

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Faculty  
**FROM:** Karen Biraimah - Faculty Senate Secretary  
**DATE:** April 22, 1991  
**SUBJECT:** Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting - April 11, 1991

=====

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Glenn N. Cunningham, Chair, at 4:05 p.m. Dr. Cunningham welcomed the new Faculty Senate for 1991-1992, thanking the returning senators for their achievements in the past year and gave a special welcome to all new senators. Dr. Cunningham asked that the senators consider items they would like to have the senate put on the agenda this year, saying that these items will be passed on to the new steering committee. The roll was passed for signature. The minutes of March 7, 1991 were unanimously approved.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Among guests present - Provost Astro and Dr. Frank Juge.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Dr. Cunningham informed the senators that a listing of all resolutions for 1990-1991 was available. Administration has not responded to all resolutions at this date but as soon as this is completed, the senate will be advised.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dr. Cunningham said the first order of business was the election of officers. Dr. Naval Modani conducted the election for Chair of the Senate, since Dr. Cunningham was nominated for that position. There were no further nominations from the floor and Dr. Phil Taylor made a motion that they elect Dr. Cunningham by acclamation. All were in favor, no opposition. Congratulations were offered to Dr. Cunningham who, in turn, thanked the senators for their support last year and commented that he felt the senate had accomplished most of their objectives this past year and he looked forward to the coming year.

**Elections for the Vice-Chair:** The nominations were Dr. Robert Flick, Dr. Jeffrey Cornett and Dr. Karen Biraimah, with no nominations from the floor. Each of the nominees addressed the senate: Dr. Biraimah said that she is with the College of Education, Educational Foundations, and has been on the Faculty Senate 5 years, and is completing the position of Faculty Senate Secretary this year. She feels a strong faculty voice in the government of the university is very important. Dr. Jeffrey Cornett, College of Education, Instructional Programs, said he was pleased to be on the ballot and saw his main function to try to bridge a relationship between faculty and administration toward parallel goals. Dr. Robert Flick, Humanities Department, College of Arts & Sciences, said he has been around quite a long time and spent many years in the Faculty Senate. He believes the senate gives the opportunity to the faculty to share in the government of the university.

Dr. Denning and Dr. Steve Goodman volunteered to collect and count the ballots. During this time, Dr. Cunningham shared with the senators that one of the considerations for this next year is to restructure committees under the Faculty Senate. The current administration is willing to allow the Faculty Senate to have more power. This will be somewhat along the lines of FSU and could involve making many of the

committees of the university dependent on the Faculty Senate. Dr. Cunningham noted that the Senate did not have time this year to complete all the items on the agenda for the various committees so these will be passed on to the 1991-1992 committees. Dr. Cunningham also suggested that the senators turn in their choice for a committee assignment for the upcoming year. He listed the committees: Admissions & Standards; Budget and Administrative Procedures; Curriculum, Instruction, and Personnel and said the senators should turn their choices in to their college representatives when they meet as a group after this meeting to decide their Steering Committee representatives.

Since none of the candidates for Vice-Chair had more than 50% of the votes, there was a run-off.

During the ballot counting, Dr. Cunningham was questioned on what the committee responsibilities were and he explained that Admissions & Standards dealt with standards; Budget and Administrative Procedures previously interacted with the administration on the university budgets. The title was changed last year from the Budget Committee and their responsibilities were expanded to look at administrative procedures. Curriculum dealt with issues campus-wide in curriculum, for example the GEP; Personnel considers all issues dealing with personnel, for example - promotion and tenure.

The announcement was made that the new Vice-Chair was Karen Biraimah.

Election for Secretary: nomination on ballot was Dr. Frances Smith. Nomination from the floor by Dr. Terri Fine, for Dr. Jeffrey Cornett. The motion was seconded. No other nominations from the floor. The two candidates addressed the senate: Dr. Smith said she has been on the senate about 4 years and was willing to do this but if someone else was willing to do it, that would be fine with her. Dr. Cornett, said he appreciated the nomination and would be pleased to serve in this capacity.

Dr. Cunningham continued the conversation on committees while the count was being taken for the Secretary's position. The Instruction Committee deals with evaluating instruments, change in instructional media and support, and the bookstore. One of the items last year's committee worked on was developing assistance procedures for new faculty and graduate student teachers. Last year's committee would be turning this over to the new committee.

Dr. Flick made an announcement concerning the Strategic Planning Council saying that there will be a meeting in PH 115 a week from today to discuss the report in the UCF Report and all are invited. Dr. Cunningham encouraged the senators to read this material and give their input.

The announcement was made that the new Secretary was Dr. Jeffrey Cornett.

Provost Astro welcomed the senators for the coming year. Dr. Astro said this has not been an easy year but if we can all hold together during this trying time, we can come out in better shape. With regard to expectations for the fall, Dr. Astro said that the budget, which

would be ready next month, would essentially be what it was one year ago. He mentioned the fiscal problems with regard to recent new hires, and said that the university cannot afford to take many more cuts before real "damage" was incurred. Dr. Astro said that the planning for next year was based on an additional 5% reduction, which would eliminate most new hiring on campus. He went on to say that the 5% cut would be real, though it would be partially offset by funding from increased enrollment rates. (This was expected to make up about one-half of the loss.) Dr. Astro then turned his attention to the issue of restructuring. He said he wanted a new governing structure where every critical issue was brought before the Senate.

Dr. Cunningham asked Dr. Astro about the status of the 15 hour teaching bill and 20 hours of pedagogy bill. Dr. Astro responded that if it is required, we will do it, but at this time, he did not know the status of the bill. He thought the 15 hour requirement was dead, though the bill has caused a careful examination of teaching loads on this campus. Dr. Cunningham remarked that he thought the Faculty Advisory Forum, which consists of the Faculty Senate Chairs from the various campuses, did not really want it up to 15 hours. They want to make sure when a contract reads 12 hours, it means 12 hours FTE. A lot of these ideas are fine, but some are counter-productive. Dr. John Gupton questioned legislation to decrease decision making and restore more flexibility to the university. Dr. Astro responded that this may make us more accountable but we certainly want to get all the flexibility possible.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

The various colleges met to vote on their representative to the Steering Committee and to get a list of the senators' choices for assignment to committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Biraimah, Secretary  
Faculty Senate Secretary