

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 19, 2009
TO: All Faculty Senate Members
FROM: Ida Cook
Chair, Faculty Senate
SUBJECT: Faculty Senate Meeting on August 27, 2009

Meeting Date: Thursday, August 27, 2009
Meeting Time: 4:00-5:30 p.m. (reception begins at 5:30)
Meeting Location: Student Union Cape Florida, Room 316 (*please note the non-standard location*)

A G E N D A

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Approval of Minutes of *April 23, 2009* and *June 4, 2009***
4. **Announcements and Recognition of Guests**
 - ◆ Provost's Update
 - ◆ Textbook Affordability update – *Dr. Diane Chase*
5. **Old Business**
 - ◆ Student Perception of Instruction content revisions
(copies of the proposed revisions are available at <http://www.facultysenate.ucf.edu/>)
6. **New Business**
 - ◆ Student Perception of Instruction online implementation – *Dr. Joel Hartman*
 - ◆ H1N1 (Swine Flu) Virus response – *Dr. Bob Wirag*
 - ◆ Conflict of Interest form online implementation – *Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine*
7. **Adjournment**

A reception will follow the meeting.

Faculty Senate Meeting April 23, 2009

Dr. Manoj Chopra, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of March 26, 2009 were unanimously approved with no revisions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Provost's Update

All of the SUS presidents were in Tallahassee today for a press conference, which was well-covered. With regard to the budget, things are very tense right now. There is some reason to believe that salary cuts are no longer on the table, but that is not confirmed. The salary cuts were expected to raise \$100 million. It is possible that the \$100 million will be added to other cuts. Question: Regarding the criteria for program cuts, where is the data from? Do programs need to gather data or evidence? Answer: They are using institutional numbers. There is no need for departments or units to gather data. Until the budget cut is known, there is no advantage to having open discussions about the possibility of cutting particular programs. That could needlessly damage morale. A great deal depends on the final budget numbers. There is no way to take an additional \$57 million from the budget without significant implications for programs and personnel. In the last 23 months, they have already taken \$54 million from the budget.

Question: What should we tell students who come with questions about how the budget cuts will affect them? Answer: Tell them that first and foremost, we need to wait and see what the final budget numbers are. The stimulus money provides a two-year glide path for phasing out programs. For programs being closed, the university will work with full-time students in their last 1–1½ years to make sure they have the courses they need to graduate. Freshmen and sophomores should be advised to major in something else. If they do not wish to change majors, they should be advised of another location in the state where they could go to get their degree.

The budget situation became very acute over the weekend. Unexpectedly, the House is not compromising with the Senate on the budget. The provost and the president have begun speaking publicly about the possible repercussions of a \$57 million cut. He and other SUS presidents wish to make it clear to the legislators that cuts of that magnitude would have a drastic impact. At UCF such cuts would require cutting 330 faculty and 190 staff, which is the equivalent of 3+ colleges.

Question: Are the state universities coordinating program cuts to ensure that at least one university in the state will continue to offer a given program? Answer: The provosts have spoken generally about this, but are not at the stage yet of talking specifics. This is a very difficult thing to organize and has uncertain results. It is also not clear how much more enrollment UCF can take in some of the programs while at same time losing faculty.

Question: Might there be increased revenue from new fees or taxes? Answer: The reason why the Senate cut is so much less than the House cuts is that the Senate is proposing significant new taxes. The House opposes any new tax increases. The House has talked about increasing some fees, but the cuts to the SUS are of such a magnitude that it would take a significant revenue stream to make up the difference.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Dr. Dennis Dulniak, Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine, and Mr. Stephen Mortellaro (SGA).

OLD BUSINESS

Student Perception of Instruction – Dr. Diane Wink

Dr. Wink provided an overview of the history of the ad hoc Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI) committee. The committee has developed new SPoI forms which were presented to the Senate at the March meeting. After a discussion, the Senate chose to table the issue and have it taken up by the new Senate. During the summer, the forms will be distributed to the senators for review in preparation for next year's discussion and vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of Members

Dr. Chopra welcomed the Senators. All members of the Senate introduced themselves.

Election of Officers

As Dr. Arlen Chase, Chair of the Nominating Committee, is out of the country, Dr. Chopra spoke on his behalf. He announced the slate for elected officers for the 2009-2010 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 nomination be closed. Motion seconded and approved unanimously. Motion was made to accept the slate of nominees by acclamation. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

The Officers elected for the 2009-2010 Senate are:

Chair: Ida Cook, College of Sciences

Vice Chair: Diane Wink, College of Nursing

Secretary: Alain Kassab, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Establishment of Steering and Committee on Committees

Dr. Chopra turned the meeting over to the new Chair, Dr. Ida Cook. Dr. Cook thanked Dr. Chopra for his exemplary work as Chair of the Senate. Dr. Cook discussed the caucus process by which colleges elect members to serve on the Steering Committee and the Committee on Committees. She briefly discussed the role and duties of the Steering Committee. Once a college has reported the names of the Steering members, they will be adjourned.

