

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
Minutes of  
**October 24, 2019**

William Self, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures.

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of October 3, 2019, was made and seconded. The minutes were approved as recorded.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Christine Dellert, Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Operations, Office of the President

Joe Adams, Senior Communications Director, Academic Affairs

Jayleen Cerda, Nicholson School of Media Today Reporter

Chiara Mazzucchelli, 2019-2020 Provost Faculty Fellow

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)

The Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) met today in a teleconference meeting to discuss the upcoming Florida Board of Governors (BOG) meeting agenda. The chair of the ACFS is a governor. The ACFS members reviewed upcoming changes to the Public Educational Capital Outlay (PECO), funding of buildings. Comments were made regarding the restructuring of the University of Florida President's contract. The upcoming BOG meeting is in response to Senate Bill 190. A Trustees Summit will be held on Tuesday before the BOG meeting with several sessions by the Chancellor on the roles and responsibilities of a Trustee. Dr. Self invited Beverly Seay, chair of the UCF Board of Trustees (BOT), to speak at the November 21, 2019, Faculty Senate meeting.

Presidential Search Committee

The full BOT met Wednesday to approve the Presidential Search Committee membership. Dr. Self delivered [Resolution 2019-2020-15 UCF Presidential Search – Sense of the UCF Faculty Senate](#) to the chair of the BOT. In reviewing the membership, more faculty and students now serve on the Presidential Search Committee. The initial search committee meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in the Morgridge International Reading Center. The meeting will be live streamed and is a public meeting. A search firm will be selected based on three firm presentations and interviews. Dr. Self encouraged the members to attend and inform their colleagues.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Dr. Self yielded the floor to Interim President Thad Seymour for an update.

### Luminary Awards

Dr. Seymour was inspired by the nine faculty members honored at the recent Luminary Awards ceremony by their quality of work. It's a reminder of how far the university has come and the potential for the future.

### Presidential Search

Dr. Seymour noted that the Presidential search is an opportunity to engage and provide input as the university recruits a president to lead a 21<sup>st</sup>-century university. As interim President, Dr. Seymour indicated his job is to keep UCF moving forward and reiterated three main priorities, including strengthening operations, expanding resources, and investing in excellence.

### Enrollment Task Force

Last Spring, an enrollment task force was formed to analyze UCF's enrollment strategy. We optimistically thought the work would be completed by September, but identified other areas to research and starting to model the financial implications based on potential options. A set of recommendations is expected in early January.

### Budget Re-design

Provost Dooley will provide more information, but the re-design is extremely important in how we allocate resources is critical. UCF has engaged Huron Consulting to assist in the re-design with a strong cross-functional team. The goal is to go into the next budget cycle with a new process.

### Legislative Session

UCF submitted two legislative budget requests (LBR's) designed to make the argument for more funding for the university. Last year's legislative session resulted in over \$5 million in recurring budget cuts. We are coming up on an election year, which typically results in K-12 receiving attention. Both of UCF's LBR's request primarily focus on additional faculty. UCF built a plan around Universities of Distinction, which the BOG developed for non-preeminent universities to define what makes each of the universities distinct.

### UCF Identity Task Force

Dr. Seymour indicated that a task force had been formed to identify what UCF should be known for and what makes UCF unique. The group will identify the top three to five areas that will define UCF, then invest in those areas.

In regards to strengthening operations, a senator noted that in a memo from the Provost October 2, 2019, that the university will be moving away from Curriculog due to challenges, and thus changes to the curriculum will be severely limited and must wait up to a year to make changes. This has severe implications for improving programs or for reaching key metrics. We had a system in place before Curriculog, why can't we come up with a system to handle changes now? Dr. Seymour deferred to Provost Dooley.

A senator questioned the Interim President's gratitude to faculty in the wake of negotiations that resulted in a one-time bonus instead of a base salary increase. Dr. Seymour indicated that one of the biggest challenges is how to apply limited resources in the best ways possible. The University's budget was cut last year, and we don't have the recurring funds to provide an increase. We were unable to give raises for staff and provided a one-time bonus. The university is trying to utilize the resources the best way possible.

As a follow-up, a senator questioned the rationale as to why in-unit faculty get a raise when out-of-unit, non-administrative, student-facing faculty don't get an increase in addition to a one-time bonus that out-of-unit faculty may or may not receive results in compression? The President deferred the question to Provost Dooley.

In a fervent plea, a senator questioned why the repayment of the misallocation of funds from last year couldn't be slowed down to fund faculty salary increases? The President indicated that the BOG is requiring the repayment this year and that UCF has no choice.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **REPORT OF THE PROVOST**

### Curriculog

The memo in question was distributed from Tim Letzring regarding Curriculog not being able to support the university's needs or what was promised. The memo was distributed prior to a "quick fix" being identified. The team is currently looking at returning to previous procedures.

