

2001

AY 2000/2001 SEC meeting minutes: 01 Feb 07

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SEC Minutes

February 7, 2001

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 7, 2001

MINUTES

Present: Jesse Binford, William Janssen, William Kearns, Suresh Khator, Barbara Loeding, Sara Mandell, Gregory Paveza, Ram Pendyala, Alan Sear, Jenifer Schneider, Melvyn Tockman, Nancy Tyson, James Vastine

Provost's Office: Phil Smith, David Stamps

President's Office: Josue Cruz

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of January 10, 2001, were approved as presented.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Nancy Tyson)

President Nancy Jane Tyson noted that two items in her report would call for brief action, which she would hold to the end of the report. She also requested that any comments and questions be held to the end of the report. She began with an announcement received just prior to the meeting from Professor Josue Cruz, Faculty Assistant to President Genshaft, inviting members of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) to President Genshaft's Inauguration on Friday, February 23, 2001, for which all classes have been officially canceled. President Tyson distributed copies of the invitation to the SEC members and stated that she had notified the event planners that she would be unable to attend the inauguration because of a meeting in Tallahassee tentatively scheduled for that date. President Tyson reminded the members that the vote for ratification of the Bargaining Agreement was currently taking place and urged them to make sure that their ballots reached the Chapter office by the deadline of Friday, February 9, 2001 at 4:00 p.m.

Next she reported on the Parking & Transportation Forum that was attended by several members of the SEC on Monday, January 22, 2001, and presented by a number of USF officials from the physical operations area and several representatives of an outside consulting firm involved in formulating the USF Master Plan. Given the limited availability of surface lot space in all but the most remote areas, four possible scenarios were presented for the expansion of parking availability to keep up with growth on the USF-Tampa campus over the next ten years. One was a rudimentary plan with a low price tag, but increased

inconvenience and considerable reliance on remote parking and an expanded shuttle system. Another was a very elaborate plan with a number of parking garages in various parts of the campus and a parking fee increase that would go through the ceiling. One of the middle plans would have a single garage, either in the so-called "academic core" area of campus (bounded by the Library, Administration, Student Services, Education, Business, and CIS Buildings), or in the medical complex--those being the two most congested areas. The other middle plan would have a parking garage in both the campus "core" (behind the Library) and the medical complex. The Legislature does not fund parking initiatives, and private donors do not typically give money to fund parking structures, so the money to build them is going to have to come out of parking revenues. Although the forum presenters did not promote any one particular plan, it was evident to participants that the two parking garage plan is the most workable scenario, and that to finance it, we are simply going to have to get used to the idea of paying more for parking in the upcoming years. President Tyson stated that she had voluntarily undertaken the initiative to try and prepare the Faculty Senators for the reality of such a prospect. She added that the Parking and Transportation Services administrators had convincingly outlined their operating costs as compared with those of similar operations at other institutions, and it is clear that they are comparatively modest. Parking and Transportation Services is funded almost entirely by parking and transportation fees.

With regard to the meeting with Education Reorganization Task Force Chair Phil Handy that was held at USF on January 18, President Tyson announced that several copies of the 2 1/4 hour taped proceedings of that meeting are available on loan from the Senate office. Anyone interested in borrowing a copy of the tapes may apply to Ann Pipkins at 4-2889.

President Tyson also reported on the meeting of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS), which she attended in Tallahassee on February 2, 2001. After a brief planning session, the group was addressed by incoming Interim BOR Chancellor, Judy Hample, and her incoming Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, R. E. LeMon, who both devoted their energies at the meeting to promoting the advantages of the Reorganization, and particularly of individual Boards of Trustees. This did not sit especially well with the ACFS, who were for the most part, however, polite. Next the group met with John Winn, Executive Director of the Education Reorganization Task Force, and discussed a number of general and specific issues pertaining to the developing new system--e.g., selection of members of the Boards of Trustees, faculty and student representation on the Boards, preservation of tenure and academic freedom, the meaning of "student-centered" education, the role of the ACFS under the new system, and the lack of faculty influence thus far in the reorganization process. Winn made no concessions with regard to anything that was discussed, but he did acknowledge that the Task Force had not listened to faculty concerns as well as they might have, and stated that he would like to meet for a longer period with as many members of the group as possible prior to the start of the new legislative session for a more intensive discussion. The group readily agreed to this invitation, and a date of February 23 was projected to be kept open. President Tyson summarized that the ACFS is still very much unified in opposition to the Reorganization structure, and still very much in support of the concept of a constitutionally protected Board of Regents to provide higher education in Florida with a measure of protection from political interference, but that it is necessary to pursue efforts on both fronts: to fight it from without and to strive to influence it from within.

