



# Faculty Senate

## Steering Committee

Minutes for meeting of Thursday, November 16, 2023, 3:00 pm

Location: In person in the Charge on Chamber, Student Union Room 340

Recording Link:

[https://ucf.zoom.us/rec/share/Ut0eZbGqiWhHFs00Bbo\\_wAkryDH6umK6z2QYitdwDjxt4QMAVu3zbHGYgXgCIYI2.VDjwXluZic66Bir2](https://ucf.zoom.us/rec/share/Ut0eZbGqiWhHFs00Bbo_wAkryDH6umK6z2QYitdwDjxt4QMAVu3zbHGYgXgCIYI2.VDjwXluZic66Bir2)

Passcode: at!+u1sH

- 1) Quorum reached and Chair King called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm
- 2) Roll Call via Qualtrics. Faculty Senate Chair Stephen King, Vice Chair Keri Watson, Secretary Kristine Shrauger, and Acting Past Chair William Self were present.  
*(See meeting materials Attachment A for list of participants)*
- 3) [00:04:56] Approval of Minutes of October 19, 2023 - Approved.
- 4) Recognition of in person guests
  - a) Joe Harrington, Interim Associate Vice President for Research and Scholarship
  - b) Jana Jasinski, Vice Provost, Faculty Excellence
- 5) Announcements
- 6) [00:05:22] Report of the Senate Chair–
  - BOG meeting update and how the Board of Governors considered the proposed Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures
  - BOT meeting update where meeting was full of energy and meaningful discussion about planning where UCF needs to go in the future.  
*(For full report, please see attachment B.)*
- 7) [00:12:58] Report of the Provost – Vice Provost Jana Jasinski spoke on Provost Johnson’s behalf.
  - a) Vice Provost Jana Jasinski spoke of waiting for greater clarity regarding proposed Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures. Today is Matt Hall, Chief Information Officer’s last day. An interim will be appointed shortly. The Office of Research and the Workday team will be updating the PI-dashboard the week after Thanksgiving. There will be training sessions for faculty the week of November 27th and December 4th.  
*(For full report, please see attachment C)*
- 8) Unfinished Business
- 9) [00:25:45] New Business
  - a) Resolution 2023-2024-5 BOG Regulation 9.016: Prohibited Expenditures.  
Motion made to Approve. Discussion ensued. Resolution amended. Approved.  
Motion to approved Resolution 2023-2024-5 BOG Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures passed.



# Faculty Senate

- b) [01:14:25] Resolution 2023-2024-4 Bylaws Amendment: Senate Meeting Modality

Motion made to approve. Discussion ensued. Motion made to send Resolution 2023-2024-4 Bylaws Amendment: Senate Meeting Modality to the Bylaws Committee for further evaluation passed.

- c) [01:43:28] Senate Agenda for December 7, 2023.

Motion made to bring Paul Dosal, Senior Vice President for Student Success to come to the December 7th, 2023 meeting to speak on the topic of New Advising Plan for Student Success. Motion approved.

- d) [01:47:24] Preliminary Senate Agenda for January 18, 2024

Motion made to bring Gerald Hector, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, for a workday update. Motion approved.

- e.) [01:48:31] University Excellence in Professional Service Committee

Volunteers needed to serve on the University Excellence in Professional Service Committee. The following people agreed to serve on the committee: Danny Seigler, Leslee D'Amato, Linda Walters, and Stephen King.

- 10) [01:50:30] Committee Reports –

- a) **B&A Committee:** Keri Watson, Chair of B&A Committee
- b) **IT Committee:** Joe Kider, Steering Liaison for IT Committee
- c) **Personnel Committee:** Kristina Tollefson, Steering Liaison for Personnel Committee
- d) **Research Committee:** Linda Walters, Chair of Research Council
- e) **Graduate Council:** Danny Seigler, Steering Liaison for Graduate Council
- f) **Undergraduate Council:** Tina Chiarelli, Chair of UCRC, Steering Liaison for Undergraduate Council

- 11) Other Business

- 12) [02:00:10] Adjournment: 5:00 pm.