A senator noted that the memo of October 2, 2019, indicated that curriculum changes would be limited to new programs, special topics, changes needed for accreditation or CIT codes, or course deletions only. What if a critical need doesn't fall into these categories? Would a quick fix expand these categories to address program needs? The Provost will get with Tim Letzring for an answer.

### In-unit versus Out-of Unit Raises

The senator reiterated the question as to why do in-unit faculty get a raise versus out-of-unit 9-month faculty might get a one-time bonus? The Provost indicated that the union negotiated the increase prior to the budget reduction and a \$17 million repayment. Administration deliberated for a long time to determine if a raise could be granted, and unfortunately, UCF doesn't have the funds. It is an equity issue and suggested that the Chief Financial Officer speak to the Senate. The senator clarified that UCF has many types of out-of-unit faculty with just over 200 faculty with administrative duties and about 130 faculty with no administrative role. The Provost reiterated that this is an equity issue and needs to be put on the table for discussion.

### Enrollment Task Force

We have more faculty on the task force than in previous years. We had a detailed conversation with our Valencia College partners regarding students being major ready or a GPA requirement. The task force is looking deeper into questions to make better decisions regarding enrollment management. A subcommittee was formed to look further into graduate education to identify what programs need to grow.

### Budget Redesign Committee

All of the issues raised regarding raises are important questions. The task force, with three to four faculty, is charged to reset the budget model. We need to look at all funds budgeted, including foundation, education and general, and auxiliary funds and what is being charged to those accounts, including the operational costs of each unit. The redesign will be at least nine months' process. We are identifying the information necessary for a sustainable model over the next ten years.

### Legislative Budget Request

In response to a question from the last Senate meeting, the Provost indicated that the new faculty lines being requested from the legislature need to be allocated by looking at the program-level up. We need to talk about faculty to student ratio, research, and student success. If funding is approved, the conversations need to start at the department level. Encouraged senators to consult with their deans before discussions are held at a Senate meeting.

### Dean Searches

The Provost will meet with the last candidate tomorrow for the dean of the College of Optics and Photonics, after which the search committee will be meeting. We hope to have a new dean in place by January.

An offer has been made to a candidate for the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies. More information will be forthcoming after the background checks are performed.

A senator asked if the provost could speak to the current administration's practice of forced training with repeat emails with the threat of penalties? A similar conversation was held during the Steering meeting. The Provost will share with the vice presidents to express the importance of temperament, tone, and respect. The senator noted that in corporations, when training such as Ethics, human resources, or other training is required, the corporation sets aside your regular work to ensure training is completed. The university expects everything to be completed within the current faculty workload, which raises stress. The Provost noted the concern. Another senator said that it was requested to push required training to after the semester. Dr. Self explained that the short timeframe required on the Ethics training was a Board of Trustees directive to complete training by a specific date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion and second to amend the agenda order to allow Keri Watson to make the presentation on the Florida Prison Project first.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

### Florida Prison Project

Dr. Self introduced Keri Watson. Dr. Watson indicated that the Florida Prison Education Project was part of the UCF Community Challenge Initiative last year. Dr. Watson provided prison statistical data, the mission of the project, and highlights from the 150 students taught in eleven classes. Dr. Watson indicated that the project seeks to expand course offerings and credit hours. She asked the senators to let her know if anyone is interested in offering classes, donate books to the prison library, or donate books to raise funds.

Vote on bylaw resolutions brought forward by the Steering Committee on April 18, 2019.

The resolutions are up for possible amendments and votes.

- Resolution 2019-2020-1 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Promotion Procedures for Non-Tenure Earning Faculty

This resolution is brought forward by the Personnel Committee regarding the promotion of non-tenure earning clinical, research, and medical librarian faculty. Right now, some non-tenure earning positions go to the University Promotion & Tenure Committee for review while others don't. The resolution has all non-tenure earning promotion candidates bypass the University Promotion & Tenure Committee and deletes the membership for the committee regarding non-tenure earning faculty.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-1 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Promotion Procedures for Non-Tenure Earning Faculty. No discussion.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

- Resolution 2019-2020-2 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Nomination and Election

This resolution is brought forward by the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaw Revisions and clarifies that an open call for nominations is expected and communicates alternates to an election.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-2 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Nomination and Election. No discussion.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

- Resolution 2019-2020-3 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Committee Membership  
This resolution is brought forward by the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaw Revisions. The resolution removes old language referring to multi-year appointments and the requirement of tenured or tenure-earning faculty membership on the Personnel Committee and the Undergraduate Council.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-3 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Committee Membership. No discussion.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

- Resolution 2019-2020-4 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Standard Agenda  
This resolution is brought forward by the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaw Revisions to modify the standard Senate Agenda to include a report of the Senate chair, report of the President, and a Campus Climate report.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-4 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Standard Agenda. In response to a question, Dr. Self noted that the Campus Climate report represented presentations to the Senate requested by other units, scheduled by the Steering Committee including, a union update. A senator commented that the presentations could be allowed or invited. A senator noted that administrative staff have no voice or being treated fairly. Maybe the Campus Climate report can give them a voice without detriment. No amendments presented, and no other discussion.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

- Resolution 2019-2020-14 Creative School for Children  
This resolution is brought forward by the Budget and Administrative Committee, and requests administration review the facility and financial situations of the Creative School and investigate alternative means for the school to meet the demand of current UCF students and employees. Dr. Self noted that the be it resolved clause was well written in this resolution.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-14 Creative School for Children. Open for discussion.

