

UCF Faculty Senate
Minutes October 21, 2004

Dr. Arlen Chase, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of September 23, 2004 were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITION OF GUEST

Dr. Chase introduced Guests Lynn Huff-Corzine, John Schell, Jennifer Helman (Student Government), Jeannette Ward (Library), Dennis Dulniak and Denise Young.

Textbooks Issue

Dr. Chase reminded faculty of the 1990-1991 resolution forbids selling of textbooks to individuals who come to faculty offices. Suggested that administrator need to put out a policy and remind faculty about this resolution. Extra books can be donated to Dr. Ajayi and he will send texts to Nigeria. In addition, faculty reminded that book buyers aren't allowed to come on campus without a license.

ACFS meeting

Dr. Chase attended the Advisory Council of Faculty Senate meeting on October 8, 2004 in Tallahassee, Florida. The following issues were discussed at the ACFS meeting:

- ⇒ Resolution passed in favor of using examining assessment materials measures to meet current requirements related to Academic Performance Contracts.
- ⇒ State-wide hurricane damage to Florida universities stated to be at \$50.5 million; UCF had \$9.1 million in hurricane damage. This does not take into account lost days or costs that will not be covered by FEMA.
- ⇒ Tuition and fees charged to students to have more flexibility at universities (within parameters set by legislature for increases) with BOT's responsible for accountability (linked to strategic plan objectives). Financial aid fee (paid by students) will increase to 5% of overall cost to help need-based individuals.
- ⇒ 25% surcharge on tuition for hours beyond 110% degree requirements except for critical teacher shortages.
- ⇒ There will be a block tuition option implemented next year. One model suggested is registration for 15 hours per term with one course which could be taken in the summer. Would need legislative action to allow this under Bright Futures. Graduation would have to take place in 4 years or students would have to bear cost beyond 4 years (this was the goal of block tuition). Also discussed a \$100 fee for each withdrawal per year beyond one per year.
- ⇒ No new PECO funds in state budget. Only funds that are for the continuation of buildings those are already underway. This is due to damage to K-12 schools in Florida due to hurricanes.
- ⇒ Discussion of financial health of Florida. A special legislative session called after the November election. General agreement that state budgets may be affected. UFF president, Tom Auxter, reported that he had advised all UFF bargaining teams to consider salary offers or MOUs on the table prior to November 1, stating that he also believed there would be cuts that would affect faculty salaries (he stressed, however, that he could only "advise" not "mandate").

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General discussion among Faculty Senate members regarding the UFF bargaining. Request made that Board of Trustees meet with the Bargaining team with time to discuss and present counter proposals. Dr. Modani commented that he has observed that the focus during the meeting is more on procedural issues etc. rather than actual bargaining. Faculty highly encouraged to attend collective bargaining sessions. Request by Dr. Trouard that as an advisory group to the provost a proposal for last year's salary increase from money in escrow could be made by Senate. Motion should not come from the floor but we can have a sense of the senate statement that we would like bargaining expedited with early and quick focus on salary issues. Next bargaining meeting is one week from today. All faculty are encouraged to attend on October 28th - 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in CAS 192. Questions asked if there are any sanctions as the result of the ULP findings. Answer: this is in appeal. Dr. Trouard will send a copy of the ULP and also statement from UFF state president about any statements encouraging local units to accept offers open now.

OLD BUSINESS

Revised Constitution – Dr. Modani

Dr. Modani presented a summary of the proposed revisions to the Faculty Senate Constitution. Reasons for suggested revisions presented. Approval process will be Faculty Senate approves, document circulated to all faculty with questions and comments requested. Changes will be considered at next steering committee and incorporated into document as needed. The revised Constitution will then be presented to full faculty for final approval at November meeting. All members of faculty (not just senate members) will be invited to attend this faculty assembly at which the constitution will be ratified. Motion to set aside article on General Education for final approval at later point made and seconded. Approved. Motion to approve the remainder of the constitution with proposed revisions make and seconded. Approved.