Reviewed and submitted for approval by

*Kristine J. Shrauger*      11/28/2023

Kristine J. Shrauger

2022-2023 Steering Committee Attendance

Last Name	First Name	08/24/23	09/21/23	10/19/23	11/16/23	01/04/24	02/01/24	02/29/24	03/28/24	Total Meetings Attended
<b>Faculty Senate Leadership</b>										
King	Stephen	1	1	1	1					4
Watson	Keri	1	1	1	1					4
Shrauger	Kristine	1	1	1	1					4
Self	William	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Arts and Humanities</b>										
Cash	Mason	1	1	1	1					4
Tollefson	Kristina	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Business Administration</b>										
Gallo	James	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Community Innovation and Education</b>										
Seigler	Daniel	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Engineering and Computer Science</b>										
Kauffman	Jeffrey	1	1		1					3
Proctor	Michael	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Graduate Studies</b>										
Kider	Joe	1	1	1						3
<b>College of Health Professions and Sciences</b>										
Lopez Castillo	Humberto	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Medicine</b>										
Chiarelli	Tina	1	1	1						3
<b>College of Nursing</b>										
D'Amato-Kubiet	Leslee	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Optics and Photonics</b>										
Schulzgen	Axel	1	1	1	1					4
<b>College of Sciences</b>										
Schulte	Alfons	1	1	1	1					4
Walters	Linda	1	1	1	1					4
<b>Rosen College of Hospitality Management</b>										
Semrad	Kelly	1	1	1	1					4
<b>University Libraries</b>										
Murphey	Missy	1	1	1						3
<b>Total Present</b>		19	19	18	16	0	0	0	0	

1=Present

\*Summer meetings do not count for or against a senator's attendance

## November 16<sup>th</sup> steering committee chair report

I'll provide updates from the Board of Governors meeting that occurred last week and the Board of Trustees meeting that occurred earlier today.

As I mentioned at the full senate meeting 2 weeks ago, the Board of Governors considered the proposed Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures.

The single faculty member and the single student member of the BOG each spoke against the regulation and there were multiple members of the public that spoke against the regulation in the public comment period. However, the regulation was ultimately passed with the same wording I reported on at Senate 2 weeks ago. Honestly, this was the expected outcome.

There was a surprise move during the BOG meeting on Regulation 8.005 General Education Core Course Options. But to talk about that surprise, I need to start with some background.

The Board of Governors oversaw the process of reviewing General Education Core Course Options by utilizing Committees with faculty members from the SUS institutions that were subject area experts. The committees generally proposed keeping things the same, with the addition of both *Introduction to Geology* and *Introduction to Oceanography* to the list of Natural Science classes.

The surprise came when during the committee stage, a Governor proposed to change the courses in the Social Sciences by **removing** *Principles of Sociology* and replacing it with *Introductory Survey to 1877*. This change was approved **over the objections** of the faculty and student members, and is in the process of being approved as a General Education Core Course Options. This is clearly not well thought out. In the Social Sciences section of courses, how can you remove the only dedicated sociology course as a General Education Core Course Options?

When I sent the email to all faculty mentioning the prohibited Expenditures Regulation, I wish I had included discussion of the change to Regulation 8.005 General Education Core Course Options as well. I encourage faculty

to individually comment on both Regulations within the next week on the Comment website that is listed in the email that went out on Tuesday.

Overall, the BOG meeting was quite depressing, with only a few sprinkled notes of positive actions or changes.

*[note added after steering: I sent an email message including information about BOG Regulation 8.005 on November 17<sup>th</sup> ]*

**Now to the Board of Trustees meeting that occurred today.** In stark contrast to the BOG meeting, the BOT meeting was full of energy and meaningful discussion about planning where UCF needs to go in the future.

There was open discussion of both the positives and negatives, with a candid appreciation of the headwinds we are facing.

Some notable topics brought to the board included:

Two new MS degree programs-  
an MS in Health Sciences  
and an MS in Robotics and Autonomous Systems.

The BOT also discussed:

A new Academic Advising plan to improve student success, (we will address this later in the agenda)

A University Planning Structure to focus strategic resources in alignment with the UCF Strategic plan,  
and

A Space Utilization Study that focused on Research Space needs now and into the future

For all three of these topics there was useful and critical discussion  
As the **sole Faculty member on the BOT**, I will continue to do my best to provide **meaningful faculty input** into the ways UCF is moving toward its Strategic Goals.

# UCF Faculty Senate Steering Committee Update

Thursday, November 16, 2023 | 3 to 5 p.m.

