

Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of
April 21, 2011

Dr. Ida Cook, Faculty Senate Chair, called the first meeting of the 2011-2012 Senate to order at 4:07 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of March 17, 2011 were approved as recorded.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

None present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Cook offered a reminder that the first meeting in the fall term will be August 25.

Dr. Cook welcomed the senators. All members of the Senate introduced themselves.

PROVOST'S UPDATE

Budget

The House and Senate both have their own proposed budgets; however, they still need to go to conference. The Senate is discussing a decrease of .7% and the House is discussing a 3.5% decrease, but these numbers are based on last year's base budget plus the projected tuition increase. The bottom line is that there will be cuts even after rolling tuition dollars into the equations. The positive is that we held back 3% last year, which equates to \$7M. We are better off than most, because we were judicious with cuts and hold backs from previous administration

Benefits and Health Insurance

Both House and Senate proposed budgets include changes to state employees benefit plans, so that would require employee contribution. The Senate is proposing a fixed rate, while the House is proposing a sliding scale between 3-6% based upon income. The Optional Retirement Program will continue to be a choice. Additionally, there is a strong likelihood that there will be a slight increase in what employees pay for health insurance. Both of these changes will result in a decrease in take home pay for all employees.

Board of Trustees (BOT)

There will be significant changes to the membership of the BOT as many members are rotating off. Members leaving are Phyllis Klock, Judy Albertson, and Joe Mantilla. Olga Calvet was reappointed. Alan Florez was reappointed after a year away from the board. New to the board are Richard Crotty and John Sprouls. We will also be getting new trustees due to the loss of Daniel Webster, Chair Rick Walsh and Vice Chair Yochum. Dr. Cook will be serving as chair of the Education Subcommittee (pending getting elected), which will be the first time a faculty member has held that position.

Collective Bargaining

Collective bargaining Article 10: Evaluation, has been discussed for many months. At the last session there was tentative agreement to the revision to Article 10. This is a huge leap forward. The provost complimented both the university and union negotiators.

UCF Dental School

Provost Waldrop announced that the university has been approached by the Tavistock Group, the organization who is responsible for developing Lake Nona, about. Tavistock has been working with a donor who was talking with several groups about the possibility of building a dental school on land adjacent to UCF's College of Medicine. Tavistock notified the university due to its good relationship with us and, after rapid negotiations, the university is now seriously looking at starting a dental school with the support of this donor.

This proposal will be discussed at Graduate Council and then go to the Board of Trustees. The provost made it clear that UCF will not be approaching the state for money. The school will be charging the equivalent of private school tuition. UCF is considering several sources of financing, including REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust). The provost assured the Senate that the university will not be cutting other programs to finance this proposed initiative.

Provost Waldrop recognized Pat Bishop's hard work over the last two weeks. He then opened the floor to questions.

Question: What is the total cost to operate a dental school?

Answer: It is too early to address this question until we get deeper into the planning phase. The calculations so far indicate that it will take about 17 years for the school to become revenue-positive.

Question: What is the timeline?

Answer: The timeline is evolving and is flexible. The administration has spoken to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and now the Faculty Senate, and plan to go to the Graduate Council in the second week of May and the Board of Trustees on May 26. The proposal would then go to the Board of Governors, although not necessarily at their next meeting.

Question: Will this venture include research?

Answer: Yes, but not in the short-term. However, in the long-term he expects collaborative efforts with COM, Nursing, and other related fields.

Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI)

Dr. Cook announced that the provost has approved the resolutions regarding the Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI). She thanked the Senate for their work on SPoI and Constitution.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Dr. Chopra, chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the slate of elected officers for the 2011-2012 Senate, based on nominations from the Steering Committee. He made a call for additional nominations from the floor. There were none. Motion was made that the nominations be closed. Motion seconded and carried. Motion was made to accept the slate of nominees. Motion seconded and carried.

The officers elected for the 2011-2012 Senate were:

Chair: Ida Cook, College of Sciences
Vice Chair: Bob Pennington, College of Business Administration
Secretary: Reid Oetjen, College of Health and Public Affairs

Establishment of Steering and Committee on Committees

Dr. Chopra turned the meeting over to Dr. Cook. Dr. Cook noted that, due to last year's revisions of the Faculty Constitution, there will be fewer members of the Steering Committee than in recent years. She briefly discussed the role and duties of the Steering Committee. She discussed the caucus process by which colleges elect members to serve on the Steering Committee and the Committee on Committees.

Each college met to caucus and elect members to the Steering Committee. The following senators were elected by their colleges to serve on the Steering Committee:

College of Arts & Humanities: Keith Koons, Patrick Murphy
College of Business Administration: Robert Folger
College of Education: Bobby Everett, Stephen Sivo
College of Engineering and Computer Science: Ahmad Elshennawy, Kalpathy Sundaram
College of Health and Public Affairs: Aaron Liberman
College of Medicine: Henry Daniell
College of Nursing: Kelly Allred
College of Optics and Photonics: Jim Moharam
College of Sciences: Kevin Belfield, Arlen Chase
Rosen College of Hospitality Management: H. G. Parsa
University Libraries: Rich Gause

The Committee on Committees, chaired by Dr. Bob Pennington, Vice Chair of the Senate, has one Steering Committee member from each college. These members were selected when the colleges caucused for Steering Members. The following Steering Committee members were elected by the senators from their colleges to serve on the Committee on Committees:

College of Arts & Humanities: Keith Koons
College of Business Administration: Robert Folger
College of Education: Stephen Sivo
College of Engineering and Computer Science: Ahmad Elshennawy
College of Health and Public Affairs: Aaron Liberman
College of Medicine: Henry Daniell
College of Nursing: Kelly Allred
College of Optics and Photonics: Jim Moharam
College of Sciences: Kevin Belfield
Rosen College of Hospitality Management: H. G. Parsa
University Libraries: Rich Gause

The meeting was adjourned.