

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2024

3:00 p.m.

Reitz Union, Senate Chamber

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Channel/8456cbab10b449868436ee51ddb84dc45f/watch/bb8ceb2772ab40efbd44259425de03a11d>

Call to Order

Sarah Lynne, Chair

& Approval of [September 19, 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:

-- relayed that President Fuchs is missing today's 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

--provided updates from the October 3rd BOT Meeting. The BOT approved: The general education courses annual review, a carry forward (CFWD) spending plan, appointments to the UF Health corporate board, ratification of Dr. Fuchs' presidential agreement, the annual foreign influence report, and the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) agreement regarding allotting a 4 percent faculty merit raise.

- The BOG meets tomorrow via Zoom and will discuss strategic planning and will vote on:

--- [Proposed Regulation 1.002, Presidential Search and Selection](#) and

--- [Proposed Regulation 8.003, Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability and Transparency](#), both of which Chair Lynne discussed at the last Senate meeting and which she anticipates will be approved. She stressed Faculty Senate engagement through university level regulations work with the UF administration and the need to protect free expression consistent with the [March 21, 2024 Faculty Senate Resolution on Civil Discourse, Free Expression, and Academic Freedom](#).

(Following the Senate meeting, the [October 18 BOT meeting link](#) was emailed to the Faculty Senate listserv.)

- Chair Lynne also:

-- Anticipates hearing presidential search details soon and will be sharing any updates.

-- Provided Baby Gator updates. She meets with VP of HR Melissa Curry next week and will raise faculty concerns including additional support for faculty covering workloads for colleagues on family or medical leave. Senators should please contact her with any other concerns or comments to be shared at this meeting.

-- Shared that the deans received the list of faculty going up for the next annual post tenure review.

-- Shared [Food for Fines](#) slides which outline a renewed initiative being launched next week which is being propelled by Faculty Senate student senator Noor Golesorkhi.

-- Shared an update on the efforts to preserve the Norman Hall courtyard tree, and its related historical cultural significance to UF, which fell during Hurricane Helene, including efforts led by Sr. VP for Agriculture

and Natural Resources Scott Angle to propagate saplings which will then be available for purchase and the College of Arts work in sectioning the tree for use in projects to memorialize it.

- Answered inquiries pertaining to the academic burdens reduction project and engaging in satellite campus initiatives and communications.

Provost's Report

Joe Glover, Interim Provost

- The search for a new dean for both CLAS and the College of Arts has been announced. 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 search committees and the search firms have been named for both. The dean search for the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering Herbert is expected to get underway soon.

- 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.

- The Division of Enrollment Management is switching the way it is conducting campus tours. It has moved from using UF cicerones to professionally operated campus tour guides.

- Dr. Glover invited Interim Vice Provost of Undergraduate Affairs Angela Lindner to provide a [Quest program update](#), including its history, program makeup, and future aspirations.

- Inquiries were answered and comments were received pertaining to the Quest program, the Title IX and other [Presidential Committees](#), and preserving academic integrity with AI.

Action Items:

Graduate Council

Stacy Wallace, Associate Director

- [Anatomical Sciences Education MS Credit Reduction](#)

Curriculum and Programs, Graduate School

- Approved by the Graduate Council, this is a request from the College of Medicine to reduce an existing degree from 32 to 31 credits. A required course was reduced by one credit.

- This item carried.

Information Items:

***[Introduction of VP for Marketing](#)**

Dan Dillon, VP for Marketing

* (Slide 4 video viewable @ 1:14:42 in [webcast](#))

- VP Dillon introduced himself and his office's goals, answered inquiries, and presented information on the University of Florida's brand platform including:

- 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.

[HEARTSafe Campus Designation](#)

Eliana Jaffa, Executive Director

Gabriella Reich, Community Health Director
Gator Emergency Medical Response Unit
(GEMRU)

- GEMRU team members and directors Eliana Jaffa and Gabriella Reich 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.

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.

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.