Charge On Chamber, Room 340, Student Union

- Thank you, Steve.
- The provost is attending the Board of Trustees meeting today, but I'm happy to provide some brief updates today on his behalf.
- As Steve has mentioned, we've been waiting for greater clarity from the state regarding DEI and prohibited expenditures, and an approval process must still run its course before we know exactly what is to come. The BOG's related reg posted for public comment through next Thursday could change some by when the board approves it, which will likely be in late January. We will share more as we know more. BOG regulation 8.005 is also available for comment. This is the regulation that discusses general education requirements.
- There were two provost emails this week to the campus community.
- Yesterday was Chief Information Officer Matt Hall's last day at UCF. The provost named Dean Sheila Amin of the Burnett Honors College to temporarily lead UCF IT while continuing in her dean role. Dean Sheila's is a collaborative leader who will help keep the workflow and UCF IT progressing as we review our IT and operations in looking toward permanent leadership. The provost said he expects a short search.
- Also, following up on his Senate report from last month, the provost outlined UCF's new undergraduate advising model geared to advancing student success and our efforts to reach preeminence. If you haven't read his email, I refer you to it for more on how advising and coaching at UCF are intended to work for the better in the future.
- This morning the President sent an email that UCF will be closed on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.
- The Office of Research and the Workday team will be updating the PI-dashboard the week after Thanksgiving. There will be training sessions for faculty the week of November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>. Trainings will be recorded and published. Features to note: overhead, startup, prize, and gift account reports can be exported in Excel or as a pdf of the dashboard data. Nearly all the functionality of Paris is in this tool. The updates will be demoed at the next Research Council meeting. You can also reach out to Joe Harrington.
- This is a time for looking forward to the holiday season, but it can also be stressful for students and our colleagues. Let us remember that UCF provides significant student care-related programs and resources through UCF Cares, and the Employee Assistance Program is a wonderful confidential and free resource for faculty and staff who may be struggling with any number of personal issues. Also, Therapy Assistance Online is a practical free resource offered to students, faculty, *and* staff through Counseling and Psychological Services.

- In closing, thanks for all you do to enhance our university, and have a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving.

Resolution 2023-2024-5  
Board of Governors **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures**

**Whereas**, the **First Amendment of the United States Constitution** states:

*“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances”*; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Governors **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures**, may prohibit universities, student-led organizations, and people working within and/or attending the State University System from exercising their duty to educate and train students and/or to support student led organizations that may engage in advocacy to effect *“change to a government policy, action, or function”*; and

**Whereas**, Appendix A State University System of Florida **Statement of Free Expression** was approved by the Board of Governors on April 15, 2019, and states, in part:

*“A fundamental purpose of an institution of higher education is to provide a learning environment where divergent ideas, opinions, and philosophies, new and old, can be rigorously debated and critically evaluated. Through this process, often referred to as the marketplace of ideas, individuals are free to express any ideas and opinions they wish, even if others may disagree with them or find those ideas and opinions to be offensive or otherwise antithetical to their own worldview. The very process of debating divergent ideas and challenging others' opinions develops the intellectual skills necessary to respectfully argue through civil discourse. Development of such skills leads to personal and scholarly growth and is an essential component of each of our institutions' academic and research missions.*

*It is equally important not to stifle the dissemination of any ideas, even if other members of our community may find those ideas abhorrent. Individuals wishing to express ideas with which others may disagree must be free to do so without fear of being bullied, threatened, or silenced. This does not mean that such ideas should go unchallenged, as that is part of the learning process. And though we believe all members of our campus communities have a role to play in promoting civility and mutual respect in that type of discourse, we must not let concerns over civility or respect be used as a reason to silence expression. We should empower and enable one another to speak and listen, rather than interfere with or silence the open expression of ideas”*; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Governors **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures** will stifle the discussion and consideration of speech required as described in the Board of Governor’s **Statement of Free Expression** relating to *“race, color, sex, national origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation”*, speech *“with a purpose of effecting or preventing change to a government policy, action, or function, or any activity intended to achieve a*



*desired result related to social issues”, and speech on “topics that polarize or divide society among political, ideological, moral or religious beliefs”; and*

**Whereas** the Board of Governors **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures** is imprecisely worded and ambiguous about what activities are likely to be interpreted as attempts *“to equalize or increase outcomes, participation or representation”* or student activities or organizations, or university programs, that aim to *“achieve a desired result related to social issues”*, which may inadvertently intimidate or discourage activities that are protected by academic freedom or by the **First Amendment of the United States Constitution**; therefore

**Be It Resolved**, that University of Central Florida Faculty Senate urges the Board of Governors to revise **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures** so that the definitions within the Regulation, when combined with the expenditure prohibitions of the Regulation, no longer conflict with the **First Amendment of the United States Constitution**, or the Board of Governors’ own **Statement of Free Expression**; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that University of Central Florida Faculty Senate urges the Board of Governors to revise **Regulation 9.016 Prohibited Expenditures** so that the State University System institutions can freely support their Board of Governor-approved and Board of Trustee-approved Missions and Strategic Plans, which focus in large part on supporting the success of the more than 430,000 diverse students across the State University System.