

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
MINUTES
August 17, 2000

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee was called to order by Dr. Michael Mullens, Chair, at 4:05 p.m. Minutes of April 27, 2000 were unanimously approved. Members present: Drs. Lee Cross, Diane Wink, Ida Cook, Glenn Cunningham, Phil Taylor, Diana Velez, Naval Modani, Robert Pennington, Cynthia Hutchinson, and Ahmad Elshennawy. Guest: Dr. John Schell.

Dr. Mullens introduced Dr. John Schell, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs. He will be working with Dr. Juge and attending the Steering and the Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee meetings. He stated that Dr. Juge and Dr. Whitehouse sent their regrets that they were unable to attend today's meeting.

Dr. Mullens encouraged Steering Committee members to write a short personal note in support of FSECC. Personal stories are best, especially if you have been impacted by the agencies supported. Notes will be forwarded to all faculty.

Dr. Mullens also stated that he had visited with administrators and deans on campus over the course of the summer and had very pleasant conversations. Dan Holsenbeck had indicated that the legislature recognized the quality and dedication of UCF faculty. UCF is being recognized for good work in research and productivity. Based on a memorandum that Dr. Mullens received from M.J. Soileau, UCF scored 45th on a research score card in MIT's Technology Review magazine. UF was ranked 28th and no other Florida university was ranked in the top 50. UCF also ranked second in the state in performance incentive funding. The University of Florida was first.

Dr. Mullens announced that Resolution 1999-2000-9 Incomplete Grades for Undergraduate Students was approved on April 28, 2000. Resolution 1999-2000-10 Travel Office to Resolve Issues was approved on June 26, 2000. Resolution 1999-2000-8 Off Campus Faculty Parking was denied on July 7, 2000, but Mr. Bill Merck is still exploring other options.

Feedback from Deans regarding the Senate's rejection of a resolution for a 3rd year informal P&T review by Deans, indicated that most believed that the Senate had turned down the opportunity for useful feedback to faculty.

Dr. Ida Cook announced that she had spoken for the Faculty Senate at the New Faculty Orientation and reception. All were invited to fully participate in Faculty Senate.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Lee Cross reported that the Committee on Committees had progressed very well on the membership of the Standing and Reporting committees. The Standing Committees are finalized and letters have been mailed. There are a few members that still need to be added to the reporting committees. Discussion continued on the limitation of years that committee members should serve on one committee. It was moved and seconded that in the future the Committee on Committees rotate committee membership to a maximum of four years on any one committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mullens reported that in his conversations with administrators and faculty, the following issues were identified:

1. Awarding "Son of TIP" funds. Dr. Schell stated that TIP would be based on performance and in numbers. What administration wants from the Senate are their ideas on modification or keeping it as it presently stands. Eligibility is currently based on productivity and selection based on performance. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the previous model of productivity, large and smaller classes, dollar amount spent, permanent salary increase or bonus, schedule of eligibility, rewarding outstanding faculty and how the \$250,000 will be allocated between colleges. With recycled funds, this will be self-sustaining in several years. Productivity requirements may systematically rule out certain excellent teachers. May need to stratify awards to reflect differing workloads in different majors and special areas. Perhaps use a factor to correct for these issues. Can not equate teaching excellence with large or small classes. It was stated that Dr. Juge had suggested the Steering Committee designate a subcommittee to address this issue. When the Steering Committee completes a final report, he would like it forwarded to his attention as soon as possible. Drs. Naval Modani, Diana Velez and Diane Wink volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. They plan to have a report for the next Steering Committee meeting on September 7, 2000.
2. Awarding new Research Incentive Program funds. It was suggested that some research funding be allocated to disciplines where outside funding is difficult to obtain. It was suggested that a subcommittee work on this issue. Drs. Glenn Cunningham and Ahmad Elshennawy volunteered to work on the subcommittee. Dr. Kirsten Hamann was recommended to serve from the Research Council. She will be invited to participate. Dr. Mullens will check with Dr. Whitehouse regarding the role of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. A suggestion was made regarding the use of tuition dollars used for funding of some of the UCF Centers rather than to support teaching.
3. PREP Professorship - Program needs a new name since there is a Provost Research Enhanced Professor program. It was agreed to forward this issue to the **Personnel Committee**.
4. Review of Pegasus Funding Model. It was recommended that this issue be forwarded to the **Budget and Administrative Committee** for their review.
5. Timing of Annual Evaluations. This issue was reviewed and voted down two years ago. The committee agreed not to pursue this issue.
6. Timing of Student Evaluations. It was decided not to pursue this issue.
7. Improved Computing Technology and Support for Faculty. There is a perception some faculty do not have the best tools to do their job. Faculty also need technical support and current software. This issue will be forwarded to the **Personnel Committee**.
8. Faculty Oversight of Research. Is research on campus properly supervised? It was stated that UCF already has an internal review process for oversight of research and the need for another level or intensity of administrative review was questioned. Dr. Mullens will review with Provost Whitehouse.
9. Formal Faculty Mentoring. This is already in process at the college, school or department level. This will be referred to the **Personnel Committee** for further review.

10. Teaching/Learning and Tenure. This has been discussed with Dr. Karen Smith, Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning. She is developing better measures of teaching. This will be forwarded to the **Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee** for further review.
11. Roles of Adjunct, Instructor and Tenure Line Faculty in student advising is a department issue. No further action is needed.
12. Changes to Current Add/Drop Policy. Any proposed change needs to be brought to the Senate. This issue was addressed last year. There needs to be enough time for every class to meet once. This issue will be referred to the **Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee** for their continued review.
13. Technology Component in GEP. This is done by individual majors. This issue will not be pursued.

OTHER

Dr. Bob Pennington requested that the Steering Committee look into the possibility of summer contracts including graduation days. If faculty work on Saturdays, they are not covered by workers compensation. Dr. Mullens stated he would communicate this issue to Provost Whitehouse.

The general issue of summer meetings for faculty with assignments which only cover teaching. This issue will be referred to the **Budget and Administrative Committee**.

Dr. Mullens stated that he plans to chair the first meetings of the Standing Committees for election of chairs.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.