Discussion on General Education Committee followed. Scope of committee has been expanded to include more than GEP. Since GEP courses now offered in more than Arts and Sciences, chair of committee is suggested to be the Dean of Undergraduate studies. Question raised as to why there is a shift away from having Dean of A&S chair this committee. Dr. Schell spoke on the issue. The change is not a reflection on the role of current chair or College of Arts and Sciences. However, in the years since this committee was established there has been the creation of an Office of Undergraduate Studies and more GEP are courses in colleges other than A&S. In the time since the Office of Undergraduate Studies was created there has been a gradual move of appropriate activities to this office.

This is also reflective of current Strategic Plan of the University of Central Florida which places responsibility for GEP in the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Other relevant documents with similar statements reviewed. Dr. Trouard suggested moving this from A&S to a more central office will allow more attention. Comments made regarding the benefits of placing this university wide program under the Dean of the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Composition of committee will continue to have multiple members from A&S with only one representative from each of other colleges. Advantages of having this process not based in one college identified by Dr. Cook. Question asked if this change could result in a free standing department for GEP courses. Answer: No. Approval process for any changes of GEP would still be a multi-step process with multiple opportunities for input from faculty. No motions to amend the section on General Education. Motion to approve the section as originally written made and seconded. Motion approved.

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NEW BUSINESS

Library Resolution – Ms. Jeanette Ward

Dr. Jeannette Ward from UCF Library spoke about the reason for this resolution. Are getting books in the library and supporting faculty requests but no specific allocation to any one department. Have \$250,000 for books but over \$3 million for journals and data bases. Much of high cost is in sciences. The concern is do we need to look at a system to ensure that books in social sciences and humanities are purchased at needed levels. Resolution reads as follows:

2004-2005-1 Library Committee Resolution

Whereas, **access to the scholarly literature is vital to all members of the academic community,**

And

Whereas, **many commercial publishers continue to increase institutional subscription prices to journals by amounts that far outpace the rate of inflation,**

And

Whereas, **such business practices undermine the core academic values of promoting the dissemination of and unrestricted access to scholarship and research and are unsustainable for and detrimental to the University of Central Florida Libraries,**

And

Whereas, **faculty senates at other research universities have recently endorsed resolutions addressing these same issues; therefore**

Be it resolved that the UCF Faculty Senate, **calls on administration, faculty, staff, and students to increase support for a publishing system more conducive to scholarly communications, no matter what the format of transmission, by supporting refereed journals and publishers whose business and pricing practices are reasonable and sustainable, and follow practices that increase the availability of scholarly communication.**

Passing this may give librarians leverage when negotiating with publishes. Faculty, departments, colleges also need to look at publication processes. May need to use professional associations to influence process. Also the problem is that many professional organizations are selling their publications to major publishes. Motion to call the question made and seconded. Resolution passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Administrative – Dr. Charles Kelliher reported.

Expect resolution on recycling of TIPs. Have also been discussing merit criteria. Have asked for each college's merit criteria. Ed Neighbor invited to discuss changes in Pegasus funding model and specials. Meeting after that is with Provost to discuss increased input into process on formation of new colleges.

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Graduate Council – Dr. Stephen Goodman.

No report.

Subcommittees

- ⇒ **Graduate Policy and Procedure Subcommittee (chaired by Stephen Goodman)**
The committee is working on a resolution on the minimum qualifications for participating in graduate education with focus on service on committees. Have also looked at graduate tuition funding.
- ⇒ **Course Review and New Programs: (chaired by Ram Mohapatra)**
Have addressed multiple requests.
- **Graduate Appeals and Awards Subcommittee: (chaired by Jana Jasinski)**
No meeting.

Personnel – Dr. Mark Kamrath.

No report.

Undergraduate Policy & Curriculum - Dr. Bob Pennington reported.

Did not meet last month because no agenda items. Next meeting is Tuesday November 9th. Submission deadline was yesterday. Will have quite a few items.

OTHER

None.

ADJOURNED

Motion to adjourn at 5:45 made and seconded. Approved.

Next Faculty Senate Meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.