A wording issue was presented in that the priority is to enroll children, not students.

Motion and second to amend line 4:

“enrollment priority: children of (1) UCF enrolled Students with 6 credit hours...”

Discussion noting the amendment applies to all four clauses. The motion was withdrawn.

Motion and second to amend the first whereas clause on lines 4 and 5:  
“enrollment priority: children of (1) UCF enrolled Students with 6 credit hours or more; (2) UCF Employees of any rank; (3) UCF Alumni Community members, and (4) Community members; and”

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

Motion and second to approve Resolution 2019-2020-14 Creative School for Children as amended.

Vote: All in favor; motion passes.

Discussion on resolutions brought forward by the Steering Committee on August 22, 2019.

Dr. Self noted that Resolution 2019-2020-6, 2019-2020-7, 2019-2020-9, 2019-2020-10, 2019-2020-11, and 2019-2020-12 represent bylaw change resolutions up for discussion today. Dr. Self asked the members to indicate if a resolution needs discussion.

A member noted a typo in Resolution 2019-2020-6 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – University Promotion and Tenure Committee Duties on line 5 that was previously corrected. No other discussion.

Dr. Self reminded the senators to reach out to their colleagues regarding the bylaw changes. In addition, if any amendments will be made to please bring copies of the amendment.

A senator commented on the resolutions that included an instructional designer, including 2019-2020-9, 2019-2020-10, 2019-2020-11, and 2019-2020-12. The addition of the member is done differently in the resolutions. Voiced concern that the instructional designers are not student-facing or within an academic unit resulting in a different representation. Not all the instructional designers work within the Center for Distributed Learning. The senator believes this would be the first time a job title is listed in the membership versus the representation of a unit. The senator noted that there are only 14 instructional designers on campus, which is a small group being represented.

No other discussion.

Advance notification of a bylaw change resolution brought forward by Steering for discussion at the November 21, 2019 meeting allowing 30-days to review prior to discussion.

- Resolution 2019-2020-13 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Bookstore Advisory Committee

Dr. Self encouraged the senators to review the bylaw change and communicate with colleagues prior to the November 21, 2019 meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Budget and Administrative Committee – Shawn Putnam

No new update. Dr. Self noted that based on Provost Dooley's earlier comment that he will formally invite Dennis Crudele to the November 21<sup>st</sup> Senate meeting for an update, which is after the BOT budget workshop on November 6, 2019. Encouraged the committee members to attend the budget workshop or send someone.

### Information Technology Committee – Melanie Guldi

The committee met three times with a long agenda list for the academic year. The committee will be discussing cloud storage and cloud computing options and exploring options with google drive or dropbox. Mr. Sink indicated that there might be an Enterprise solution. Discussed various email issues regarding faculty that leave the university. The next meeting is on Monday. Dr. Harrington noted that the committee also discussed the resolution adding of an instructional designer in the committee membership and a possible amendment to add the Vice President for Digital Learning or designee.

### Parking, Transportation and Safety Committee – Daniel Topping for Ahmad Elshennawy

The committee discussed gun safety on campus and the existing policy on firearms. Chief Metzger noted that several bills had been defeated regarding campus carry of firearms. Chief Metzger continues to work with Janet Owen in expressing UCF's stance on carrying firearms on campus. Also discussed safety and lighting in the parking garages with Kris Singh. Cameras have been installed in garage B at the entrance and exit, costing about \$1 to \$1.5 million per lot. Some lots with trees on the exterior can reduce visibility, and parking conducts inspections daily to identify issues. The committee discussed the Environmental and Health Safety suggested a 15 mph speed limit on golf carts. The committee recommended 10 mph and is reaching out to Christine Serra regarding the speed limit. In regards to the Steering assigned issue on navigation and directions on campus, an application has been developed for wayfinding. The Information Technology Committee reassigned the issue to the committee. The committee is not sure if the issue is that the application has not been publicized or if the issue is physical signage. E-scooters on campus will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

### Personnel Committee – Stephen King

The committee submitted a resolution requesting a periodic faculty salary analysis across the university continuously studies the situation every five years.

