Resolution 2019-2020-25 Faculty Representation on the University Budget Committee and the Facilities Budget Committee

Whereas, the State University System is funded primarily through the Florida Legislature; and

Whereas, UCF is governed by the Florida Board of Governors and its University Board of Trustees, that delegate authority to the President and Provost in the management of the academic budgets and facility budgets; and

Whereas, since 1971, the Faculty Senate and the President of the university have agreed that the university can properly function only when goodwill is nurtured and maintained by the President, administrators, and faculty through faculty participation in the governance of the university; and

Whereas, in 1978, the Faculty Senate formed the Faculty Senate Budget Committee charged with providing faculty input in the budgeting process and reporting to the Faculty Senate on the university budget; and

Whereas, in 1979-1980, the Faculty Senate passed Resolution 1979-1980-2a Academic Budget Council to involve faculty to be both active and reactive in recommending budgetary policy to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, and to participate in discussions concerning the allocation and distribution of university funds; and

Whereas, in 1996, the Faculty Senate passed Resolution 1996-1997-5 Communication of Budget Process to emphasize the importance of clearly communicating and involving faculty in the budget process both at the University level and within all colleges and units; and

Whereas, divisions reporting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs have a direct impact on the faculty’s ability to effectively perform their professional duties and serve the over 69,000 students they serve; and

Whereas, decisions about new buildings and university initiatives have an impact on the core university budget; and

Whereas, the University Budget Committee (UBC) is responsible for stewarding, optimizing, and investing the university’s financial resources in ways that strategically advance the goals and mission of the university. The committee transparently makes recommendations and decisions based on evidence and input from university constituents. Through its collective leadership, the committee influences the future excellence, productivity, and impact of UCF through the optimal use of limited resources. The Chief Financial Officer and Provost serve as executive sponsors of the committee, and its members include leaders from academic, student, and administrative areas.

Whereas, the Faculty Senate Budget and Administrative Committee is charged with evaluating and recommending policies and procedures concerning the university budget with special emphasis on the academic budget; and
Whereas, the Facilities Budget Committee (FBC) is responsible for the proper planning of major construction, renovation, and deferred maintenance projects and is central to the successful operation of our university. The committee evaluates the university's space needs to develop a 5-year capital plan with input from university leadership across campus. Once the university president approves the plan, the committee will actively work to identify funding and action plans necessary to execute and periodically update the capital plan. The Chief Financial Officer and Provost serve as executive sponsors of the committee, and its membership includes leaders from academic, student and administrative areas; and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate’s University Master Planning Committee is charged with reviewing short-range and long-range issues related to land use, facilities planning, and future development of the campus, including protection and preservation of natural resources on campus; and

Whereas, the University Budget Committee includes the Chair of the Faculty Senate and one faculty member in its membership; and

Whereas, the Facilities Budget Committee includes the Chair of the Faculty Senate and one faculty member in its membership; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the University Budget Committee charter be modified to include the Chair of the Faculty Senate (or designee), the Chair of the Faculty Senate Budget and Administrative Committee (or designee), and two general faculty members selected by the Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Facilities Budget Committee charter be modified to include the Chair of the Faculty Senate (or designee), the Chair of the Faculty Senate’s University Master Planning Committee, and two general faculty members selected by the Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs regularly schedule internal public review and comment session(s) (at Senate, or other scheduled meetings, or an online review) to enable all faculty to hear and see the recommendations and to allow an opportunity for input before final budget approval by the UCF Board of Trustees.

Approved by the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Governance on February 24, 2020.

Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on March 5, 2020.