

Faculty Senate Meeting

January 17, 2008

Dr. Manoj Chopra, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order of reconvening of the November 29 2007 Faculty Senate meeting at 4:06 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures.

Recognition of Guests

Dr. John Schell was recognized and circulated copies of the Provost's Update on the Budget message to the UCF Faculty sent via email on January 11, 2008.

BOT Update - Dr. Chopra reporting

As per the finance committee of BOT, the state of FL budget remains short for the current year and UCF can anticipate that an additional 3.8% reduction will be implemented as a hold back. However, Governor Crist's proposed budget for next fiscal year does include a request for enrollment growth money, increases in the medical school funding, and \$60 million for new Centers of Excellence. Further, his budget has no tuition increase for 2008-2009. The message is underscored with the emphasis that the governor does not appropriate funds rather the state legislature sets the state budget. Dr. Chase reminded senators that there will be an automatic increase in tuition based on the CPI.

The UCF BOT approved the proposed College of Medicine faculty practice plan; expansion of the recreation and wellness center; and for first time, UCF will assume ownership of two Greek houses that will then be leased to the Greek organizations. The Pike house near Alafaya Trail will be demolished.

Academic Integrity Week at UCF - Dr. Schell reporting

Integrity week will be held during the last week of January, 2008 with the activities to include a presentation by the CEO of turnitin.com. A report from the executive director of the agency that conducted the UCF academic integrity Survey will take place and also a discussion regarding a possible transcript grade for cheating.

Other Announcements - Dr. Chopra reporting

The UCF differential tuition bill for next year is in progress and has current support in Senate and House to incorporate the language.

Faculty Constitution Revisions - Dr. Cook reporting

Dr. Cook presented the topic areas under consideration for revision. Senators were in agreement to consider the final approval of recommended changes to constitution as two different parts: Part One as topic items One (1) and topic items Four (4) through Twelve (12). Then, Part Two as a discussion of topic items Two (2) and Three (3).

- Topic Items One and Topic Items Four through Twelve -

The motion from floor was to approve Items One and Items Four through Twelve as written. The motion was seconded, no discussion, voted on unanimously for approval.

- Consideration of Topic Item Two (2) -
Senators discussed the inclusion of instructors in the apportionment of the senate. There was concern expressed regarding the terminology of the description of an instructor at UCF. Senators stated the importance of enfranchisement of instructors at the university. The inclusion of instructors in the apportionment would allow colleges with a larger number of instructors to receive greater representation.

After extensive discussion on the issue of inclusion in the apportionment, the recommended changes in the description of the UCF instructor for this topic motion shall read: ... full-time, regular, non-visiting instructor....

The friendly amendment passed; then, the question was called and all were in favor. The motion to approve Topic Two with the additions made, seconded and passed with three opposed.

- Consideration of TOPIC THREE (3):
Inclusion of instructors in the membership of the Faculty Senate - there was extensive discussion regarding the proposed change in the constitution. In some departments, the instructor has a full teaching load and no service; in others, the instructor may have some service. There was concern about the message sent to administration should the membership in the Faculty Senate be extended to include instructors rather than tenured and tenure earning faculty representing the academy. A review of other universities in the state of FL found that no other university currently has instructors elected to membership in the Faculty Senate.

The original motion to change the wording of the Faculty Constitution in regard to Topic Item Three was voted upon - the motion did not carry.

Topic Item Three will remain as currently written in the current Faculty Constitution.

Action: Dr. Chopra will forward the recommended changes in the Faculty Constitution to President Hitt.

Review of the Process:

Pending the review and approval by the President, President Hitt will then call the Faculty Assembly, allowing for the required 30 day notice to faculty. Faculty would then vote for approval at the called Faculty Assembly.

Recognition of the Faculty Constitution Review Committee:

Dr. Chopra made the motion to extend public thanks and appreciation to the members of the Faculty Constitution Review Committee: Drs. Ida Cook, Aubrey Jewitt, Robert Pennington and Arlen Chase.

Motion seconded, unanimous approval from the Faculty Senate.

Adjournment -

Meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.