

FACULTY SENATE
Executive Steering Committee
Minutes
February 13, 2003

Dr. Michael A. Mullens, Chair, called the Executive Steering Committee to order at 4:10 p.m. Minutes of the January 9, 2003 meeting were unanimously approved.

Members present: Drs. Diane Wink, Ida Cook, Keith Koons, Martha Marinara, Cynthia Young, Naval Modani, Jeffrey Kaplan, Alain Kassab and Provost Gary Whitehouse.

Members absent: Drs. Ahmad Elshennawy, Janice Peterson and Arlen Chase.

Guests: Drs. John Schell, Lin Huff-Corzine and Bob Armacost.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Dr. Mullens recognized guest Dr. Armacost and Student Government Representatives. Dr. Whitehouse announced positive news regarding the budget, which includes money for growth, as much as \$20-30 million. We will need to develop a plan to show tuition growth for the next five years. There is a back up plan if funding should be below expected. We are in better shape than other campuses.

There are 63 candidates for promotion and tenure. Interviews with the provost are in progress. The good news is the credentials are great, have improved over the years, and are very uniform across campus. Dr. Mullens thanked Dr. Whitehouse for working with the Executive Steering Committee while provost.

New provost search is in progress with five current candidates. Ida Cook suggested that we need a plan to ensure faculty will attend the open meetings with the candidates. In addition to participating in the search process, it will give each applicant a positive impression of UCF faculty. **Question:** Who is in the current pool? Dr. Terry L. Hickey- Senior Vice President and Provost from the University of Akron, Dr. Gary S. Krahenbuhl - Senior Vice President from Arizona State University, Dr. Peter W. Rabideau – Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Iowa State University, Dr. Kathy Seidel – Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from University of Central Florida and Dr. Allen Soyster – Dean of Engineering and Technology from Northeastern University.

Dr. Mullens clarified that it is permissible to grant tenure in Centers. However, if Center ceases to exist, so will any tenured positions. Faculty may seek joint appointments with tenure in a department. If faculty in tenure and tenure earning positions in the Centers, they will have need for representation in senate. Apportionment is often an issue. **Question:** Is this a norm? Dr. Whitehouse commented that it's new at the University and we never had it before. The Optics/CREOL department was the first, which was an issue and the other was IST but Optics was the biggest one. **Question:** Where would we steer any questions about this concern? Dr. Whitehouse answered that he will respond to any questions or concerns.

Dr. Mullens mentioned that the audit report has been approved and is available in the library or in his office. It reflects a great degree of detail on revenue and expenditure of the University. Drs. Mullens and Cook traveled to Tallahassee to attend the ACFS meeting. There were changes related to Amendment 11. Dr. Cook represented faculty well. At this point, it's too early to determine about the budget. Bright Futures scholarships are being reviewed.

Dr. Mullens, who is an ex-officio member of the UCF Board of Trustees, announced there is a 7% mandatory increase of tuition for undergraduates and optional 5% increase for graduate students. **Question:** How would this affect students? The average undergraduate debt is \$11,000 and it is \$17,000 for graduate students.

Dr. Mullens reported the *Excellence in Service Awards* files are available and asked for volunteers to review the five candidates for this award by March 3rd. The selected volunteers for this committee are Drs. Cook, Wink and Kaplan. The Leadership Awards are coming up for leadership day and there are 15 candidates for this award. Dr. Mullens asked for volunteers, who are Drs. Modani and Marinara. The committee will need to choose a Faculty Representative and Grand Marshall from their colleges/school.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was an unanimous approval for the constitution to be sent to the Senate. The Honors College is no longer in the constitution.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mullens introduced Dr. Armacost, from University Analysis & Planning Support, who reported on research related to the effect of plus and minus grading since it was started in 2001. Dr. Armacost presented an overview and concerns regarding the grading started in 2001 and outlined the results of the study. (See attached). There was a brief discussion of how having grades calculated differently in different sections of the same course can be a problem, especially when a student does not know during registration which sections are doing which approach. Plus and minus results will be presented to the full senate at the next meeting.

Dr. Schell presented readmission policy changes from UPCC. Was cleared to send for approval for the full senate.

Dr. Modani reported the inappropriate e-community access by student. Dr. Schell commented that Scott Cole said there are no rules and policy for the use of electronic property. Will look into putting policy about inappropriate use of class email lists into the disciplinary code. Also discussed problems of sale of class notes. Easy A is not allow to advertise in front of the classroom. Dr. Schell will contact and invite Scott Cole to the next Steering meeting to discuss the disciplinary code.

Standing Committee Reports:

Budget & Administrative - No report.

UPCC – No report

Graduate Council – No report.

Personnel – No report

OTHER

Dr. Mullens stated all resolutions coming from the Standing committees must be in by the March Steering Committee meeting.

Dr. John Schell reported that the American Sign Language issue has been referred to the UPCC subcommittee, which will make recommendations to the UPCC on Tuesday, March 11th.

Meeting adjourned 5:55 p.m.

**Next Steering Committee meeting
Thursday, March 13, 2003**