

University of Central Florida
Faculty Senate
January 24, 2002

Dr. Michael Mullens, Chair, Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Minutes of November 29, 2001 were unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Drs. John Schell and Lin Huff-Corzine

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dr. Mullens recognized Provost Gary Whitehouse. Dr. Whitehouse reported on the budget situation. Net cuts this year are 4.22%. Three point five million excess in tuition funds will be distributed to the colleges. Additional funding is anticipated. UCF is in a better position than we expected.

At present it is unknown where we will stand in relation to a revenue estimating conference. Next meeting deferred until March 2002. Specials have been cut but not as much as expected. TIP and RIA funded at 3/4 level of last year. TIP has 30 new and 14 recycles. RIA will have 19 new and 3 recycles.

Governor's budget has been released with recommendation of funding of about 48 million in enrollment dollars a large percentage of which would come to UCF. In addition 5-10% tuition increase was recommended.

Modeling and Simulation PhD program was approved, first new PhD program to go through the new system. Several faculty were recognized during the Board meeting. Scott Cole, new general counsel, was introduced. He has experience with the State of Florida and the SUS. Provost Whitehouse also reported that the new sports complex was named for Wayne Densch. The Strategic Planning mission statement was approved, and the Metropolitan Center for Regional Studies was also approved. The BOT took a tour of several locations on campus with new programs.

A question was raised as to any faculty raises next year. News reports are that governor is recommending merit bonuses only. There is uncertainty of level where salary decisions will be made. Intention at UCF is to attempt to make all salary raises as expected. See latest FYI from the Provost's Office for additional information.

Dr. Mullens asked Dr. Schell to share information on news reports about cuts in retirement funding. This is in the state program only not in the DROP. Will not impact anyone already in system. There is enough money in the fund; therefore, it is an actuarial change only. DROP has been reopened.

President Hitt is presently looking for President's Leadership Council students. Please encourage eligible students. Students need a 3.0 GPA and 60 hours.

Freshmen applications for fall semester 2002 are up 14% from last year. We get approximately 28% of all AA transfers.

Leadership week will be February 16 – 24th. Deadline for nominations for Faculty Leadership Award is January 31, 2002. Dr. Mullens asked for volunteers to serve on the selection committee. Dr. Wink volunteered to serve for the College of Health and Public Affairs. With no other volunteers, Dr. Mullens stated he would assign faculty from other colleges/units.

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation on Student Perception of Instruction

Dr. Charles Dziuban presented the outcome on the “Study of Student Perception of Instruction at UCF” conducted with Drs. Alvin Wang and Ida Cook. A Technical Appendix with several tables (UCF Instructional Items and BOR Items) was distributed. Dr. Dziuban summarized the research on student ratings and the relationships between student ratings and environmental conditions according to Drs. H.W. Marsh and L.A. Roche.

Study of faculty and departmental identification were stripped out of data before analysis. Only factors used were college, lower and upper level and year of study.

Correlations among items are big with median approximately .7; correlation between UCF and BOR .92 Reliabilities of UCF and BOR forms are high. There is only one factor in UCF data, but not too useful. Overall rating of the instructor is most strongly related to other items. The items have a characteristic distribution. Fully 90% in good/excellent range on all the items. Most strongly related is “overall rating of instructor.”

Ratings by modality: very similar with highest excellent in web courses and lowest on ITV (20% excellent vs. 40-50+% for others).

Also completed decision tree analysis. Example presented. Yielded several if/then decision rules.

Rule #1`:

If “Facilitation of learning” rates as excellent or very good, then probability of overall rating of Excellent is .93

Rule # 2:

If “Instructor is interested in your learning” and “Organization of the course” and “Respect and concern for student,” and “Communication of ideas” are excellent and “Facilitation of learning” is very good -> poor, the probability of overall rating of excellent is .84 and then probability of overall rating of fair or poor is. 00

Rule # 3:

If rating on “Instructor is interested in your learning” and “Respect and concerns of students” and “Expresses expectations of student performance” are excellent and rating on “Communication of ideas” is excellent or very good, and rating on “Communication of ideas” excellent or very good and rating on “Organization of course” is very good or good and rating on “Facilitation of learning” *is very good to poor* and rating on “Use of class time” is excellent or very good, then probability of overall rating of excellent is .798 and probability of overall rating of fair to poor is .000.

