Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes of  
November 15, 2018

William Self, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures.

MINUTES
Motion to approve the minutes of October 25, 2018 was made and seconded. The minutes were approved as recorded.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS
Lisa Guion Jones, Associate Provost for Strategy and Special Assistant to the President  
Melody Bowdon, Interim Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and interim dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies  
Joe Adams, Senior Communications Director, Office of the Provost  
Allison Hurtado, Assistant Director of Marking and Communications, Faculty Excellence  
Jana Jasinski, Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence  
Matthew Matusiak, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, College of Community Innovation and Education

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Board of Trustees Investigation
A Board of Trustees meeting was held today. Trustee Seay is in charge of the investigation into the inappropriate funds used to build Trevor Colbourn Hall. Trustee Seay reported that the investigation is ongoing and they are in the process of completing two document requests made by the investigators for the Bryan Cave Leighton Pasiner firm. More than 30 interviews have been completed with more interviews scheduled. The expectation is to have a report ready for the January Board of Trustees and Board of Governors meetings.

Florida Board of Governors
The Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 4 last year that called for the Board of Governors to develop a new plan for performance funding metrics. In response to the language in the bill, the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) passed a resolution asking for the ACFS to have a voice in the development of new performance based funding metrics standards. In response to the resolution, the Chancellor reached out to some Board of Governors members, legislators, and leaders of the ACFS. The ACFS was involved in the plan presented last week which removes the requirement that the universities in the bottom three lose funding. Dr. Self explained each year all universities are ranked based on the metrics. The top three universities receive additional funding on top of the base funding while the bottom three lose significant funding. When this happens, presidents, chief financial officers, and provosts are more nervous to hire additional faculty in fear of losing recurring funds. The new plan on the Board of Governors website indicates universities will not lose core funding unless the ranking goes down for more than 2-years in a row.
OLD BUSINESS
None.

REPORT OF THE PROVOST
Provost Dooley stated she firmly believes that academics sits at the core of the university. As the provost, Dr. Dooley wants to make sure she hears the voice of faculty. One way to hear the voice of faculty is through college visits to gather insights with high faculty and department chair presence. As the university strives for preeminence, the provost will rely on partners including Jana Jasinski, Lisa Jones, and Melody Bowdon, and others to capture ideas. We want to personalize what it means to reach preeminence in terms of advancing faculty research, student success, and partnering with students in research labs. Student success has to be elevated to the same level as teaching and research. Also indicated that UCF gets to define what it means to be a model for 21st-Century higher education.

Textbook Affordability
The State requires that 95% of instructional materials be submitted and listed at the bookstore 45 days prior to the start of the classes. Some students will go through the semester without a textbook due to the price. We should be giving students choices with open educational resources and determine how we can make higher education more affordable to students. Right now we are at 91% and must reach 95% by Friday.

Provost Forum on Student Success
At the recent forum on Student Success, there was standing room only at the Morgridge Center with almost 300 individuals online. Four students were highlighted during the forum and indicated they did not know what “preeminence” means, and that they are not sure why the 4-year graduate rate matters. The next forum is on Faculty Excellence. A member questioned if there are any plans to get statistics on the qualifications of our students (types of jobs, graduate schools attending, acceptance rate to elite schools, etc.) and how long it would take. Dr. Dooley indicated that UCF has some of the data and suggested that Paige Borden be invited to present some of the data.

NEW BUSINESS
Resolution 2018-2019-5 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Senate Operational and Curricular Councils Membership
This bylaw change was brought forward by the Steering Committee due to the difficulty in finding a senator to chair each committee and removes the requirement on the operational and curricular committees. It also allows the Committee on Committees to appoint a senator already serving on each committee as the Senate liaison to provide the Senate with monthly reports. The resolution is up for discussion and vote today.

Motion and second made to approve Resolution 2018-2019-5 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Senate Operational and Curricular Councils Membership. No discussion. Vote: all in favor; motion passes.
Collective Impact Strategic Plan Update
Dr. Self introduced Dr. Lisa Guion Jones, Associate Provost for Strategy and Special Assistant to the President. Dr. Jones provided handouts to show the status of each preeminence metric, priority metrics, myKnight Star, and Pegasus path. Discussed how preeminence benefits students, faculty, and alumni. Provided the Collective Impact website address at www.ucf.edu стратегический-план for up-to-date information. Dr. Jones encouraged applicants and nominations for the Spring Marchioli Collective Impact Innovation Award due February 28, 2019. A senator questioned if the metrics are static or are the metrics always changing. Dr. Self indicated that the preeminence metrics are static, but the performance based funding metrics do change.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Budget and Administrative Committee – Qian Hu for Kimi Sugaya
The committee met yesterday to continue discussing the capacity issues for the Creative School for Children. The committee is asking the director additional questions and will determine next steps at the next meeting.

