

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
Faculty Senate Executive Steering Committee
MINUTES
October 18, 2001

Dr. Michael Mullens, Chair, called the Faculty Senate Executive Steering Committee to order at 4:05 PM. Minutes of September 13, 2001 meeting were unanimously accepted as written.

Present: Drs. Diane Wink, Ida Cook, Rufus Barfield, Glenn Cunningham, Keith Koons, Ahmad Elshennawy, and Provost Gary Whitehouse.

Absent: Drs. Stephen Goodman, Martha Marinara, Naval Modani, Cynthia Hutchinson, Ola Nnadi, and Carol Bast.

Guests: Drs. John Schell, Chuck Dziuban, Lin Huff-Corzine, and Morgan C. Wang.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Karen Smith Center for Teaching and Learning has been approved
- Search for director of FCTL has been initiated.
- Budget related comments by Provost Whitehouse:
Legislature in special session next Monday. Three million dollars of holdback will be released to colleges, area campuses, optics, hospitality in order to offer classes e.g. in summer term.
- Expect we will still be okay with an 8% reduction. Use of money from additional income from tuition over that expected is being discussed.
- Proceeding with raises, but they are still not certain and faculty with income under \$90,000 will get raises.

- TIP and RIA. As of now both are on hold. There are 14 TIP recycles this year. Question if it would be good to free up the recycle money and about half the number of new TIP and RIA initially expected. If budget improves could go to initial number. Consensus to offer at least half of TIP and RIA plus the recycles.
- Trustee professorships. To recognize 10 outstanding senior faculty with monetary award (\$50,000). Would be stipend or other payment (not a permanent raise).
- Budget cuts are severe and across all units. FCTL working on winter and summer institutes. May be done differently to achieve same goals with less money.
- Some disciplines (e.g. chemistry) are hurt by the loss of money for start up funds for newly hired faculty.
- Athletic budget must come from their revenues, not academic budgets.
- Issue of faculty phone removal raised. The phones are all paid for the year so there is no rationale for removal of phones.
- Dr. Schell asked about student government request to post student perception of instruction results on the web. Joel Hartman is looking at feasibility. A book of evaluations is available in the library. A group called Pick-a-Prof requested and received the evaluation data after payment to the University. Used freedom of information act.

- Board of Trustees meeting in September. Issue rose about student safety and campus security. Questioned if there is a need for background checks on student, faculty, staff or security cams, videotaping every car coming on campus. Also focused on campus technology and distance learning. Trustees related this to need for brick and mortar and need for faculty. President Hitt emphasized that it takes more faculty hours to teach an on line class than live class. But, M classes scheduled well could reduce classroom use. Approved honorary doctorate in Humane Letters for O. Winfrey.
- Human Resources discussion on Anthrax and Safety tomorrow.
- Also having a session at FCTL on this topic on October 25th.
- Ida Cook and Mike Mullens attended a meeting to look at best practices for Faculty Senate on Boards of Trustees. Three universities have faculty senate membership on the board. We are the only faculty senate with a member on a major committee (academic programs).
- Bob Graham cancelled a major kickoff of the Educational Excellence Initiative which was to be October 15th.
- UCF has best allocation of new freshman hours in the state – we got 25% of these hours for 2002-2003.
- 85% of incoming Florida Resident freshmen are Bright Futures. Question: what percentage have it the second semester and the second year. Freshman to Sophomore retention rate 79%; Freshman to Junior retention rate 69%.

New Business

- From Personnel Committee. Dr. Dziegielewski was elected chair. The Committee has approved two resolutions.
 - Distinguished Professor. Called “PREP Professorship” in document but is actually “Distinguished Professor”. (Will be changed throughout resolution). In addition, any wording with phrase “Senior Professor” will be change to say “Professor” except in Be it resolved statement which will say Distinguished Professor. Changes accepted as friendly amendments.
Appendix attached to documents will not be sent to the full senate but will be available to those tasked with developing procedures of the professorship.
 - Resolution on mentoring. Concerns raised because motion is to take no action. Suggested this is not good use of senate’s time. Suggested that the committee simply report that no action recommended.
A motion was made and seconded to return the resolution to the Committee. The motion unanimously passed.
- Plus/minus issue. Follow up study of system after first year suggested last summer. Dr. Schell asked for volunteer to work on evaluation. Dr. Cook volunteered. Also suggested that information from Dr. Terri Fine be obtained. Has been done.
- Presentation by Dr. Chuck Dziuban on the study of Student Perception of Instruction at UCF sponsored by Faculty Senate and funded by the office of Academic Affairs. Investigators. Morgan Wang, Department of Statistics, Ida Cook, Department of Sociology/Faculty Senate.

Chuck Dziuban, Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness. (See attached copy of presentation.) Major items discussed:

- Major tag was the overall rating of instructor
- What students see as excellent is ability to facilitate student learning, having a supportive environment, and organization.
- Does senate want to support use of alternate methods of instruction?
- Other items that could be examined are: class size, campus, number of times class has been taught.
- Issues of design of classes and use of large classes as they impact teaching and student perception of learning. Need to look at changing the system rather than just changing the questions.
- This is a measure of student satisfaction, not performance or outcomes of course sections. Stimulation of interest and interest in student are highly correlated.
- Steering Committee members invited to give feedback before senate meeting at end of month.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.