

FACULTY SENATE
Steering Committee
Minutes
March 13, 2003

Dr. Michael A. Mullens, Chair, called the Steering Committee to order at 4:05 p.m. Minutes of the February 13, 2003 meeting were unanimously approved.

Members present: Drs. Ida Cook, Keith Koons, Martha Marinara, Consuelo Stebbins, Cynthia Young, Naval Modani, Jeffrey Kaplan, Alain Kassab, Janice Peterson and Diane Wink.

Members absent: Drs. Arlen Chase and Ahmad Elshennawy.

Guests: Drs. John Schell, Lin Huff-Corzine, Haven Sweet, Michael Johnson, Patricia Bishop and Stephen Goodman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Dr. Wink reported on progress of the Provost Search. Three candidates have been interviewed and two additional candidates coming in the week after spring break. Dr. Peter Rabideau will be here Tuesday, March 25 and Wednesday, March 26. Dr. Allen Soyster will be here Thursday, March 27 and Friday, March 28. All senate members are asked to spread the word about the interviews to allow continued participation by faculty.

Dr. Mullens asked if anyone had additional responses to the graduate student who emailed concern about a UCF faculty member's history. Dr. Cook stated her thanks for the university's response to this situation.

Plus minus grading

There is a request for Dr. Armacost to meet with faculty and students in an Ad Hoc committee meeting to continue to monitor plus minus grading. There is a request from the students to readdress the use of plus/minus grading. There will be general discussion of history of the proposal and current concerns. Mr. Pena has come to Dr. Mullens with concerns about plus/minus. One item had some support, e.g. making use or non-use of plus/minus in a particular section of a course. Motion to establish a committee to allow dialog with student government about plus/minus issues. Seconded and approved with one opposition and one abstention. Drs. Ida Cook and Jan Peterson volunteered to work on this committee.

Search Committee

Issue about discussion of search related items outside of search committee meetings came up during search process. University counsel expressed opinion that discussion can occur only at noticed committee meeting. Dr. Mullens raised concern that such a process makes it difficult for members to reflect on the process. May need to notice a meeting, which would be for general discussion.

Old Business

None

New Business

Faculty requirements re: international students – Drs. Schell and Bishop reported a four-person committee is meeting to examine issues related to these issues. Draft of their minutes (not yet approved by the committee) shared to allow Steering Committee to be aware of the many issues related to immigration services new rulings about international students. Committee will meet again to finish agenda. Also have a workgroup to get feedback on recommendations. Dr. Mullens commented that most of the items would be transparent to faculty. One item relates to on-line

programs and a possible need for approval of an online program. International students cannot enroll in more than 3 credits online in one semester so they cannot be in a fully online program. Dr. Bishop also spoke about issues related to international students. Includes all international students including those from Canada.

Student Email Address Policy – Dr. Schell

Problem with communication with students because we do not have accurate email addresses has been identified. Policy presented which will be in catalog and Golden Rule, and will hopefully be put in UCF Future each semester.

Question raised about student misuse of email system. Dr. Schell reports that you can copyright lecture only if delivered word for word. Only two ways we can discipline a student who is selling class notes is to change state law or to write into Golden Rule discipline code, which addresses this issue. Such a code may not hold up in court because of free speech rules. Have checked with other campus across state. Some are trying to control but several have decided to stop trying to stop such actions. Notes cannot be sold via UCF system.

Faculty Senate Officers

Committee to develop slate for Faculty Senate Officers for next year. Dr. Cook, Modani, Koons will be on committee. Motion to approve these three members, seconded and unanimously approved.

Sick Leave Pool Committee

Dr. Huff-Corzine requested volunteers for the Sick Leave Pool Committee. Dr. Kaplan volunteered to be on the committee.

Resolutions for consideration:

Sustainable policy for funding GRA tuition waivers

Drs. Bishop and Goodman reported on potential resolution looking at tuition support for graduate tuition waivers. Found no formal policy in existence. Funds for this are from diverse sources and there is great uncertainty in process. Policy and Procedure subcommittee drafted a resolution (working draft distributed). Dr. Goodman reviewed content of resolution. The committee is recommending full tuition support for all graduate teaching assistants. Provost Whitehouse noted this would have serious financial implications and would not be supported. Impact would be hard to project. Current support is \$7.25 million. To do the same thing next year would cost over \$11 million. To do for all graduate assistants would be \$14 million. Dr. Bishop noted that both tuition and number of graduate assistants numbers are going up steeply. Suggested committee obtain input from budget committee and others before resolution is put forward to address this important issue. Also need to look at responsibility of researchers to support their students. There are some federal rules stating that rules for students supported by grants must be the same as for all students in same group (e.g. graduate assistants).

Concern that we may need to put such a heavy tuition share in grants, we would not be competitive but this is one source which needs to be explored by examining what is done elsewhere. Multiple other concerns discussed. Felt not ready to recommend a resolution with a funding model but did want this to be examined on a committee with faculty participation so this can be addressed. Dr. Whitehouse noted the \$11 million for next year has been found but a policy is needed. We have been given permission by state to collect and keep our own tuition and also to waive tuition if desired.

Many institutions do not have full waivers. Question as to number of international students. 90% in engineering but much smaller in all other colleges with about 50% overall. Need a predictable

policy. Over 2000 students are not paid for. Question if resolution focused on consistency and creation of a formal policy would be viable. Answer: Yes.

Dr. Cook suggested this could just be delegated to graduate council, budget committee and research council. Dr. Goodman stated this is consistent with the desires of the graduate council. Resolution from Research Council made and revised by Steering Committee to read (after multiple friendly amendments):

Whereas it is critical that we have a sustainable and predicable policy for funding of graduate assistant tuition.

Be it resolved that this be delegated to the graduate council, budget committee and research council and other interested parties with goal of development of such a policy by early Fall 2003.

This resolution will be added to the senate agenda.

Agenda for next Faculty Senate meeting:

- ◆ Resolution relating to sexual orientation
- ◆ Resolutions from Personnel Committee developed by Parking and Traffic Subcommittee. Three resolutions submitted. Copies distributed.

Worked with several members of current Parking and Traffic Committee. Met with committee on February 14, 2003. Have asked for more data and faculty will need to have data presented at next meeting. Motion to place all three resolutions on agenda for next senate meeting. Made, seconded and approved unanimously. Dr. Marinara will work with committee to edit some portions for clarity.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget & Administrative – Dr. Arlen Chase. No report.

UPCC – Dr. Jeffrey Kaplan Course review committee met, no concerns. No quorum at UPCC. Dr. Schell reported two items which appear to be non controversial but they could just vote on these issues as usual. American Sign Language issue was not addressed. Point raised that any changes in programs of study or university requirements (such as there may be related to American Sign Language) must follow published procedures. Dr. Modani stated that if American Sign Language is accepted as a foreign language, programs would need to go through the curriculum process to change programs and courses. Many procedures would also be needed. If made a foreign language would we have to make them 1000 and 2000 level courses. These are funded differently and could allow more students to meet course requirements at community college. Some majors may not meet upper division requirements.

Graduate Council – Dr. Alain Kassab. No report

Personnel – Dr. Cynthia Young. No report. Did have several resolutions (see above). Other subcommittees are examining resolutions, which will have to be addressed next year. Could present information to next steering and then items can be presented next year.

Meeting adjourned 6.05p.m.

*Next Steering Committee meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2003*