculty
  - There was no discussion from UF faculty.

#### **Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

## **Attending**

### *Senators*

Holly Abeels  
Michael Aherne  
Tim Altmeyer  
Christopher James Anthony  
Tracy Ashby  
Ali Ataya  
Lisa Athearn  
Brian Bahder  
Kelly Balmant  
Eban Bean  
Marguerite Beckford  
Lauren Berkow  
Sally Bethart  
Victor Blanco  
Eleni Bozia  
Jeannine Brady  
Brett Bultemeier  
Megan Butala  
Rachel Carrico  
Michael Carrillo  
Nico Cellinese  
Jinghua Chen  
Mayra Cordero  
Cynda Crawford  
Tamara Lee Cushing  
Paul Davenport  
Michael Davis  
Matthew Decker  
Carol Demas  
Amelia Dempere  
Thomas Denagamage  
Scott Denton  
David Deremer  
Richard Dickinson  
William Dishong  
Randell Doty  
James Essegbey  
Gayle Nelson Evans  
Jeanne Ewert  
Sara Moscovita Falzarano  
Michael Feely

Laurie Gauger  
Frank Gibson  
Marshall Haning  
Robert Hatch  
Emily Hind  
Carolyn Holland  
Flora Iff-Noel  
Jill Ingram  
Raymond Issa  
Frederick 'Rick' Kates  
Samantha Kennedy  
Habibeh Khoshbouei  
Hal Knowles  
Jaclyn Kropp  
Jason Kruse  
Shivendra Kumar  
McKenzie Landrum  
Dail Laughinghouse  
Yu Hao Lee  
Lin Liu  
Qing Lu  
Charlene Luke  
Willm Martens-Habbena  
John Alexander Mendoza-Garcia  
Charles Mitchell  
Judi Shade Monk  
Nigel Newbutt  
Cuong Nguyen  
David Outerbridge  
Silvana Paula-Moraes  
Jorg Peters  
Ruchir Puri  
Courtney Pyche  
Heidi Radunovich  
Cheryl Resch  
Esther Romeyn  
David Gaddis Ross  
Peter Sayeski  
Judi Schack-Dugre  
Marie Nancy Seraphin  
Sudeep Sidhu

Benjamin Smith  
Svetlana Stepchenkova  
Adam Wayne Stern  
Ian Storch  
Catherine Striley  
James Toussaint  
Hannah Vander Zanden  
Nian Wang  
Cynthia Willming  
Sarah Wolking  
Stefanie Wulff  
Sabrina Wyatt  
Feifei Xiao  
Ying Xiao  
Jing Zhao  
Xin Zhao

### *Student Senators*

Cole Bennett  
Austin B. Edwards  
Noor Golesorkhi  
Antonio D. Hendricks  
Ali Mahmoudi  
Kevin G. Senior

### *Liaisons*

Christopher Hass  
Tom Kelleher  
Taylor Rose  
Tobin Shorey  
Lauren Solberg  
Danaya Wright

### *Guests*

Linda Dixon  
Karyn Esser  
Lore Kenov  
Derek LaMontagne  
T. Loutin  
Jeanna Mastrodicasa  
D. Oakes