

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
October 24, 2002

Dr. Michael Mullens, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of September 26, 2002 were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Dr. Mullens recognized and welcomed Drs. John Schell, and Lin Huff-Corzine.
No announcements.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Standing Committee Reports

Budget and Administrative Procedures - Dr. Cunningham reported issues on the committee's agenda: traffic on campus, work-study and student aide, PeopleSoft, payroll, and small contracts. Issues relating to long delay in pay to faculty and staff will also be examined. Travel is still a concern regarding reimbursements. Met with Mr. Merck regarding budget issues and ways to make budget office proactive and reflective of the fact that there will need to be replacement of equipment over time.

Graduate Council - Dr. Stephen Goodman reported the three subcommittees have selected chairs and have identified goals for the year. Reviewed focus of each of the subcommittees. Graduate Course Review and New Programs subcommittee, chaired by Charles Reilly, has begun tackling its usual agenda of activity. Reviewing proposals for new graduate programs, new tracks or options, new certificate programs, requests for additions, deletions, and revisions. Graduate Appeals subcommittee, chaired by Paul Dombrowski, will meet on an ad hoc basis to review student petitions, applicant appeals, and requests from graduate coordinators for exceptions from graduate and special topics courses.

This subcommittee will also review nominees for the University Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award.

Graduate Policies and Procedures subcommittee, chaired by Stephen Goodman, has been involved in the periodic review of graduate certificate programs, and continues to examine existing policies and procedures as well as potential new policies and procedures with regard to graduate education, graduate admissions, academic progress, and financial support for graduate students. Current agenda items include recommending policy for electronic theses and dissertations. Also, third year review of several graduate certificate programs to assess program activity.

Personnel - Dr. Martine Vanryckeghem reported. Travel is also an issue for this committee as is traffic. Currently examining salaries for associate and assistant professors especially when new faculty are hired at higher levels. Also discussed if the ratio of TIP to RIA awards needs to change as we move more to a research-intensive university. Also looking at suggestions to refocus TIP to make more clearly for undergraduate and graduate students. Resolutions are under development. Dr. Whitehouse asked to comment. TIP and RIA are easier to give under current structure than some raises. We may be the only university that still has TIP and RIA. If programs were to be ended, could not guarantee that the money could be given as salary in some other form.

Dr. Whitehouse also stated that another committee is looking at the end of the year awards and has made general recommendations to cut down awards and increase value of awards. (Steering Committee suggested no changes be made this year but be explored for next year.) There was also no support from this committee for another rank.

Dr. Modani reminded group that TIP recipients are determined by the faculty in each college based on college-developed criteria that focus on quality of teaching.

Dr. Chase stated that UFF supports having TIP and RIA back in place for this year.

Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum - Dr. Bob Pennington reported meeting held on October 8, 2002. Accelerated BSN degree option was approved. Deadline for catalog decisions upcoming soon, please get changes in ASAP.

Issue identified: because of rules regarding rank and tenure requirements for other committees, the UPCC often has junior faculty. The committee is looking for ways to change the mix of membership to include more individuals with more experience. Dr. Cook asked that any suggestions be forwarded to the ad hoc committee looking at revisions of the Faculty Senate Constitution.

OTHER

Question about plus minus grading. It is still faculty option.

Dr. Schell summarized the status on plus/minus grading. At the beginning of last year, a small group was charged to do research on plus/minus grading and impact on student grades. The group did analysis of grades in large sections prior to and after plus/minus and compared data sets. This analysis will be done again with this fall's grades. Will give three data sets (one before and two after plus minus) for analysis. Forty-two percent of faculty used plus minus option. This is similar to other schools. Other schools find this percentage increases over time.

The committee also did a faculty questionnaire about plus/minus in fall 2001. Will gather data again this fall. All faculty will be asked to respond after grading is completed. The group expects to have a report prepared by March 2003. All faculty are encouraged by Dr. Cook to complete the survey whether or not they use plus/minus. There is growing student opinion that we should address a plus only system as they have at the University of Florida. Suggested we look at data with plus/minus and what grades would have been if students got straight grades. Suggested data analysis reflect difference in student group because of rising test scores

Dr. Cook requested any suggestions regarding the Faculty Senate constitution be sent to committee member: Ida Cook: cook@mail.ucf.edu, Arlen Chase: achase@mail.ucf.edu or Naval Modani: Naval.Modani@bus.ucf.edu

Question raised: Should the number in senate members be increased because of increased number of faculty?

Reply: This was done with last revision in December of 1999.

Question raised: What is status of network and GroupWise problems recently.

Reply: Joel Hartman sent out an explanation to all faculty. Dr. Whitehouse reported there is new equipment installed, but all problems are not fully resolved. Suggested that Joel Hartman be invited to next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

**Next Faculty Senate meeting: November 21, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.
Location: Student Union Key West Room, 218 AB**