

**Faculty Senate**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes of September 10, 2015**

Keith Koons, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures.

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of August 13, 2015 was made and seconded. The minutes were approved as recorded.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Melody Bowdon, Executive Director, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning  
Ronnie Korosec, Associate Provost and Director of Operations, Academic Affairs  
Lucretia Cooney, Assistant Director, Faculty Relations  
Elizabeth Dooley, Vice Provost and Dean, College of Undergraduate Studies

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Center for Distributed Learning Advisory committee is putting together a task force regarding quality control of online courses. Requested recommendations for Faculty Senate representatives for the task force on behalf of Reid Oetjen. Members were asked for suggestions and the Senate will approach the individuals to see if they are interested. The College of Education and Human Performance suggested Atsusi Hirumi. Please forward any suggestions to Christie Wolf.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS – Item 1**

New business was introduced while waiting for the Provost to arrive.

Approval of TIP, RIA, and SoTL documents

Lucretia Cooney, Assistant Director, Faculty Relations presented the documents with TIP, RIA and SoTL procedures, updated for the year. A committee has been formed with more than thirty members to review the programs. The committee is still in the process of making recommendations for changes to the programs. The Steering committee can only change dates; we cannot change the substance of the awards. Motion and second made to approve date changes. Motion passes.

Question: what is the charge of the committee? To review the TIP, RIA, and SoTL programs and to bring forward any recommendations for changes. Some changes are procedural and others need to be bargained. Changes will not be implemented until the next cycle.

## **REPORT OF THE PROVOST**

Was attending the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the LEADS Scholars program.

### Enrollment

63,373 total enrollment; 6,700 freshman; 8,200 transfer students. Freshman SAT scores are up six points to a combined 1,260 and a high school GPA of 4.0. The Burnett Honors College has an average SAT score of 1,400 with a weighted GPA of 4.4. UCF is at 44% minority enrollment; moving toward a minority majority.

### U.S. News & World Ranking Report

In the “Most Innovative” category, UCF is ranked the 13<sup>th</sup> most innovative in the country. Tied for 50<sup>th</sup> in online degrees; 131<sup>st</sup> for best business programs. UCF is considered one of the nation’s best for veterans; an A+ college for B students; ranked overall at 168.

### First Year Retention Rate

UCF has reached an 89% retention rate for first year students. 90% is a threshold; it would be UCF’s fourth of eleven characterizations of pre-eminent universities in the State of Florida. This would move UCF closer to FSU and UF in terms of the Board of Governors evaluation. UCF is only 70 students away from breaking 90%. Expects high bars and high expectations, not lowering the bar to make it easier.

### Staff Hires

With the 100 new hires, 25 additional staff members have been allocated to support the new hires.

### COACHE Survey

Cynthia Young is convening a committee to be charged with moving recommendations to an action plan. This will be done in three phases: setting priorities in Fall 2015, developing strategy in Spring 2016, and taking action in Fall 2016.

### Strategic Planning

The Board of Trustees kicked off a strategic planning process and the Faculty Senate staffed a Strategic Planning Council. A few members overlap with the BOT three commissions and the Strategic Planning Council. The Strategic Planning Council is being asked to host the two on campus stakeholder forums.

Question: what do minority numbers mean based on other institutions? In terms of diversity, FIU is a majority Hispanic institution. USF and UCF look similar. UF and FSU have had a differential investment for years. If you look at the performance matrix that the Board of Governors adopts, UCF is always in the top three with USF and UF. Between FIU, USF, and UF we graduate more than 50% of the students in Florida. What makes us different is the 8,200 transfer students.

Question: out of the 200 new hires, what was our diversity? Not sure yet, but don't think it met my challenge of 40% unrepresented. Different strategies will be considered for the next round.

Question: in regards to the student numbers, what statistics are gathered on the direct connect students? We do keep the grade distribution and the direct connect success rate is about two points below on a six year graduation rate. If interested, you can research the data; available through Paige Borden.

Question: graduate enrollment? We are at 7,800. We have a 10,000 enrollment goal with 25% of those graduating with a dissertation or a thesis. About 17% of our graduates are research based and 83% course only. Mubarak Shah has a proposal in for more fellowships. This fall, the colleges are working on five year plans for graduate programs.

### **NEW BUSINESS – Item 2**

The retirement of Ida Cook and her long service to the Faculty Senate resulted in us looking at all Senator Service records. Out of 776 total senators: 662 served 1-5 years, 79 served 6-10 years, 28 served 11-15 years, 3 served 16-20 years, and 4 served more than 21 years. How do we want to recognize the service? Discussed options. Preference: recognition of long serving senators at the annual Founder's Day celebration, recognizing faculty serving the Faculty Senate for 10 years or more. The complete group would be recognized together with each name printed in the program. The Senate office will look into the cost of service pin or certificate.

### **LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Budget and Administrative Committee – Robert Cassanello

No report.

#### Parking Advisory Committee – Bari Hoffman-Ruddy

Met today for the first meeting.

#### Personnel Committee – Linda Walters

Ana Leon elected chair; held initial meeting to review topics and not finished last year.

#### Graduate Council – Jim Moharam

Three of the four committees met. Policy discussing continuous enrollment and credit hours. Graduate student's requirement of 3 credit hour minimum post candidacy.

#### Undergraduate Council – Hyoung Jin Cho

No report.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Richard Harrison would like to invite Lee Dodson and Sarah Norris to make a brief presentation on the UCF Institutional Repository at the September 24 Senate meeting. Voted to place on agenda along with the approval of TIP, RIA, and SoTL.

Question: can the Senate set a standard day and time for all committees to meet each semester prior to staffing the committees? Vice Chair can look at the possibility for next year.

Unit Bylaws: questions regarding the legal status of bylaws who can vote to adopt them; what if not followed and other questions. Discussion surrounding questions. Provost suggested making contact with Sherry Andrews as a resource and get back to the Steering committee.

Parking Permit: is there a change in charging sales tax and being able to pay pre-tax through payroll deduction? The Senate office will follow up.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. The committee adjourned at 5:05 p.m.