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### Chair's Corner

By Joseph Harrington, Chair

With the legislative session coming to a close, leaders from faculty senates around the state visited Tallahassee on February 24-25 to address pending bills that affect the State University System. One would require us to leave our current accreditor, the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. Another would allow the initial rounds of presidential searches to be done in secret. Proponents hope to attract better applicants, who can lose their current jobs if their employers discover they've applied. Opponents fear it will make things easier for unqualified political candidates. A five-year post-tenure review provision was added to a bill in the last regular week of session. While the anti-gay bill does not apply to universities, it concerns faculty as educators who will teach students arriving from K-12 schools operating under that law. Another law targets Critical Race Theory instruction. We expressed our thoughts on how these bills would affect universities' ability to deliver a quality education and on the impact to Florida's #1 ranking in the nation among state university systems.

### Faculty Senate: 2/17/22

<https://youtu.be/Vr8ekevB-9g>

Chair Harrington (0:05:00): COVID, Board of Trustees, Knight Vision, University Budget Committee, Staff resignations, faculty feedback requests and legislation.

Provost Michael Johnson (0:29:00): new Transfer Center, UCF Downtown dedication, *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, faculty awards and recognitions, COVID, future plans, search updates and Founders' Day.

Provost Q&A (0:43:00): Attendance policies, student enrollment and provost appointment.

Campus Climate Report (1:35:00): Andrea Guzmán, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Cyndia Muñiz, Director of Hispanic Serving Institutions Culture and Partnerships.

Senate Meetings Webpage: [Senate Meetings and Materials \(ucf.edu\)](https://ucf.edu/senate-meetings)

## Steering: 2/3/2022

<https://youtu.be/gufhn39C1X0>

Provost Michael D. Johnson (0:02:34): *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, faculty accomplishments, COVID-19, future plans for the university, and search updates.

Provost Q&A (00:13:05): SIP results, SET/Workday

Steering Committee Webpage: [Steering Committee \(ucf.edu\)](#)

## Strategic Planning News

By Stephen King, Vice Chair

The Strategic Planning working group developed an initial framework for the UCF Strategic Plan in the fall semester, culminating in the presentation to the Board of Trustees. As a member of the working group, one critical goal that I have is for us to have effective communication and feedback from stakeholders on campus including faculty, staff, and students. Furthermore, I want to make sure that those groups, especially faculty, know that their ideas and thoughts are being seriously considered in the development of the strategic plan.

To increase our ability to interact with faculty this spring semester, Ron Piccolo, the chair of the Working group, and I have two sets of meetings in progress. First, we are meeting with the deans of all the units on campus to discuss the development of the strategic plan and how each unit can be a part of the plan. We will complete these shortly. Second, we are now beginning to schedule meetings with a wider range of faculty from those same units so that we hear those voices too. The exact mechanism for our subsequent meetings depends on nature and size of each unit, and we are working in consultation with the deans to facilitate this process. Please come when we visit your own units, and please share this information with your fellow colleagues as we discuss the future of UCF.

## Blog Posting:

by Joseph Harrington, Chair

[Senate Behind the Scenes 1: Board of Trustees](#). This is the first of two installments on what Faculty Senate leaders do behind the scenes.

## Of Note:

UCF Policies Website: <https://policies.ucf.edu/>

[The Colors of Money](#) by Gerald Hector, CFO

Faculty Senate Committee Interest Survey: [http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0xOsdQ1ZrzOPNc2](http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0xOsdQ1ZrzOPNc2)

Compliance and Ethics Survey: <https://compliance.ucf.edu/2022-ucf-compliance-and-ethics-culture-survey/>

## Upcoming Steering Committee meeting

March 31, 2022; 300 p.m. (last meeting for 2021-2022 Steering Committee)

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