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USF St. Petersburg
Faculty Senate Report to the Campus Board
October 2, 2009

Fall Semester

The 2009-2010 Academic Year is off to a strong start. Our 207 full and part-time faculty welcomed more than 3,900 of our own students and approximately 2000 from other campuses and institutions into our classes, and Deans Hixson (Lib) and Ebrahimpour (COB) and Regional Vice Chancellor for External Affairs Levine to USFSP. This fiscal quarter, USFSP faculty generated research grant activity in the amount of \$1,358,737, bringing our current active award total to \$5,255,746. Faculty teaching, scholarship and service production remain high even in the face of enormous budget challenges.

Points of Pride

- Accreditation – Faculty role in securing full SACS accreditation; College of Business and Program of Accountancy’s separate accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business; College of Education’s successful initial accreditation site visit from the National Association for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (Decision anticipated April, 2010), and College of Arts and Sciences Media and Journalism Studies Program looks forward to its accreditation visits this Spring.
- Recognitions – The College of Business MBA Program’s international top 35 Beyond Grey Pinstripes Schools listing – recognition of innovative program integrating issues of social and environmental stewardship into curriculum; SRI International’s decision to partner with the College of Education to develop SunBay Digital Mathematics Project;
- Contributions - Consistent with focus on civic engagement, 829 sections of citizen scholar course offerings, involving 12,533 students generating 550,172 hours of service for a \$9,853,580 contribution to our community since 2003; The College of Arts and Sciences has moved to serve community need by moving forward with its Pre-Medical and Pre-Health option for students.

Senate Priorities

The faculty senate has identified priorities to guide our work this year:

- Continued refinement of effective shared governance structures and processes at the institutional and system levels
- Enhanced communications between and among the faculty governance bodies at USFSP, within the USF system, and across the State University System
- Increased faculty engagement in policy development (ie. transfer credit, emergency preparedness, technology and distance learning, support for global engagement, general education and assessment, tenure and promotion processes and criteria, etc.)
- Expanded faculty roles in leadership related to accreditation and institutional improvement (Quality Enhancement Plan; SACS Leadership and Compliance; Planning, Budgeting and Effectiveness; etc.)

Planning for the Future

The Senate looks forward to inviting President Genshaft to visit with us this fall so that we can share with her our recent successes, our commitment to the continued strengthening of our institution, and the current and anticipated contributions of USFSP to our region and within the USF system. We also look forward to engaging in conversations about the timelines and collaborative processes we will use when the time comes to name a successor to Interim Chancellor Sullivan.