

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES - February 21, 1991

Chair, Dr. Glenn Cunningham called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Dr. Fedler. Also in attendance was Dr. Stuart Lillie.

Minutes of the meeting of January 24, 1991 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Rosie Joels, Chair of the ad hoc Committee on Commencement Ceremony proposed a series of changes with regard to future commencements on campus. Following a discussion which included amendments to the original proposal, it was decided, by unanimous vote, to send the following resolution to the floor of the Faculty Senate:

RESOLUTION 1990-1991-16

Topics that warrant further consideration in regard to commencement ceremony issues:

1) Faculty attendance at commencement is perceived as important by students; therefore, faculty participation should be continued.

2) Administrators (and all twelve-month personnel on faculty lines) should be required to attend all ceremonies for their respective colleges during the year.

3) Department chairs, at the beginning of the academic year, should solicit individual faculty's commitment to participate in one ceremony during the year. This expectation should be considered part of the regular professional assignment and be reflected accordingly in the annual evaluation. Faculty should be encouraged to attend as many ceremonies as possible.

4) We strongly object to an earlier recommendation that staff be considered faculty for purposes of commencement participation.

5) An inquiry should be made into the possibility that the UCF Bookstore will provide a limited number of complimentary academic regalia rentals. Numbers of student orders would provide a basis for determining this figure, and faculty regalia allocation to separate colleges should be based proportionately on each college's number of graduates per term.

6) The senate chair is urged to select the senate platform representative and the marshall from among the university's senior faculty, beginning with those who are retiring before any other faculty are approached. This participation should be an honor for those with long service to the institution. If necessary, the marshall should be chosen from the faculty at-large, not from the senate.

7) Selection of the spring ceremony senate platform representative and marshall should be made by the outgoing senate chair.

8) With completion of the arena, the university should move to one commencement day per year, in the spring.

9) Honorary degree candidates should be recommended by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and selection criteria shall be developed by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

Dr. Taylor asked the members of the Senate Steering Committee to encourage the best students to apply for the President's Leadership Council.

LIAISONS' REPORTS: No reports.

NEW BUSINESS: The Steering Committee discussed Resolution 1990-1991-13 which focused on the proposed rank of Distinguished Professor. During the discussion, Dr. Stern brought up the issue of service, and it was agreed that the resolution should address scholarly achievement. Issues related to the number or percentage of Distinguished Professorships to be awarded was discussed, as well as the issue of apportionment among the various colleges. Though it was felt that the resolution would be hotly debated on the Senate floor, due to time constraints the Senate Steering Committee voted to send the original motion to the full Senate without amendment.

RESOLUTION 1990-1991-13

WHEREAS, the University of Central Florida has few means of recognizing distinguished scholarly achievements beyond the promotion to the rank of full professor; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to recognize and reward outstanding accomplishments in order to retain our best faculty:

Be it therefore resolved that the rank of Distinguished Professor be established at the University of Central Florida beginning in the 1992-1993 academic year. The conditions for the appointments should be the following:

1. Only faculty who hold the rank of full professor and who have served on the UCF faculty for five years are eligible.

2. Promotion to the rank of Distinguished Professor will be made by the same procedure as for tenure and promotion to other ranks.

3. The term for the Distinguished Professorship is five years and may be renewed once by the same procedure as the original appointment. The title of distinguished professor may be held by the individual for the duration of her/his tenure at the University of Central Florida.

4. No more than two faculty may be promoted to the rank of distinguished professor in any one year and no more than twelve faculty members may hold the rank at any one time. No more than one appointment can be made in any one college in a single year.

5. Distinguished professors will receive at least \$5,000 per year in addition to their regular salary.

6. Individuals, companies, or corporations making contributions to the UCF Foundation may request that their donations be directed to the Distinguished Professorship Program.

Resolution 1990-1991-14, which focused on an evaluation process for endowed chairs, was discussed. Dr. Mark Stern brought up the problem of limiting the time of appointment, mentioning that this clause might drive away candidates. After discussion it was voted unanimously to take the resolution to the floor of the Senate, if the Personnel Committee would agree to accept a friendly amendment which stipulated that appointments would be for renewable five-year terms, subject to evaluation. The text of the original resolution follows:

RESOLUTION 1990-1991-14

WHEREAS, endowed chairs represent a window of excellence for university, students, and faculty, be it resolved:

1. Effective immediately, all endowed chairs will be appointed to a five year term. In exceptional circumstances this appointment will be renewable for one five year term.

2. In selecting an endowed chair, the dean of the college will appoint a committee of professorial faculty representing the academic discipline to nominate an individual for initial appointment or reappointment. In addition to meeting rigorous qualifying criteria, the successful appointee will be recommended for the rank of professor with tenure by a vote of the

professorial faculty within his or her academic department.

3. Performance of endowed chairs will be evaluated annually. Established faculty evaluation procedures in the academic department of assignment will be followed in evaluating endowed chairs.

The Steering Committee then discussed Resolution 1990-1991-15. It was agreed, with minor wording changes and the elimination of particular paragraphs, to send the resolution to the Senate. The vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 1990-1991-15

Whereas the listing of religious holidays in the University Calendar for purposes of scheduling tests to accommodate such holidays may be interpreted as an endorsement of religion, and

Whereas it is not feasible to list the holidays for all such faiths so as to represent diverse cultures and faiths in a fair and equitable manner, be it therefore resolved:

The Faculty Senate recommends that only university holidays be listed in the catalog and that the following sentences be placed at the end of each term calendar:

"Faculty are encouraged to allow make-up tests and examinations for students who are absent from class due to religious holidays. A student should provide, in advance, written notice of the holiday and of his or her intent to be absent."

OTHER:

It was announced that the new version of the ethics report would be distributed in the near future. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will meet to discuss this report on Wednesday, February 27, 1991, at 4:00 p.m.

Dr. Stuart Lilie told the Faculty Senate Steering Committee that Endowed Chairs still cost the university money, and that \$2 million dollars might be required, instead of the current \$1 million dollars.

Dr. Cunningham then presented the Committee with a state report. He mentioned that bills were currently being filed in the Florida State Legislature to move the number of classroom teaching contact hours to 12 or 15. It was also being suggested that the State of Florida take control of Sponsored Research overhead. Moreover, it was being proposed in Tallahassee to require all university faculty to obtain 20 hours in pedagogy instruction. With regard to efficiency, Dr. Cunningham told the Steering Committee that increased degree efficiency was being considered, which would in essence limit or prohibit students from taken "extraneous" courses. Moreover, in light of the budgetary problems, a 25% tuition increase was being considered, while other sources of revenue would be decreased. Dr. Cunningham said that a 3% increase for SUS was being proposed, but that this would have to be taken out of current operating budgets. In the main, these bills and proposals were being initiated by legislative staff members.

Dr. Cunningham announced that Faculty Senate election materials had been sent to the colleges.

All the business planned for today could not be taken care of so a special meeting will be called for next Wednesday, February 27, 1991, at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.