Rule one seems to work because you provide a facilitative climate.

Rues 2 and 3 get it because of supportive environment and organization of course.

Rules work for all by ITV courses.

This is all a study of a student perception and therefore there is no way to be sure how students are interpreting any one statement. Ambiguities related to this phrase "facilitates learning."

Not related to grades in any way. Not related to class size. This data is available and could be analyzed.

At present there are two large national studies in progress. Relationships between studies and results at UCF have been identified.

Discussion: Would outcome for large classes be the same as ITV class? Could also look at day vs. evening classes. Both could be examined.

What was reason for initiating study and what do we do from here? The Steering Committee had been requested to institute the study. Report needs to be accepted and a decision made as to whether additional recommendations/resolutions would be made. A motion was made and seconded to accept the continuation of the study. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Robert Pennington read the resolution brought forth by the Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee. The issue is that the rule exists but can be petitioned. There are frequent petitions and they are now generally accepted. This resolution addresses the problem.

With 30 or 36 needed at UCF. This would allow the student needing one or two courses elsewhere to do so without a need for a petition.

Resolution 2001-2002-4 Change the Interruption of Residency requirement Policy for UCF

Whereas, the current UCF residency policy requires that the last 30 hours of a UCF degree must be at UCF, and

Whereas, a waiver to the 30 hour residency requirement is routinely granted,

Be It Resolved, that the residency policy be revised as follows:

Baccalaureate students must complete a minimum of 30 of their last 36 hours at UCF.

To better communicate this requirement, all majors should include mandatory residency requirements in their program descriptions.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the resolution.

Standing Committee Reports

Budget and Administrative Committee

Dr. Arlen Chase reported on salary compression. Presently working on a resolution that will go to the Personnel Committee for their review. Also discussing phone costs. Looking into the possibility of cellular phones as a means for lowering costs in the departments. The Chemistry Department will do a trial study.

Graduate Council

Dr. David Hagan reported that the Appeals Subcommittee plans to meet soon to review the folders to select the recipient of the Graduate Teaching Award.

The Course Review and New Programs Subcommittee has met twice and approved the following proposals in December:

- 1) MS Track in Miniature Engineering Systems
- 2) Physical Education Health/Wellness Certificate Program
- 3) Physical Education Coaching Certificate Program.

At the January meeting the Committee discussed and approved the MS in Hospitality Management. Also discussed a Graduate Certificate Program in Special Education, from the College of Education, and a Third Track to masters in Political Science from the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Graduate Procedures and Policy subcommittee has not met since the last Senate meeting. The Committee is looking into reviewing new admissions policies, and the present Florida criteria that uses the GRE. They are planning on having presentations on admission criteria from each college.

Personnel Committee

Dr. Sophia Dzielgielewski reported that the Committee had agreed not to resubmit the resolution on Formal Mentoring. They are presently developing a resolution on computer scoring. A resolution will be forwarded to the Steering Committee. A resolution is also in the development process on the Distinguished Chair's Award. Issues of on-line student perception of instruction are being addressed. The Committee is working on a resolution to have these available on line as well as in UCF Library.

Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee

Dr. Robert Pennington reported that the next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2002. The Committee is working on two resolutions to be forwarded to the Steering Committee. One resolution to change the Gordon Rule "C" requirement policy for UCF and the second to require all minors to contain a minimum of 18 semester hours at UCF. The Committee discussed and passed several degree proposals.

Other:

Question: Since the Board of Trustees meet on the same day as the Faculty Senate, can they be invited to the Senate meeting? Generally meetings have overlapped but this has not always happened. The next BOT meeting is set for March 27, 2002. Dr. Cook spoke in support of the idea. Provost Whitehouse suggested inviting members of the Educational Programs Committee. It was the will of the body to support the suggestion.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.