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UCF Faculty Senate
Information Technology Committee

Minutes of **October 28, 2019**
BA I, room 230A

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Melanie Guldi, chair, called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm. The roll was called orally.

In Attendance: Anya Andrews, Daniel Barber, Melanie Guldi (Senate Liaison), Joseph Harrington (Steering Liaison), Athena Hoeppner, Pieter Kik, Viatcheslav Kokoouline, Tameca Harris-Jackson, and Sumanta Pattanaik. Michael Sink (ex officio)

Minutes: Motion and second made to approve the minutes of September 28, 2019. The minutes were approved.

Old Business
- Resolution 2019-2020-12 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Information Technology Committee Membership – Motion made and seconded to propose the following amendment to the resolution at the next Faculty Senate meeting:

  On Line 14, replace "Committees and the" with "Committees, the";
  On Line 15, add ", and the vice provost for Digital Learning or his/her designee (ex officio)" before the period; and
  On Lines 15 and 16, strike the entire complete sentence (the proposed addition).

  After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend both the proposed amendment and the resolution by striking "his/her" wherever it appears, to acknowledge the complexity of gender identity. This passed unanimously.

  The main motion passed unanimously. The Committee proposes the following amendment to Resolution 2019-2020-12 Faculty Senate Bylaw Change – Information Technology Committee Membership:

  On Line 14, replace "Committees and the" with "Committees, the";
  On Line 15. delete "his/her";
  On Line 15, add ", and the vice provost for Digital Learning or designee (ex officio)" before the period; and
  On Lines 15 and 16, strike the entire complete sentence (the proposed addition).
- (Steering #14) Look at resolutions over the last 5 years

  According to Christie Wolf, all relevant resolutions have been passed and implemented, except the one on conference rooms, which is pending an assessment by UCF IT on the cost.

New Business
- Email issues
  - Continued email access for departed UCF employees

    Mr. Sink reported that email access for retirees came up as part of the union bargaining process. The arrangement being considered involves giving retirees accounts @knights.ucf.edu.
    Faculty expressed concern that this does not solve their problems, which include:

- Being suddenly disconnected from their professional research community and collaborators by having their email address terminated.
- Accessing their old research-related email.

  Faculty noted that most universities (though not all, the University of Connecticut was cited as a counterexample) allow forwarding, and some allow access to archived email for past employees. Faculty requested, for a period of two years after departure, the option of either:
- Forwarding all email to the @ucf.edu address (possibly with an automatic reply sent to the sender advising of the new address).
- Receiving email sent to them @ucf.edu at UCF. This could be in a Knights.ucf.edu account through a local forward, but the old @ucf.edu address must continue to work.

  Faculty noted that administrators (chair and above) are already guaranteed email continuity after leaving UCF, so arguments citing legal liability and the risk of blacklisting have been addressed in the past and found not to be significant, compared to the benefit to UCF of having email access to past employees.

  Faculty noted that some important contacts, such as contractors, grantors, event co-organizers, and others may become active only once per year or less, so a two-year period of access would be the minimum acceptable period to avoid disconnection from one's professional network.

  Mr. Sink stated that the General Counsel (GC) felt that receiving UCF employee notices would not be appropriate for terminated/departed employees, but that there was not currently a list in the email system for different types of employees that isolated terminated/departed employees. The Knights.ucf.edu accounts were seen as an expedient way to avoid delivering employee notices to non-employees.

  Faculty noted that such notices are public record and that non-employees would not be fooled into thinking they were relevant. They are also easily filtered.

  Mr. Sink raised the question of the cost of continuing accounts. It was not immediately clear what the cost would be for just email access or just forwarding (and not, e.g., OneDrive). Mr. Sink said he would look into the cost issues and see whether there were other (e.g., legal) issues.

- No-Reply Email (SAS)

  Faculty are receiving email from both on email lists and directly addressed to them from entities within UCF that do not include the name or contact information for the sender or to which replies are discarded. An example from Student Accessibility Services was circulated before the meeting by the Chair.

  Faculty discussed the separate cases of email lists from which one cannot easily remove oneself and individual messages that require a response but that do not give a way to respond. Some parts of a response to this issue might be included as a modification to policy 4-006.2 Broadcast Distribution of Electronic Mail. We moved to place this on the active agenda for the next meeting.

- Linux support, including email access for Linux users, running Linux-based servers, etc.

  Linux is a popular open-source operating system that is widely used in certain departments, even among students. Linux servers are inexpensive to run and in some cases are required to host certain online services. Current service and support for Linux on campus is poor. We moved to place this on the active agenda for the next meeting.

Other Business
- There was a brief discussion of tracking of online activity of students, applicants, and others accessing UCF's web sites. The issue could have significant reputational repercussions for UCF and could impact those tracked far into the future. This could be added to the committee's agenda, but others are already looking at the issue, but there is not an official policy.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.