

Faculty Senate Meeting  
**Minutes of**  
**August 26, 2010**

Dr. Ida Cook, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of April 22, 2010 were approved as recorded. Dr. Cook reminded senators that a reception hosted by President Hitt will immediately follow the meeting.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Diane Chase, Academic Affairs; Elliot Vittes, Undergraduate Studies; Lin Huff-Corzine, Faculty Affairs; Keith Tribble and Torey Brewer, University Athletics; Missy Murphey, University Libraries; Shannon O'Donoghue and Shana Roen, Constituent Relations; Mairin Brzica, Jennifer Russell, and Brian Stark, Barnes and Noble; Stephanie Gray, UCF Bookstore; Chad Binette, News and Information; Kate Dorminy, student.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rich Gause, Senator from the Libraries, invited all to see the results of the renovation of the second floor of the Library.

Provost Update:

Provost Waldrop gave an overview of his activities since coming to UCF. He has been making the rounds and has met with Faculty Senate officers Ida Cook and Manoj Chopra, and will be meeting with them monthly. The provost provided an update on budget issues. He has been asked to prepare several scenarios involving 5% and 15% cuts, and has also been asked to submit requests for supplemental funds. He spoke briefly about the US News & World Report rankings, in which UCF was recognized as one of the top ten up-and-coming universities. He announced his commitment to working with the faculty, staff, and students to address any concerns, including faculty/student ratios.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Constitutional Revisions – *Manoj Chopra*

An ad-hoc committee consisting of Drs. Ida Cook, Manoj Chopra, Arlen Chase, Robert Pennington, Steve Goodman, Reid Oetjen, and Rich Gause was tasked with revising the current Faculty Constitution. The committee solicited input from faculty and administrators throughout the university. The committee has now completed its work and tomorrow will be emailing a draft of the revised Constitution for review and subsequent discussion at the Faculty Senate meeting on September 23.

Dr. Chopra provided an overview of the major changes, including:

- Creation of a separate main body of the Constitution and a set of *Bylaws*
- Revisions in order to include the College of Medicine faculty in the Senate
- Updated descriptions, membership, and duties of the various committees
- Significant changes in terminology
- A policy to address excessive absences from Senate meetings

A discussion of the Constitution ensued in which Senate Chair Ida Cook expressed a desire that approval of the changes be completed by the end of the Fall semester so that the new apportionment and elections rules can be used in January 2011. She explained the timeline necessary to have approval completed before Spring semester. Discussion of the revisions will begin on the Senate meeting on September 23, and the meeting will be recessed and resumed on subsequent Thursdays as necessary, until the October 21 Senate meeting. If the Senate provisionally accepts the changes on October 21, the Constitution draft will be distributed to the general faculty for review and feedback, with the ultimate goal of holding a full faculty assembly on December 2 to vote on the Constitution.

#### State of the University Address – President John Hitt

President John Hitt addressed the Senate and thanked Dr. Cook for her service to Board of Trustees, university, and faculty. President Hitt thanked the senators for their service in making the university stronger. He shared information on enrollment and announced that UCF had another good year and student numbers were larger than predicted. Currently we have 56,100 students enrolled versus 53,500 last fall, a little over 5% increase in student credit hours (SCH). These numbers make UCF the largest university in the state and the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the United States. Our graduate students number 8,500 which represents the top 20 in the country in terms of enrollment. Over the past year, we have hired 186 faculty to accommodate this growth. Dr. Hitt is pleased with the number and the quality of students at UCF. We currently admit less than half of the incoming freshmen who apply, and half of those who are admitted attend classes. He shared some statistics of the incoming freshman class. Grants last year exceeded all expectations – UCF was awarded 133.3M in grants, a 9.1% increase over the previous year. UCF continues to build new facilities. President Hitt invited the senators to visit the College of Medicine (COM), and see their new 170,000sq. ft., \$85M facility. The COM admitted 60 students for the class of 2014. The current enrollment is 101, and they plan to enroll 80 students in 2011, 100 students in 2012, and 120 students in 2013.

#### University Athletics - Keith Tribble

Mr. Keith Tribble, Director of Athletics and Executive Vice President, thanked the faculty for what they do for our student athletes. Mr. Tribble emphasized the importance of academics over athletics and he noted that he reiterates that with students. When he meets new recruits he tells them his first job to graduate student-athletes, and secondary to that is to compete for championships.

Mr. Tribble provided an overview of the academic statistics of our athletes. UCF leads all Conference USA public institutions with 3.0 GPA or higher in the conference. UCF had more honor roll students since 2006 than the private institutions in the conference. UCF's graduate success rate for the NCAA was 80% while, the national average is 77%. Mr. Tribble noted that less than 1% of our student-athletes will play at the next level; and so they need to graduate and be prepared to enter the workforce. Mr. Tribble spoke about the mandatory eight hours of study hall for all student-athletes with a GPA below 3.0, and again thanked the faculty for their efforts.

#### October 6, 2010 Midweek Football Game

Mr. Chad Binette, Associate Director of News and Information, discussed the cancelation of afternoon classes on October 6 due to the mid-week football game. The Athletics Department's

goal is to accommodate as many classes as possible. Classes will end at 12:20 p.m. and all buildings will close at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Binette emphasized that towing will start at 12:30 p.m. for those parked in the Gold Zone. More information about the mid-week football game is available at <http://www.ucfgameday.com> under the Game Day → Faculty Notice link. Further communication regarding this event will be forthcoming.

NOOKstudy and e-Textbooks – *Stephanie Garay and Mairin Brzica*

Ms. Stephanie Garay, UCF Bookstore Textbook Manager, introduced Barnes and Noble representative Ms. Mairin Brzica, who demonstrated the NOOKstudy software. NOOKstudy is an application which students must download and install in order to access and read Barnes & Noble e-Textbooks. The software allows students to highlight sections, make notes, create citations from the text, and print pages; however, each publisher has its own restrictions determining the number of pages that can be printed. The software operates on both Macs and PCs, and new applications for the iPad and iPhone are forthcoming. More information and the software download are available at [www.nookstudy.com/college](http://www.nookstudy.com/college)

E-textbooks could offer a significant cost-savings for students. There are hundreds of e-textbooks available and the cost-savings vary from publisher to publisher (up to 50% in some instances). Examination copies for faculty are not yet available, but the bookstore is working with publishers to allow for them.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.