President Tyson was pleased to report that she had addressed the USF Student Senate on Tuesday, February 6, 2001, on the issue of a constitutionally protected BOR and found them highly receptive. In fact, a number of the students assured her that, within a couple of weeks, they could pass a resolution to sign on with the Faculty Senate's letter of support to Senator Graham for his efforts on behalf of the constitutional amendment. Consequently

President Tyson asked for and received by consensus an extension to her self-imposed deadline of January 31 for obtaining the signature of Student Senate President Nikole Collins on the letter to Senator Graham.

President Tyson announced that she now had a full slate of nominees for appointment to the Faculty Senate Governmental Relations Committee and that she would like to get this committee going this semester so that it could begin to take action with regard to the political situation currently facing the universities. In order to effect this, she was asking the SEC to approve the slate of nominees, and would ask the Committee on Committees to approve it at their next meeting. She would also ask the Provost as soon as possible thereafter to make a special action of appointment of the new members to the committee. The Provost indicated that he was amenable to such an action. Parliamentarian Mandell moved that the slate of nominees be approved, and the motion was seconded and unanimously passed. It will next move to the Committee on Committees and then to the Provost for action.

Finally, President Tyson announced that she had had a communication from Carl Carlucci, the new USF Vice President for Budgets, Human Resources and Information Technologies, who had asked to be included on the agenda for the February 21, 2001, Faculty Senate meeting in order to introduce himself to the Senate, and that with the approval of the SEC she intended to so include him.

PROVOST'S REPORT (David Stamps)

The Provost announced that Dr. Carl Carlucci has been appointed as Vice President for Budgets, Human Resources and Information Technology. His appointment was effective February 1, 2001. In addition, Dr. Bruce Lindsey has been named as Interim Vice President for Research. Dr. Lindsey was Chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, College of Medicine, Health Sciences Center. A national search is underway for a permanent Vice President for Research.

Provost Stamps' main item to present today was incentives for federal research funding as outlined in a memorandum from former Provost Thomas Tighe. One aspect of the memorandum was a recommendation that for those areas in which peer-reviewed nationally based funding is a major source of support such funding could be used as a criterion for promotion and tenure. Many of the deans expressed concern about changing the university-wide guidelines for tenure and promotion because various departments have different expectations in terms of external funding. What the Provost would like to do is have the deans ask the various departments in which external funding is an expectation to work toward changing their tenure and promotion guidelines to reflect the significance of the contribution of external funding in the tenure and promotion process.

At this time, Provost Stamps asked for a reaction from the SEC on this proposal to be brought before the full Faculty Senate. The general consensus of the SEC was that the process should be kept at the department level and not at the college level. It becomes easier to contain if it is kept at the department level.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

1. Committee on Committees (Jenifer Schneider)

At its meeting on January 25th, the Committee on Committees (COC) approved a revised membership roster for the Parking and Transportation Services Advisory Committee (PATSA), which was presented at today's meeting for the SEC's

approval. Discussion was held regarding the grouping of representatives which was based upon where people actually park. Specific issue was taken regarding representation for the people who will be housed in the new behavioral science building. It was recommended that the behavioral science representative should be grouped with the representative from Fine Arts. A motion was made to amend the committee structure to add to the faculty representative for Fine Arts the representative for the new behavioral science building. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The membership roster will now go back to the Committee on Committees for reconsideration.

At its January meeting, the COC also discussed the proposed changes to the Research Council charge. The COC did recommend to the Research Council that the words "exceptional research over time" be added to the proposed changes. Research Council Chair Melvyn Tockman replied that the Council did receive the recommendation and that it will be considered by the Council at its regularly scheduled meeting the following week.

The last item considered at the COC January meeting was a proposal from Professor Fredric Zerla, Chair of the Faculty Committee on Student Admissions, to remove the limits for that committee so that members could serve beyond their term. COC Chair Schneider indicated that the COC did not support this proposal, but recommended the wording that "members may not serve more than two consecutive terms." This recommendation was sent back to Professor Zerla for consideration by the Faculty Committee on Student Admissions. No response has been received.