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 and Humanities: Mason Cash, Keith Koons, Keith Kovach, Kathryn Seidel

College of Business Administration: Stephen Goodman, Robert Pennington

College of Education: Oliver Edwards, Stephen Sivo

College of Engineering & Computer Science: Faissal Moslehy, Alireza Rahrooh

College of Health and Public Affairs: Cynthia Brown, Reid Oetjen

College of Medicine: Henry Daniell

College of Nursing: Maureen Covelli

College of Optics: Patrick LiKamWa

College of Sciences: Arlen Chase, Kevin Belfield, John Lynwxiller, Alfons Schulte

Rosen College of Hospitality Management: Tammie Kaufman

University Libraries: Richard Gause

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

College of Arts and Humanities: Keith Koons

College of Business Administration: Robert Pennington

College of Education: Stephen Sivo

College of Engineering & Computer Science: Faissal Moslehy

College of Health and Public Affairs: Reid Oetjen

College of Medicine: Henry Daniell

College of Nursing: Maureen Covelli

College of Optics: Patrick LiKamWa

College of Sciences: Arlen Chase

Rosen College of Hospitality Management: Tammie Kaufman

University Libraries: Richard Gause

Meeting was adjourned.

Faculty Senate
Special Called Meeting
June 4, 2009

Dr. Ida Cook, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures.

Senate Officers Present: Cook, Chopra, and Kassab, Wink.

Senators Present: Cash, Dombrowski, Foster, Koons, Maunez-Cuadra, Niess, Pherigo, Scharron, Seidel, Goodman, Pennington, Bai, Edwards, Hartle, Kelley, Sivo, Coffey, Brown, Douglass, Gammonley, Oetjen, Boardman, Daniell, Gibson, Khaled, LiKamWa, Moharam, A. Chase, Lynxwiler, Rivera, Schulte.

Administrators Present: President Hitt, Provost Hickey, D. Chase, Huff-Corzine, Morrison-Shetlar.

Guests: David Kuhn, David Nickerson, William Leigh, Nancy Stanlick, John Walker, John Schultz, Joan Morris, Jana Jasinski, Jay Corzine, Dennis Dulniak, Bill Merck, Judy Monroe, Heidi Watt, Lucretia Cooney, John Schell.

Dr. Cook turned the meeting over to Dr. Hitt. Dr. Hitt provided an overview of the budget cuts that have occurred in the last two years, which total \$77 million, a 27% cut of the recurring revenue. For the coming two years, UCF has received a federal stimulus package of \$18 million per year. Those two years will serve as a glide path to allow expenditures to match the new revenue level. It will not be possible to continue to make across-the-board cuts, and it is now necessary to make targeted cuts. Five programs have been identified for the targeted cuts. They are:

- Cardiopulmonary Sciences (College of Health and Public Affairs)
- Engineering Technology (College of Engineering and Computer Science)
- Management Information Systems (College of Business Administration)
- Radiologic Sciences (College of Health and Public Affairs)
- Statistics and Actuarial Sciences (College of Sciences)

Eliminating these programs will affect 45 faculty members, six staff members, and the 1092 students who major in programs offered by those departments. The cuts will save \$6.1 million. Program closures will happen over the next two years, providing a two-year teach-out path for students in those programs. Undergraduate within 36 credit hours of completing their majors should be able to do so in the time allotted. Masters students should also be able to complete their degrees. All faculty and staff will have two semester termination notice, and some will remain employed for the full two years. (A summary spreadsheet was distributed.)

Dr. Hitt opened the floor to questions.

Question: Regarding retirees who are rehired with full salary and benefits after retirement, what is the rationale for rehiring them? Dr. Hitt responded that they bring expertise and experience to the position, and that there would not be any savings because someone else would have to be hired into that position. To the follow-up statement that the salary for rehires

total nearly \$2.5 million, the president offered to examine the issue and discuss it in a context outside the Senate meeting.

Question: If the economy rebounded, would these programs still be cut? The president responded that they most likely would be. Four of the programs have very low centrality, and it has been judged that it would make little sense to continue them. Follow-up question: Wouldn't two of the programs being cut, Radiologic Sciences and Cardiopulmonary Sciences, help with the medical school? The provost replied that these programs are available elsewhere, and it is possible that the community colleges will be offering them as Bachelor's degrees. The president added that there would be no direct tie between these programs and the medical school.

Question: Regarding the faculty and staff in terminated programs, will there be an effort made to reassign them to other programs within the university? President Hitt replied that people would be free to apply for any positions that become available, but he does not believe that central administration should dictate to a department that they must accept a faculty member from a different discipline. The provost added that making such reassignments would be counterproductive to the cost-saving effort.

In response to a request, the provost discussed the notice that will be provided to the faculty and staff in terminated programs. All affected individuals will be given at least a two-semester notice.

Question: Will there be a support system in place to assist terminated faculty with finding new positions? The president and provost both indicated a willingness to look into providing programs or system to assist, cost permitting. However, it is not clear what the administration can do to assist faculty in finding employment.

Question: How are centrality, demand, and comparative advantage being measured? Are those figures available? President Hitt provided an overview of the reasoning used to determine centrality (would UCF be what it is without this program?), demand (derived from enrollment data, application data, and the employability of graduates), and comparative advantages (does having this program make the university arguably better than its competitors?)

The provost noted that, barring any drops in enrollment or further budget cuts, the reserves should be sufficient to prevent further program cuts. Prior to now, UCF has been able to avoid program cuts due to faculty losses through attrition. In the past 24 months, UCF has lost over 200 faculty and staff. The recovery from the current budget situation is likely to be slow, and the current situation may result in a fundamental change in how universities are funded. The president added that things are not likely to return to where they were before the budget cuts began.

Question: Is there any way to inform departments that they are in a probationary status and might be at risk of being cut in the future? The president replied that these issues have been discussed between the provost and the deans, and the deans could opt to further discuss these issues with department chairs and faculty members. It is important to remember that the main drivers of these decisions are not primarily financial. Centrality and demand are a large factor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.