

2002

AY 2001/2002 FS meetings minutes: 02 Mar 20

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FS Minutes

March 20, 2002

FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. The agenda for today's meeting was approved. The Minutes of February 20, 2002, were approved as presented.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Gregory Paveza)

President Paveza discussed the visit of the ad hoc Investigating Committee of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). He thanked Administrative Assistant Ann Pipkins, members of the Senate, as well as the staff in the President and Provost offices for their assistance. President Paveza stated that the Committee complimented the University as the best organized visit they had ever conducted. In addition, they complimented the faculty who were willing to come forth and meet with the Committee.

President Paveza directed the Senate's attention to his letter written to President Genshaft regarding the Task Workgroups for the Board of Trustees (BOT). His recommendations were based upon which chairs of university-wide committees and councils would be beneficial to serve on the committees. The recommendations have gone forward and are in the process of being finalized.

Lastly, President Paveza announced the following faculty who were approved for the status of Professor Emeritus:

- College of Business Administration

Professor Arie Beenhakker

Professor Arthur Schwartz (St. Petersburg Campus)

- College of Arts and Sciences

Professor Juanita Garcia

Professor Jack Moore

- College of Education (St. Petersburg Campus)

Professor Eleanor Guetzloe

- College of Medicine

Professor Martin Klemperer, M.D.

The following awards were also announced:

- The Theodore & Venette Askounes-Ashford Distinguished Scholar Award

Professor Mary Evans - College of Nursing

Professor Thomas Klein - College of Medicine

- The Jerome Krivanek Distinguished Teacher Award

Professor Joan Kaywell - College of Education

- The Distinguished Service Award

Professor Sara Mandell - College of Arts and Sciences

PROVOST DAVID STAMPS

Provost Stamps announced that a Foundation Roundtable has been established. He is Chair of the Roundtable, with Vice Provost Catherine Batsche and Assistant Director Suzanne Moore from University Advancement as coordinators. The purpose of the Roundtable is to work with faculty to assist them in identifying sources from private foundations for funding. He pointed out that the funding is not restricted to only research, but is open to all areas. Provost Stamps announced that if faculty are looking for funding in a particular area, they should send him an e-mail message.

The Provost announced that the new Engineering building III is now open. In addition, he announced that funding should be available at the end of this cycle for the construction of the new Natural and Environmental Sciences building. However, the renovation of the Chemistry building may have to be put on hold until next year when additional funding becomes available.

A proposal to convert the Honors Program to an Honors College will be submitted to the BOT at the end of the week. The Provost announced that this conversion will cost approximately \$60,000-\$65,000. An Honors College will provide far more visibility and stature to the existing Honors Program and will attract a higher quality of student. Professor Stuart Silverman will be Interim Dean. A search for a permanent dean will take place in the fall. In addition to the Honors College proposal, a proposal for a Navy ROTC will be submitted to the BOT. By adding a Navy ROTC, USF would have a full complement of ROTC programs.

Academic Affairs Vice President Kathleen Moore will be assuming the duties and responsibilities of Interim Dean of Educational Outreach to replace Dr. Barbara Emil who resigned this month. There will be a search beginning in the fall to bring in a new Dean for Educational Outreach.

A faculty task force on student retention has been started. The Provost pointed out that this is not duplicative of other efforts in terms of retention. Although Student Affairs has a group that is looking at retention, it was decided to involve faculty to discuss retention to get their perspective. Professor Dwayne Smith, Chair of the Department of Criminology, is chair of the Retention Committee.

Provost Stamps announced that everyone would be getting a raise next year. The amount of the raises is not known at this time. In the Senate budget, the raise is a 2.5 percent increase for faculty and staff that would be effective October 1, 2002. In the House budget, the raise is a 1.5 percent increase that would be effective January 1, 2003. However, the Governor does not have any money in his budget for faculty raises. Universities and their representatives are working very diligently to ensure that faculty raises remain in the budget.

The last topic discussed by Provost Stamps was the issue of equity in funding. As mentioned at previous Senate meetings, although USF is a Research I university, out of the eleven State universities it ranks number nine in funding. Therefore, USF has proposed that it have equity in funding this year which would be approximately \$26 million. He explained that an average funding would be taken for all universities and then all universities would be funded at that average level, which would mean a significant increase for USF. If USF receives equity in funding, it will be much better off in terms of funding for next year. However, once equity in funding is established, that would mean USF would be funded at the same level in future years.