The next COC item to be discussed at today's meeting was nominations from other personnel on faculty lines such as administrators, instructors, and research associates for membership on committees and councils. It was determined that when the call for faculty nominations was mailed out, it went to everyone on a faculty line regardless of their position. There was no differentiation made between assistant, associate, full professor, etc. Therefore, the Faculty Senate Office received a number of nominations from personnel other than faculty but who are on faculty lines.

Discussion was held as to how to decide which of the nominations should not go forward for consideration by the COC. Mr. Phil Smith clarified that there are three pay plans at USF by which people are categorized either as faculty, A&P or USPS. There are a number of positions that are in the faculty pay plan that never should have been in that pay plan. Those positions got there as an artifact of history because at one point in time the process was so ponderous to get A&P classified that deans and directors would classify them as faculty. Therefore, there are a lot of people that are in budget or technical positions and have virtually nothing to do with faculty type-activities, but who ended up in the faculty pay plan. It also happened because at one time the A&P pay plan was very restrictive in terms of pay categories which is no longer the case. Therefore, administrators were attracted to the faculty pay plan because they had greater flexibility which is also no longer the case. There were also some advantages that the faculty system had which did not exist for A&P. Mr. Smith indicated that the administration is trying to go through the system and reclassify those positions that fell into the faculty pay plan by accident and should possibly be classified as A&P. He also pointed out that there are approximately twenty-five different classifications within the faculty pay plan. In addition, there used to be a classification called ranked faculty that had a very specific meaning. That term now depends upon which document one reads because it gets used different ways. At one time, it meant assistant, associate and professor; in another time it meant instructor, assistant, associate, and professor. When productivity measures are run, lecturers are

included along with ranked faculty. So, when a mass mailing is sent out to faculty, everybody in the faculty pay plan is included. Mr. Smith recommended that the mailing be narrowed down to include only those individuals at the assistant, associate and full professor rank.

Secretary Vastine recommended that the same information from Research, Analysis and Planning (RAP) used to determine apportionment that match the criteria of assistant, associate, or full also be used to determine who is eligible to serve on university-wide committees and councils. It was the consensus of the SEC that the list of nominations from other personnel on faculty lines be compared to the RAP list for eligibility. Sergeant-at-Arms Barbara Loeding reminded the SEC that when these people are notified that they are not eligible to be a member of a particular committee or council, they should also be informed that the meetings are open that anyone can attend. Vice President Suresh Khator also recommended that the COC nomination form should reflect the same list of eligible faculty positions as the election nomination form.

Senator-at-Large Paveza made the motion that (1) the SEC table the decision on issues relating to nominations from other personnel on faculty lines in terms of their appointment to committees, and (2) that the COC be charged to review the charges of each committee to determine whether or not on those committees people who are not in ranked faculty lines be permitted to serve on that committee. The motion died due to a lack of a second.

Parliamentarian Sara Mandell then made the motion that the COC meet with Mr. Phil Smith and Vice Provost Tennyson Wright to discuss, in detail, how to draw the line between faculty and administrators and possibly reach a working resolution to be brought to the SEC for discussion. The motion was seconded and discussed. President Tyson stated that this problem should not exist in the future because of the change to be made in the call for nominations. Senator-at-Large Paveza responded that if it is not going to be a future problem, then with the current list the SEC has two options: (1) reject the whole list given the fact that there is a question, or (2) do a person-by-person determination of whether or not each person be allowed to serve. After further discussion, Parliamentarian Mandell withdrew her motion and Senator-at-Large Paveza withdrew the second. Instead, COC Chair Schneider made the motion that the COC will compare the list of nominations from other personnel on faculty lines with the RAP list to determine eligibility for serving on committees. The motion was seconded and discussion centered around having the procedure be consistent with the election apportionment process. A call to question was made in order to vote on the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

2. New Voting Unit (James Vastine)

Secretary Vastine received a letter from Professor Stephen Schreiber, Director of the School of Architecture and Community Design regarding the lack of representation on the Faculty Senate from that area. The *Constitution of the Faculty of the University of South Florida* states that "in establishing representation, the Faculty Senate may determine that a unit be represented that is not a recognized college." Discussion was held during which Mr. Smith indicated that the School of Architecture is more comparable to a college than they are a department because they do not report through a college dean. Although the School used to report to the Provost, it now reports to the graduate dean.

Senator-at-Large Paveza made the motion that the SEC approve the assignment of a

Senator to the School of Architecture and Community Design as an interim measure, and that they should be included in the general apportionment for the following academic year. The motion was seconded and was unanimously passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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