### Research Council – Nina Orlovskaya

The Committee met and reviewed the current duties and responsibilities of the council. Discussed seed funding and equipment funding program. Dr. Klonoff informed the group that previously \$7,500 was provided to support assistant professors and the support required to process the funds. The process and amount will be changing and will be cost-shared between the colleges and the Office of Research. Debra Reinhart provided an update on the Clusters.



Greg Schuckman, UCF's federal relations lobbyist, will be on campus to discuss lobbying research proposals to push in the upcoming legislative session. Please make sure you schedule time with Mr. Schuckman to discuss research priorities.

A senator noted that matching funds for seed money presents a problem for the departments with the limited budgets for each college. Another senator questioned the level of faculty involvement in making these decisions? Dr. Orlovskaya indicated that Dr. Klonoff provided an update to the committee, and involvement is not known. Dr. Self indicated that now that the Research Council is an operational committee, that more faculty involvement is expected instead of an information session.

#### Graduate Council – Jim Moharam

The committees have met at least once. The Policy Committee approved changes to clarify the withdrawal and academic record change request policy. The Program Review Committee approved the Public Administration Ph.D. proposal.

#### Undergraduate Council – Robin Back for Kelly Semrad

Due to the challenges with Curriculog, the Undergraduate Course Review, and Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committees have not met as regularly scheduled. The Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee held its first meeting on October 22. The committee discussed university transfer policies and evaluation standards. A transfer alliance team has been formed to establish procedures to work with the new transfer evaluation system to ensure an efficient campus-wide process for evaluating transfer credit.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

A senator asked if the presidential search will provide a two-way communication format with the search committee for input. During the last search, we were not allowed to ask questions of the search committee members. Dr. Self noted that he had requested an open forum for faculty.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. The committee adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

**Resolution 2019-2020-1 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change  
Promotion Procedures for Non-Tenure Earning Faculty**

**Whereas**, Non-Tenure Earning Assistant and Associate Professors, as well as Assistant and Associate Medical Librarians, who are candidates for promotion currently undergo a review by the UCF University Promotion and Tenure Committee after Dean or Unit Head review but before Provost review, and

**Whereas**, all other Non-Tenure Earning faculty with titles including Instructor and Associate Instructor, Lecturer and Associate Lecturer, Assistant and Associate Librarian, and Assistant and Associate Instructional Designer do not undergo a review by the UCF Promotion and Tenure Committee after Dean or Unit Head review but before Provost review, and

**Whereas**, bypassing the University Promotion and Tenure Committee for all Non-Tenure Earning Faculty regardless of title – that is, forwarding such cases directly from the Dean’s/ Unit Head’s review to the Provost – would enable the University Promotion and Tenure Committee to maintain a reasonable workload and focus on tenured and tenure track applications; therefore

**Be it Resolved** that all Non-Tenure Earning Assistant and Associate candidates for promotion will bypass the University Promotion and Tenure committee and their cases will be forwarded directly from Dean or Unit Head review to the Provost, and

**Be it Further Resolved** that Section VIII of the University of Central Florida Bylaws be amended to remove paragraph 0.2.b.

*Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on April 4, 2019.*

*Approved by the Faculty Senate on October 24, 2019.*

## **Resolution 2019-2020-2 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Nomination and Election of Senators**

**Whereas**, the *Bylaws Section II.C.* provides basic guidelines for the nomination and election of senators; and

**Whereas**, additional clarity and guidance is needed for the colleges; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the *Bylaws Section II.C.* be amended as follows:

### B. Nomination and Election of Senators

Senators representing an academic unit shall be elected by a vote of the general faculty of that academic unit. Each academic unit shall decide on a mechanism for conducting elections (e.g., college assembly, paper or electronic ballot) as guided by Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition). Visiting faculty, regardless of their rank or duration of appointment, are not eligible to vote.

Each academic unit shall, by majority vote of its faculty, decide on a system of internal allocation of Senate representation; e.g., at academic unit level, by department, by proportion to department size, by a combination of department and academic unit representation, etc. Each academic unit shall annually inform the chair of the Faculty Senate of the details of such allocation and any subsequent changes in it.

No later than the fourth week of the spring semester, the Office of the Faculty Senate will provide each academic unit with a list of faculty eligible for election to the Faculty Senate and the number of seats to be filled. On receiving this information, the academic unit will conduct an election.

An open call for nomination, including self-nomination, is expected.

Each academic unit will report election results to the Office of the Faculty Senate no later than March 1. In order to provide a current list of alternate members of the Senate, each academic unit will also forward the number of votes cast for each candidate for any **at-large** election. If an alternate is needed, the alternate with the highest number of votes from the most recent election shall serve. If no alternate is provided, or no alternate can serve, a special election must be held.

The chair of the Faculty Senate will certify all Senate elections.

*Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on April 4, 2019.*

*Approved by the Faculty Senate on October 24, 2019.*

## **Resolution 2019-2020-3 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Committee Membership**

**Whereas**, Senate operational committees specify the eligibility requirements of faculty; and

**Whereas**, the Personnel Committee and the Undergraduate Council's membership contains language referring to comparable rank with multi-year appointments; and

**Whereas**, faculty with multi-year appointments are non-tenure earning faculty; and

**Whereas**, by specifying multi-year appointments, non-tenure earning faculty are unintentionally excluded from the membership; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the membership for the Personnel Committee and the Undergraduate Council be amended as follows:

### **Personnel Committee Membership**

The committee shall consist of at least one faculty member from each academic unit and the provost and vice president or his/her designee (ex officio). All committee members must be ~~tenured~~ faculty holding the rank of associate professor or professor, associate or senior instructor, associate or senior lecturer, or associate or university librarian ~~general faculty of comparable rank with multi-year appointments or professional librarians of comparable rank~~. Committee members shall be selected by the Committee on Committees, in consultation with the provost and vice president. Terms of service are two years, staggered. The committee chair and vice chair shall be elected annually by its membership at the first meeting of the committee after the new Faculty Senate is elected, normally in the early fall term.

### **Undergraduate Council Membership**

The council shall consist of all of the members of the committees of the Undergraduate Council and the vice provost for Teaching and Learning and dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies (ex officio). All faculty members must be full-time ~~and tenured or tenure-earning~~, general faculty ~~with multi-year appointments, or professional librarians~~. The Committee on Committees shall select the faculty members for all committees of the Undergraduate Council and shall solicit nominees from the deans of the respective academic units as well as from the vice provost for Teaching and Learning and dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies, among others. The council chair and the vice chair are elected annually by the membership of the council at the first meeting after the new Senate is elected, normally early in the fall term. The elected chair of the council will serve as the chair of the Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee. The vice chair will serve as the chair of the Undergraduate Course Review Committee.

*Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on April 4, 2019.*

*Approved by the Faculty Senate on October 24, 2019.*

## Resolution 2019-2020-4 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change - Standard Agenda

**Whereas**, the *Bylaws Section IV.B.* specifies the standard agenda of the Faculty Senate; and

**Whereas**, the Senate desires more direct communication from university administrators to the faculty senators through the addition of the Report of the President to the Faculty Senate agenda; and

**Whereas**, a Campus Climate report would allow other division administrators and the faculty union to provide updates for increased transparency and feedback; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the standard agenda in the *Bylaws Section IV.B.* be amended as follows:

### B. Senate Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Minutes

Recognition of Guests

~~Announcements and Recognition of Guests~~

Report of the Senate Chair

Report of the President

Report of the Provost

Old Business

New Business

Committee reports

Campus Climate report

Other Business

Adjournment

*Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on April 4, 2019.*

*Approved by the Faculty Senate on October 24, 2019.*

## **Resolution 2019-2020-14 Creative School for Children**

**Whereas**, the Creative School for Children provides child care for kids with the following enrollment priority: children of (1) UCF enrolled Students with 6 credit hours or more, (2) UCF Employees of any rank, (3) UCF Alumni Community member, and (4) Community members; and

**Whereas**, the Creative School for Children provides opportunities for university students to receive experience and training in working with young children; and

**Whereas**, the Creative School for Children provides opportunities for faculty and graduate students to conduct educational research; and

**Whereas**, Current enrollment of the Creative School for Children is 115 with a long waiting list; and

**Whereas**, the Creative School for Children building was built in 1976 (renovated during 1981 and 1994), and requires an average of \$100,000 each year on maintenance fees; and

**Whereas**, Currently UCF has more than 68,000 students and more than 13,000 employees while it had about 25,000 students and less than 7,000 employees in 1994; therefore

**Be it resolved** that the proper administrative unit of UCF review the facility and financial situations of the Creative School for Children and investigate alternative means for the Creative School for Children to meet the demand of current UCF students and employees.

*Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on October 3, 2019.*

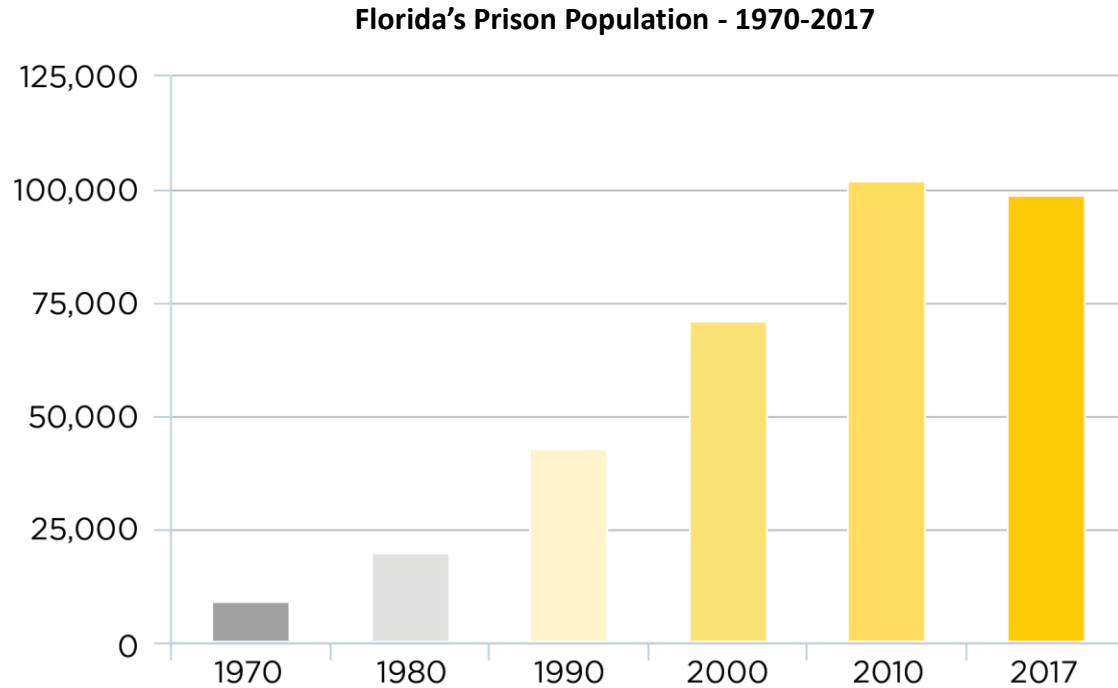
*Approved by the Faculty Senate on October 24, 2019.*

# Florida Prison Education Project UCF Community Challenge Initiative Update

Keri Watson



# Florida's Prison System



- **3rd** largest prison system in America
- Nearly **100,000** people behind bars



# Florida's Prison System

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14%	Nashville, TN Zip 32708	11%	Jacksonville, FL Zip 32206
11%	Portsmouth, VA Zip 23704	<b>10%</b>	<b>Orlando, FL</b> Zip 32805
11%	Waco, TX Zip 76707	10%	Norfolk, VA Zip 23504
11%	Cincinnati, OH Zip 45214	10%	Richmond, VA Zip 23222
11%	Fort Myers, FL Zip 33916	10%	Tulsa, OK Zip 74106

- Nearly **3 million** people have a criminal record

- **Orlando's** incarceration rate: **10%**



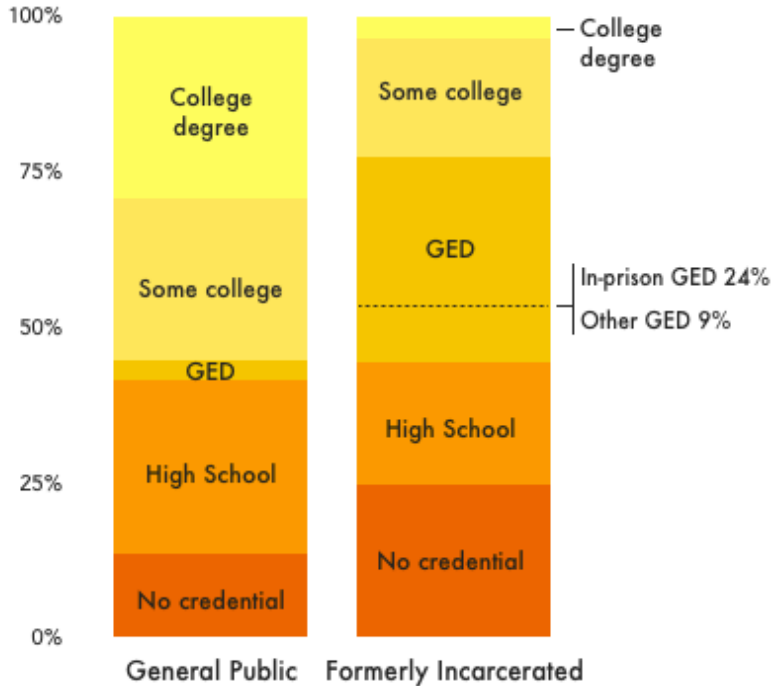
# Each year

- **33,000** inmates are released from Florida prisons
- **80,000** are released from community supervision
- **30%** are rearrested within **3** years



