

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Minutes - June 1, 1989

Chair, Dr. Rosie Joels called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

All members were present, with the exception of P. Sommerville, N. Modani, N. McLain, and D. Ratusnik. Drs. M. While and M. Edwards represented the colleges of Education and Health respectively.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Student Union Construction - Driggers Field

Dr. Joels presented the latest developments in the ongoing controversy between Administration and Student Government over the proposed site of the new Student Union. The Administration proposes Driggers Field and the Student Government proposes Pegasus Circle. After much discussion of the matter, it was moved and seconded that the following resolution be made:

Be it resolved that the members of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee (or their disignees) support the plan that Pegasus Circle be preserved as a natural area and that the Student Union be constructed on Driggers Field.

The resolution passed unanimously.

The question was raised as to what would become of the present Student Activities Center after construction of the new Student Union.

2. Budget Specials

Dr. Joels informed the committee that the Provost has proposed that monies be appropriated from the UCF Budget for 2 special funds:

1. \$200,000 - for special projects which would be disbursed with the concurrence of the Academic Planning Committee
2. \$140,000 -to attract outstanding faculty.

Dr. Joels opposes both.

There was much discussion and it was agreed that if these Budget Specials are approved that disbursements should be made only on the recommendation of an elected faculty committee.

3. Ideas for UCF Foundation

Dr. Joels informed the committee that Patrick M. Morley, incoming President of the UCF Foundation, approached her regarding faculty input as to possible projects for the twelve million dollar Foundation endowment. During her conversation with Mr. Morley, Dr. Joels thought of three possible projects.

Before revealing her ideas to the committee, Dr. Joels solicited recommendations from the committee as to projects that they feel would be appropriate. The committee offered the following:

1. additional funding for sabbatical leaves
2. funding for faculty to attend major discipline meetings and conferences as "learners"
3. monies for publishing
4. increased funds for scholarships, especially for freshmen
5. the Library needs additional money for books and journals
6. the Library would benefit from an endowment
7. additional money for Library on-line computer searches.

Dr. Joels then shared her ideas with the committee:

1. A five year goal to offer full four year scholarships to every valedictorian in each high school in UCF's 13 county area, not based on need, but 100% on academic merit.

The committee concurred with the merit of such a plan.

2. Funding for a Distinguished Visiting Professor or Scholar Program similar to the Dean Rusk position at the University of Georgia. The position would be full faculty line, for only one semester or one full year maximum, and be offered to a candidate of national or international renown. Dr. Joels clarified her vision of a UCF plan by offering a report of the Dean Rusk program at UG. Dr. Joels stated that Mr. Morley had requested she compile a "White Paper" setting forth the rationale, objectives, benefits and costs of instituting such a program.

She also shared two areas of concern:

1. that there might be some faculty resentment
2. safeguards might be necessary to preclude the visitor from becoming permanent faculty.

Discussion followed with the primary concern being guidelines as to how the candidates are selected, and that faculty should have final recommendation. Along the same line of thought it was suggested that perhaps there should be less emphasis on endowed chairs and more emphasis on recruitment of a number of well known faculty. There was also some concern that perhaps Library, scholarship, and faculty travel matters should have a higher priority.

3. Additional Items

1. A committee member expressed great concern that a student had a spell and passed out in her class, and it took twenty minutes for assistance to arrive. In addition, the student had previously reported to the Health Center and was given medication, and the Health Center refused to give any information as to what medication they had dispensed. In the discussion that followed it was unanimously agreed that an institution of this magnitude (equal to a small city) should have a trained paramedic on duty. It was suggested that Student Government might consider funding such a service.

2. It was generally agreed that the new final class rolls are far inferior to the previous format. Dr. Joels will contact Dr. Micarelli regarding this matter.

3. The question was raised regarding the possibility of an 11 point grading system. It was noted that this had been previously considered in the Senate and voted down.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy P. Klintworth, Secretary
UCF Faculty Senate