

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Faculty Senate Steering Committee
FROM: Faculty Senate Office
DATE: November 14, 1994
SUBJECT: Minutes of Fac. Sen. Steering Meeting of September 22, 1994

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The meeting was called to order by Dr. Modani, Chair, at 4:07 p.m. The roll was passed. The minutes of August 25, 1994 meeting were unanimously approved. Members present were Drs. Armstrong, Cook, Hatfield, Koons, Petrasko, Sheridan, Taylor, Wink, and Wood. Provost Whitehouse and Dr. Frank Juge were also in attendance.

Dr. Modani announced that Dr. Kenneth Murray has resigned from the Faculty Senate and Dr. Martha Bell, the elected alternate from the College of Education, will take his place on the Senate. College of Education senators need to elect their representative to serve on the Steering Committee. Dr. Modani said he will write to Dr. Murray acknowledging his service to the Senate and regretting the misunderstandings and circumstances that may have led to his decision to resign. In the discussion of the circumstances, it was suggested to remind all colleges of the rules in the Senate Constitution concerning replacement of senators who are unable to serve.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Modani informed the members that he has reviewed the data used to identify candidates for TIP awards for 1994-95 and found them to be in order. There are 248 candidates and 98 awards. The candidates were sent letters by Dr. Juge informing them of the schedule. Portfolios are due by October 24, 1994 and award winners are to be notified by December 21, 1994. Dr. Juge distributed a handout outlining the number of awards for each college, the number of candidates from each department, and the student credit hour medians for each of the departments and colleges. There were no appeals from faculty and if there are any appeals the TIP oversight Committee will hear them.

Dr. Wood raised the question of looking at mode of instruction in determining candidates. Dr. Cook suggested looking separately at lower division and upper division student credit hours. Dr. Juge mentioned that the College of Arts and Sciences had raised the issue of distinct subdivisions within a department in terms of modes of instruction. Provost Whitehouse remarked that UCF's plan, compared to other SUS institutions, allows for the largest fraction of faculty to be eligible and he is reluctant to drastically alter the criteria. Members agreed that if the legislature funds this program next year, UCF should look at ways to alleviate some of the concerns discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 1994-1995-1 from the Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee was discussed.

RESOLUTION 1994-1995-1

WHEREAS:

(1) Enrollment growth at the University of Central Florida has greatly increased demands on classroom facilities, and

(2) Construction of new classroom facilities is not kept pace with increases in student enrollment, and

(3) Current course scheduling practices throughout the university may not promote efficient use of limited classroom facilities, particularly with respect to full utilization of facilities on Fridays and schedule conflicts resulting from differing course slots across colleges,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Central Florida restructure the present class schedule starting with the Fall 1995 semester to achieve greater efficiency of classroom use, including an expanded class day (Monday through Friday) and consistency of schedules across colleges. Details of the revised schedule shall be developed by the Administration with opportunities for input and review by the Colleges and Departments. Preservation of a weekly time slot with no classes scheduled is necessary to accommodate campus-wide meetings.

Dr. Modani reiterated that the intent of the resolution is to allow more classes to be offered and to allow more efficient utilization of the limited classroom space. The resolution calls for the departments and colleges to be consulted before the expanded schedule is determined and implemented. Several members pointed out that if classroom hours are expanded, hours for other support facilities such as department offices, library, instructional resources, cafeteria, and Creative School for children also need to be expanded. Provost Whitehouse agreed to review this matter. Some members pointed out the problems of teaching in portable classrooms and faculty having to walk from building to building for consecutive classes. Offering classes on Saturdays was also discussed. Members agreed to send the resolution for consideration by the Senate at its October 6, 1994 meeting.

Dr. Modani requested the members to suggest names for serving as grand marshals and faculty representatives for the December 1994 commencement.

OTHER:

Dr. Modani received a memo from Dean Sheridan suggesting that the terms for members of the University Promotion and Tenure Committee be made longer than the current two year terms. Members agreed to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee. With regard to a suggestion to have more representation on the Campus Master Planning Committee, members agreed to ask each college dean to recommend a name to serve as a non-voting member of the committee.

Dr. Modani reported that the Standing Committees have met and discussed several issues. The Personnel Committee is looking at the five year review of administrators. Dr. Juge distributed a handout dealing with the procedures for this review of college deans. The Personnel Committee will review this document and coordinate with Academic Affairs the scheduled reviews of administrators for the current year. Members agreed that assistant deans and associate deans are not covered under this process.

Dr. Taylor spoke of increased use of adjunct professors to handle enrollment growth and the difficulty in finding qualified adjuncts. He enquired whether regular faculty can be allowed to teach additional classes on an overload basis. Provost Whitehouse suggested better advertising of adjunct positions and considering a workload option plan for faculty. Dr. Juge said that teaching loads have gone down in recent years to allow more time for faculty to perform other functions expected of them. Dr. Juge indicated that overloads are considered and approved on a case by case basis.

Dr. Petrasko raised the question of cheating by students and UCF policies as contained in the Student Handbook. Dr. Juge responded that we may need to review the policies using the University Attorney and Student Affairs if any problems with current policies are identified.

Dr. Modani reminded the members about the Faculty Assembly on Thursday, September 29, 1994 and encouraged members to attend and bring their colleagues. The problem of sparse attendance at Faculty Assembly was discussed. Dr. Sheridan suggested that if there was an agenda of important and interesting items, more faculty will attend. Provost Whitehouse agreed to do this for the forthcoming Faculty Assembly.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.