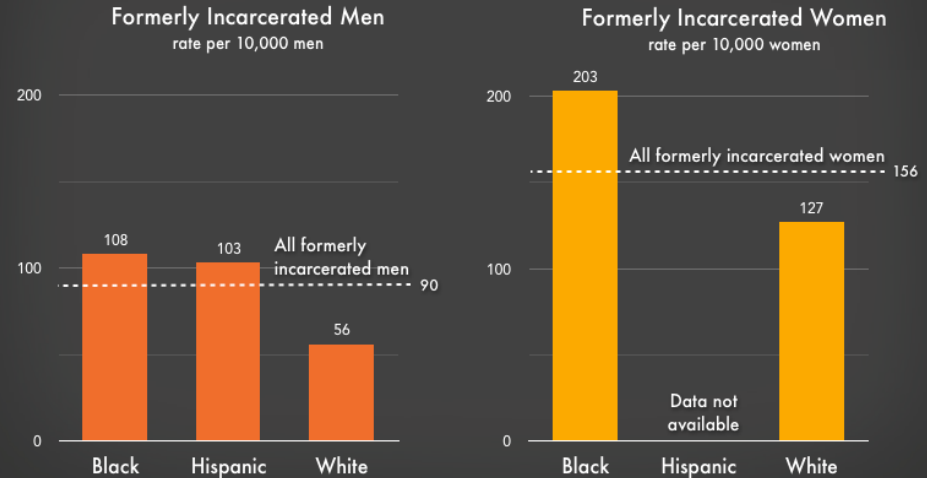
# Florida Prison Education Project

## Educational attainment: General public & formerly incarcerated



## Gender, race, and ethnicity combine to put women of color at greater risk of homelessness

Number of formerly incarcerated people per 10,000 experiencing sheltered homelessness when surveyed in 2008



PRISON  
POLICY INITIATIVE

Sources & data notes: <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/housing.html#methodology>



# Florida Prison Education Project

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## **COST OF PRISON EDUCATION**

Spending \$1 per prisoner on prison education saves \$4 to \$5 in the future for decreased rates of recidivism.



## **RECIDIVISM RATES**

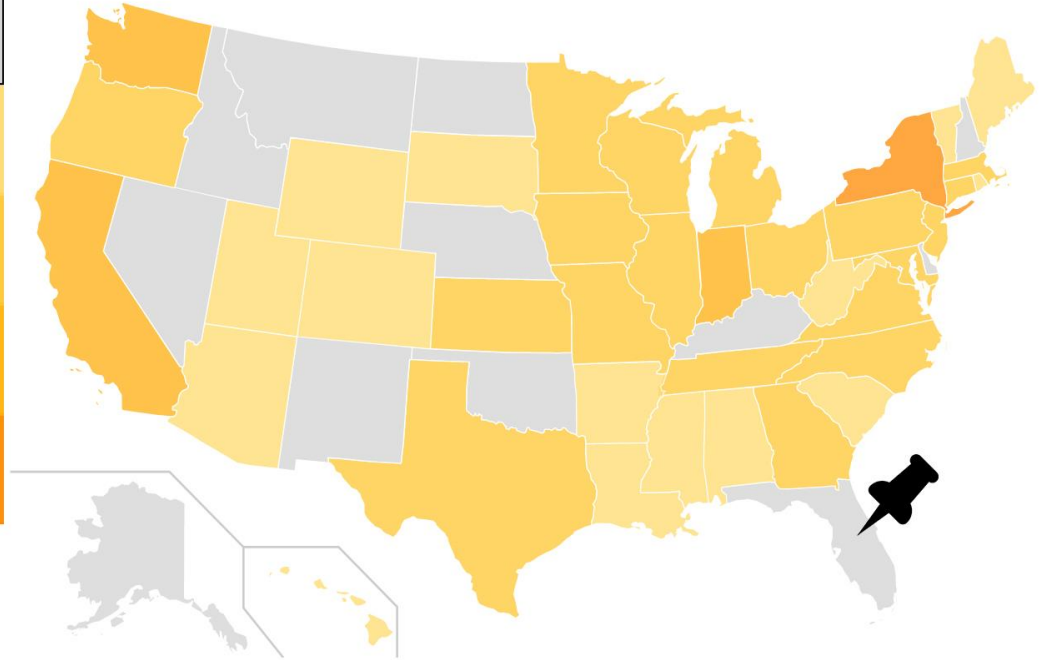
The U.S. spends \$31,000 to incarcerate someone every year. Prison education reduces the 54% recidivism rate by 40%.