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

1) University of Florida Faculty Senators

- Senator Jeannine Brady (DENT) posed a general, philosophical question about how best to arrive at a collective agreement in answering the question 'Why UF'. She also expressed concern about the impact of UF Health's purchases of local hospitals on secondary insurances which supplement Medicare.
- Senator Svetlana Stepchenkova (HHP) commented on the importance of continuing efforts to reduce faculty administrative burdens. She shared her recent faculty assessment experience which required documenting much information which already exists in (and potentially could be pulled from) existing UF data bases. Chair Lynne reinforced that those efforts are continuing, and that any faculty interested in beta testing a new UF faculty performance assessment process is welcome to provide their name to her to participate.
- Senator Flora Iff-Noel (CLAS) requested clarification on how 60 percent of UF courses currently labeled as Gen Ed lost this designation. She asked that the process and criteria used be explained, as it was not clearly relayed to faculty.
- Chair Lynne responded that she has asked the Office of the Provost to conduct an evaluation of the Gen Ed courses which were removed and share that concrete information on the senate floor. Updates regarding the assessment process and timeline will be shared at Faculty Senate.
- Vice Provost Lindner also responded that of the approximately 1,000 UF courses originally labeled as Gen Ed (which are now down to about 420), a vast majority of eliminated Gen Ed courses were either already inactive or a college specifically asked for a course to be removed.

The Provost's Office continues to work with the associate deans. She confirmed her office will clarify the percent of courses which were eliminated as a response to the state regulations, and those which were led by UF to enhance the curriculum. She also noted that there is an opportunity, through petition, to appeal courses which were eliminated to meet state regulations (i.e. to add specific courses back to the UF Gen Ed curriculum.)

- Senator Emily Hind (CLAS) noted that she received feedback from students facing food insecurity. She also advocated for UF transportation priorities that support alternatives to driving and parking vehicles on campus.

- Senator Jinghua Chen (MED) commented on the presidential search and its criteria, and its potentially large impact on both academic freedom and institutional rankings.

- Senator Ian Storch (MED-J) asked for engagement with the BOT and administration on the dispute between UF and United Healthcare emphasizing that, despite its complexity, its adverse effects on UF employees and the university's image are real and worthy of emphasis.

2) University of Florida Faculty

- There was no discussion from UF faculty.

Adjournment

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

Attending

Senators

Jose F. Abisambra
Michael Aherne
Tim Altmeyer
Christopher James Anthony
Tracy Ashby
Ali Ataya
Brian Bahder
Eban Bean
Lauren Berkow
Victor Blanco
Rori Bloom
L. Jeannine Brady
Sarah Brunnig
Brett Bultemeier
Megan Butala
Rachel Carrico
Michael A. Carrillo
Nico Cellinese
Jinghua Chen
Konstantina
Christodouloupoulou
Sandra Citty
Mayra L Cordero
Cynda Crawford
Lina Cui
Tamara Lee Cushing
Santanu K. Datta
Michael K. Davis
Carol Demas
Luisa (Amelia) Dempere
David Deremer
William P. Dishong
Randell Doty
James Essegbey
Gayle Nelson Evans
Jeanne Ewert
Sara Moscovita Falzarano
Michael Feely
Laurie M. Gauger

Ifigeneia Giannadaki
Frank Gibson
Rachel L. Grant
Selman Hershfield
Emily Hind
Carolyn Holland
Flora Iff-Noel
Jill Ingram
Sarah Rajkumari Jayasekaran
Frederick 'Rick' Kates
Jaclyn Kropp
Jason Kruse
Shivendra Kumar
McKenzie Landrum
H. Dail Laughinghouse
Chenglong Li
Lin Liu
Charlene Luke
Ashley MacSuga-Gage
John Alexander Mendoza-
Garcia
Charles Mitchell
Don Monk
Judi Shade Monk
Christine T. Myers
John K. Neubert
Ashlee Ossiboff
Ruchir Puri
Courtney M. Pyche
Czerne Reid
Cheryl Resch
David Gaddis Ross
Eleonora Rossi
Daniel A. Rubin
Jodi Schorb
Marie Nancy Seraphin
Jinnie Shin
Sudeep S. Sidhu
Catia Silva
Benjamin Smith
Hugh Smith

Edward L. Stanley
Svetlana Stepchenkova
Ian D. Storch
Catherine Striley
Imanol Suarez-Palma
R, James Toussaint
Anastasia M. Ulanowicz
Pilar Useche
Asoo Vakharia
Hannah Vander Zanden
Tripti Vashisth
Nian Wang
Cynthia Willming
Stefanie Wulff
Sabrina Wyatt
Jing Zhao

Student Senators

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

Liaisons

Dan Dillon
Joe Glover
Christopher Hass
Angela Lindner
Lauren Solberg
Danaya Wright

Guests

Reem Abdelghany
Trevor Henderson
Eliana Jaffa
Bart Knowles
Gabriella Reich
Linda Stumpf-Kurnick