

Faculty Senate Meeting February 19, 2009

Dr. Manoj Chopra, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of January 22, 2009 were unanimously approved with no revisions.

Dr. Cook motioned to move the report from Athletic Director Keith Tribble to the first item of new business. Motion was seconded and approved.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Provost Terry Hickey, Diane Chase, Allison Morrison Shetlar, Consuelo Stebbins (Academic Affairs); Dennis Dulniak (Registrar); Bernadette Jungblut, Charlene Stinard, Tace Crouse (SPOI Committee); Denise Berrios, Stephanie Garay, Greg Pawlowski (UCF Bookstore); Keith Tribble, Jessica Reo (UCF Athletics).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Board of Trustees meeting, President Hitt announced that differential tuition will be used to reduce the size of composition classes and change the approach to teaching of College Algebra.

Provost's Update

The provost is reviewing Promotion and Tenure files, and is very impressed so far with the group of faculty going up for tenure. Budget update: Preliminary news is that UCF should prepare for a 10-15% cut. The stimulus package may help indirectly by freeing up other state money. More information should become available in two to three weeks. Differential tuition money must be spent on undergraduate education except for the portion reserved for need based aid. In addition to the English and College Algebra initiatives, funds will also be put toward increasing advising. For 2009-2010, UCF is expecting \$6 million in differential tuition money of which \$1.8 million is automatically directed toward need-based financial aid, and \$500 thousand will go toward advising. The remaining money is being distributed back to the units based on credit hour production, with \$1 million first being sent to underfunded units. Because differential tuition revenue can only be used for undergraduate education, \$1 million of centrally-held non-recurring reserves will be distributed to colleges based on graduate credit hour production. Revenue from differential tuition will be growing more quickly over the next few years, ultimately bringing in \$30 million when all students are covered. A question was raised whether differential money tuition can be used to pay GTAs for undergraduate classes. The provost stated that it is not possible and that this is expressly prohibited by the statute.

Relay for Life – Dr. Chopra

Relay for Life will be taking place on March 20-21 on campus, and they would like to have greater faculty participation. An email will be sent to all senators with the event details.

OLD BUSINESS

Textbook Affordability Report from Budget & Administrative Committee - Kevin Belfield

The Budget and Administrative Committee was charged by the Steering Committee to look at best practices with regards to textbook affordability. The B&A Procedural Subcommittee examined best practices from other universities. The committee concluded that it must be a priority to get information to students early enough to allow them to make informed choices and shop around for books. A report was prepared and forwarded to the senate. The report offers several other items that faculty and departments may want to consider when selecting books or establishing procedure.

NEW BUSINESS

University Athletics Update – *Keith Tribble*

Keith Tribble, Director of Athletics, presented an update on the state of athletics with regards to academics. Mr. Tribble believes in the concept of the student-athlete and has a very strong focus on academics. The academic portion of athletics does not report to the Athletics Director; instead, it reports to Student Development and Enrollment Services. The priority of Athletics is first that the student-athletes graduate and second to compete at the championship level. Mr. Tribble has established a goal of having a collective GPA of 3.0 for student-athletes and a graduation rate of 75%. They are close to meeting the GPA goal (currently, 2.9 GPA) but the graduation rate still needs improvement (currently, 60%). Three initiatives have been implemented in the last three years: a mentoring program, a tutorial program, and the hiring of a learning specialist. All three have led to demonstrable improvement of academic performance. In 2007-2008, UCF had more students named to the C-USA Honor Roll more than any other school. Since the inception of these initiatives, no team at UCF has faced a NCAA penalty for not meeting the benchmarks for progress towards graduation. Athletics is in good shape academically but continues to work to improve.

Student Perception of Instruction (SPoI) Form Revisions – *Drs. Crouse, Jungblut, Ms. Stinard and Mr. Harrison*

The Student Perception of Instruction Ad hoc Committee has been working for about three and half years on revising the SPoI forms, and has developed three different forms for different class delivery modalities (face-to-face/ITV, web, and mixed mode.) The committee offered a brief overview of the proposed changes. Discussion of the proposed forms followed. The committee also developed a Faculty Perception of Instruction form, which would be voluntary on the part of the faculty member, and meant to be used as a record-keep tool. The committee is considering developing a separate SPoI form for GTAs. Dr. Chopra thanked the committee for their work.

Bookstore Update – *Denise Berrios, Stephanie Garay, Greg Pawlowski*

Denise Berrios, Bookstore Manager, thanked the faculty for all they have done to comply with new book order deadlines. By the end of November the bookstore had 89% of book orders in. Thirty units, including all of COHPA and CBA, submitted their complete orders by the incentive deadline. By December 1st, 90% of the Spring orders were in. The website now allows students to use their financial aid to purchase their textbooks. If the bookstore runs out of books for a class, more can be ordered through the special order program. The bookstore does not always order the full number of books requested because about 40% of the books do not sell. Faculty can look at their book order history on the bookstore website. If there will not be a book for a class, inform the bookstore of that. Upcoming book order deadlines:
Incentive deadline: Summer – March 6; Fall – March 20.

Final orders due to be in compliance: Summer – April 3; Fall – July 10.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Administrative – *Dr. Belfield reporting*

The committee has been working on the textbook affordability report.

Personnel – *Dr. Chakrabarti reporting*

The committee is working on revised guidelines for Promotion and Tenure. They will be bringing one of the more difficult issues to the next Senate meeting.

Dr. Chopra noted that the provost has approved Resolution 2007-08-05 Appointment and Evaluation of School Directors and Department Chairs (Revised), which had been passed at the January Senate meeting.

Graduate Council – *Dr. Moharam reporting*

Appeals and Awards Committee (2 meetings - 2/3, 2/17)

Dr. Ed Rinalducci is the new chair, as Dr. Reilly, past chair, has been appointed Associate Dean of Engineering. Reviewed 10+ student petitions per meeting.

Curriculum Committee (1 meeting - 2/6)

Reviewed 25+ course action and special topics requests per meeting.

The following items were approved: addition of International Masters track in Optics program; revision of MA English Literature track; revision of Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology; Suspension of MFA Theatre tracks in Acting, Musical, Theatre, and Design; Inactivation of Foreign Language Education Graduate Certificate.

Policy Committee (2 meetings - 2/5, 2/19)

Approved revisions to the Graduate Program Requirements, the Transfer of Credit Policy, and the Qualifications to Participate in Graduate Education. Revisions will be presented to the Steering Committee on March 5.

Program Review Committee (2 meetings - 1/28, 2/11)

Discussion on monitoring of student progress to degree policy.

Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee – *Dr. Pennington reporting*

The committee met and approved three items on the consent agenda: changes to Advertising/Public Relations BA, Journalism BA, and BS from Undergraduate Studies. The deadline for March 17 meeting was today. The 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog has been finalized.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Chopra announced that Faculty Senate elections should be underway in all colleges.

Dr. Diane Chase reported that she had passed along concerns expressed at the Steering meeting about problems with Webcourses. The problems with the system crashing and kicking users out have been fixed. Kerlene King (823-1667) is the contact for reporting any further problems.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made at 5:38. Motion seconded and approved.