*Source: Office of Justice Programs, The Nation, RAND Corporation*



# Florida Prison Education Project

No Programs	12
1 Program	14
2-5 Programs	19
6-9 Programs	3
10+ Programs	1



# Florida Prison Education Project Mission

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- **Provide educational opportunities** to incarcerated and formerly-incarcerated people in Florida
- **Research** the benefits of prison education
- **Integrate the study of justice** into the University of Central Florida curriculum



# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Taught **11 classes** to **150 students** at the Central Florida Reception Center



*Physics for Everyday Thinking*



*Creative Writing*



# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- Hired **6 undergraduate** student interns
- Hired **2 graduate** student interns
- Directed an undergraduate **research project** on the benefits of Prison Education
- Directed a College of Medicine on health and wellness services in prison
- Directed two **Ph.D. dissertations** on Higher Education in Prison



*Megan Hummer at the Showcase of Undergraduate Research, April 2019*

# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

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- Opened an office in Rehearsal Hall 111
- Hosted an Open House for the Laughing Gull Foundation



# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

*FPEP Volunteer and BMC Outreach  
Coordinator, Josh Watson*

- Met with current **UCF students** who were formerly incarcerated
- Sponsored the UCF Registered Student Organization **Black Man's Candor**
- Sponsored the UCF RSO **Afro Artistry**



# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

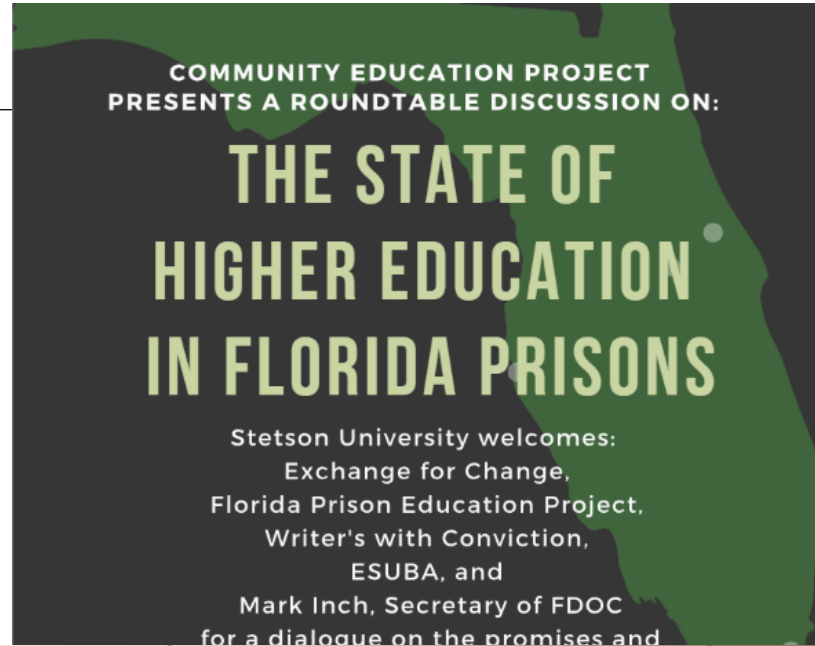
- Collected **5,000+** books for Florida's Prison Libraries
- Received a **\$50,000** National Endowment for the Arts Grant
- Raised over **\$1000** in individual donations
- Brought the NEA Big Read (**\$15,000** annual grant) to Florida prisons
- Pending:
  - **\$60,000** Laughing Gull Foundation Grant
  - **\$250,000** NEH Grant



# FPEP Highlights 2018-19

- **Summit on Higher Education in Florida Prisons**
- **National Conference for Higher Education in Prisons**
- **Southeast Museum of Photography**
- **Arts in Society Conference**

*Keri Watson and FDOC  
Secretary Mark Inch*



# What's Next?

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- **Expand** our course offerings to **other prisons**
- **Scale** our program to include credit-bearing courses
- Offer **online** courses at Florida Prisons
- DOE **Second Chance Pell** Experimental Sites Initiative



*Cornell Prison Education Program  
graduating class*



- Bring **education** to an underserved audience
- Reduce **recidivism**
- Save **millions** of dollars
- **Impact** the lives of children, families, and the community



**FPEP**

You're Invited

# PANEL DISCUSSION

KEN BURNS PRESENTS

# COLLEGE BEHIND BARS

A FILM BY LYNN NOVICK

Thursday, October 24, 2019 • 6:30 p.m.

UCF Communication and Media Building, Rm. 182B  
UCF Downtown • 500 W. Livingston St., Orlando, FL

Join us for a screening of excerpts from *College Behind Bars*, a documentary series that follows incarcerated persons through rigorous college programs and explores how education transforms lives and impacts the U.S. criminal justice system.

**RSVP** at [cah.ucf.edu/fpep/screening](http://cah.ucf.edu/fpep/screening)

## PANELISTS

**Keri Watson**, director of the Florida Prison Education Project

**Jason Fronczek**, UCF MFA student and FPEP instructor

**LaShanna Tyson**, UCF student and EKWIP founder

**Baz Dreisinger**, author of *Incarceration Nations: A Journey to Justice in Prisons Around the World* and director of John Jay College's Prison-to-College Pipeline



Presented by the UCF Center for Law and Policy  
in association with WUCF and the  
Florida Prison Education Project

TUNE IN OR STREAM THE COMPLETE  
DOCUMENTARY SERIES ON PBS  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25 9/8C





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**Thank you for your continued support!**