Information Technology Committee – Sumanta Pattanaik
The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting.

Parking, Transportation and Safety Committee – Heath Martin
The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting. Dr. Self noted that the issue of campus safety is still a highly talked about issue with the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates.

Personnel Committee – Stephen King
Discussed summer work assignments and compensation. Looked at the enactment of the travel policy across the university and discovered it is very diverse in regards to what is allowed and followed. The committee provided Faculty Excellence with suggestions regarding procedures for the renewal of endowed chairs.

Graduate Council – Mathilda Van Niekerk for Jim Moharam
The Curriculum committee met on November 7 and discussed revisions to the PhD accounting, finance, and marking tracks. Also discussing a name change from eLearning Professional Development Certificate to eLearning Design, Development, & Delivery Certificate. The Policy committee meeting on November 14 was canceled. The Appeals committee had two meetings in October and the Program Review and Awards committee will meet tomorrow.

Undergraduate Council – Nina Orlovskaya
Both committees have been meeting and conducting normal business. Committee was informed that the university can now charge new lab fees.
OTHER BUSINESS
A senator asked, not knowing what the relation is between the faculty union and the Senate, what is the Senate’s position in regards to the Board of Trustees position in response to the unions offer? The senator noted a communication from the UFF-UCF president indicating the university’s position. Dr. Self indicated as the chair of the Senate he does not take a position on any matter. His role is to lead the Senate and discuss the issues brought forward. Dr. Self appreciated the comments. In general, the Senate allows the faculty union to negotiate with the administration and tries not to interfere with the process.

Comment: Top university leaders nor top faculty members are involved in the bargaining process. Faculty need to step-up and participate. The Senate should invite the union leader to all Senate meetings and senators should attend bargaining sessions. False statements communicated to the public and the trustees hurt the faculty position. There are better ways to capture accurate data.

Comment: As the chair of the Senate and a trustee representing faculty, the chair should be communicating the viewpoint of the Senate to the Board of Trustees. Additional comments regarding the university hiring adjuncts, canceling classes, and overloading faculty with high enrollments in courses. Students are taking courses they don’t want or the only course offered in order to progress to graduation resulting in low Student Perception of Instruction results. Noted that the Collective Strategic Plan has many inputs, but the outcomes are critically important to faculty.

Dr. Self noted that at today’s Board of Trustees meeting they discussed bringing the details of the carryforward and educational and general (E&G) funds from the December meeting forward and that he asked for the ratio of the funds used to pay faculty and staff relative to the carryforward funds. Core E&G funds should be used for faculty and staff. Dr. Self indicated that he does make comments at the meetings knowing that a lot of faculty are angry regarding E&G funds being used for other purposes.

Comment: Steering needs to help the chair articulate some of the issues and that the law firm indicated they conducted a narrow review and did not look at the impact of using the funds.

Comment: The Budget and Administrative Committee should have this as a high priority in regards to where did the money go, where should it have gone, and where is it going now. Maybe the Senate needs an investigation of its own.

Comment: Their needs to be an external National Academy of Sciences Member on the Board of Trustees. Would like to see university leadership come to the Senate meetings. Response: The Florida Constitution dictates that the Governor and the Board of Governors appoints members of the Board of Trustees. The Governor appoints all of the Board of Governors members.
Comment: A senator in the bargaining session today indicated what the union has as a priority, invited all faculty to attend if they care about the issues, and indicated that the next meeting is scheduled for November 27.

Dr. Self noted that the Faculty Senate and Bargaining sessions are open meetings.

Comment: The union and the Senate have always been separate although many senators are members of the union and many senators serve in leadership positions for the union. We are all faculty and part of the same unit. The union is always fundamentally outmatched and out-resourced. Many volunteer hours with no credit for service. The union and the Senate are not faculty against each other, we just have different roles based on the Florida Constitution.

Dr. Self indicated if the concern is here, if possible, he will commit to attending the bargaining sessions for the rest of the year.

More comments made regarding more notices being sent to faculty regarding the bargaining sessions, more surveys on issues important to faculty, the high cost of union dues, inviting the union president to make a presentation, changing the Constitution to allow a union member as an ex officio member like the Student Government.

Motion and second to ask the Steering Committee approve a standing agenda item for a union update along with an administration bargaining team update. Need both perspectives.

Comment regarding the union discussion stems back to unregulated growth. We always discuss how to improve the quality of education and research funding. There is no discussion regarding how to address growth rate and increased workload. Don’t know what the role of the Senate is in holding the university, the Board of Governors, the Governor realistic with unhealthy growth.

Response: Dr. Self indicated we have an opportunity to hear about the COACHE survey results in January. Teaching workload is still an issue and should be discussed at the Steering Committee meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.