Candidates for the College of Education Dean position are being interviewed. The candidates for the College of Arts and Sciences Dean position will be scheduled for interviews in the very near future.

UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA REPORT (Roy Weatherford)

United Faculty of Florida (UFF) President Weatherford pointed out that although UFF continues to spend a lot of political energy on continuing the fight against one-time bonuses, it is not definite that there will be money for raises in the final budget. The Governor's recommendation is that all the money should go for one-time bonuses and not be included in base salaries and retirement computations.

The Second Faculty Forum on Academic Freedom with Professor Robert O'Neil went very well. The forum was well attended by both faculty and students. Professor O'Neil is one of the foremost authorities on the subject of Academic Freedom. Though he did not speak about the University's current issue with Academic Freedom, Dr. O'Neil did attend a meeting with President Weatherford and President Genshaft to discuss the issue privately.

President Weatherford then informed the Senate that a citizen had filed a private law suit against Dr. Sami Al-Arian for misappropriation of funds collected for

campaigning. The press will be on campus looking for reactions to the suit. President Weatherford stated he welcomed the news media for an opportunity to express that UFF is not a "cheering section" for Dr. Al-Arian in terms of his political beliefs or legal matters. The Union is concerned with individual rights of a tenured faculty member, which they feel are being abused, and the concern for the precedent that this will set for all faculty if he is dismissed officially for intransigent reasons.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

1. Senate Elections (Jana Futch)

Secretary Futch reported the following Faculty Senate election results for the academic year 2002-2003:

- College of Arts and Sciences

Elizabeth Bird

Carolyn DiPalma

Gurleen Grewal

Elizabeth Hirsh

Gregory McColm

Marilyn Myerson

Fraser Ottanelli

Graham Tobin

- College of Business

Ellis Blanton

- College of Education

Jenifer Schneider

- College of Medicine

Robert A. Hauser

Theresa Kraemer (one year appointment)

Tapan Padhya

Philip Shenefelt

Bernd Sokolowski

Hector Vila, Jr.

- College of Visual and Performing Arts

John Richmond

- Sarasota Campus

Mary Cuadrado

There are still three vacancies on the St. Petersburg campus and one in College of Business Administration.

2. Nomination of Senate Officers (Jana Futch)

Secretary Futch asked that Senate members turn in their nomination forms for Faculty Senate Officers by the end of the meeting. If an election was necessary for any of the officer vacancies, ballots would be mailed on Thursday, March 21st.

3. Merit Points for A+ (Sandra Reynolds and John Richmond)

The Senate's attention was directed to memos distributed by President Paveza and Mr. Christopher Cook, Student Government Faculty Senate liaison regarding the resolution for Merit Points for A+ (see attached).

The issue was discussed at the March SEC meeting. The motion forwarded was Option 3, which is to reject the Student Senate's resolution calling for A+ merit points for all students. This motion from the SEC was presented to the Faculty Senate. It was seconded and opened for discussion.

President Paveza clarified that the motion on the floor was to reject the resolution calling for merit points for A+. If the motion fails, then in essence the Senate has not accepted giving merit points for A+.

Mr. Cook stated that he had listened to the SEC discussions and the concern that changing the grading system to 4.33 would hurt the students. He then took it upon himself to contact several universities and recorded their responses. After speaking with admissions representatives from law, medicine, business, engineering and others, the response was unanimous that the 4.33 system would not hurt the students in any way. In addition, undergraduate admissions for transfer students stated that there would not be any harm in accepting students coming from a 4.33 grading system.

After a brief discussion, there was a call to question and a vote was taken. The motion to reject the Student Government resolution calling for A+ merit points for students was passed. Therefore, the Student Government resolution was rejected.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss at today's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Sherman Dorn made a motion to include a report from the Student Government Faculty Liaison as part of the regular Faculty Senate agenda. The motion was seconded and passed. The report will be added immediately following the UFF report as an on-going report.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

President Paveza informed the Senate that this was an organizational meeting, and he asked that each of the constituent units gather into groups to choose members to sit on the Committee on Committees and submit the names to Secretary Futch. Then it will be arranged for those Senators to have a brief meeting either after the April Senate meeting or the first meeting in September to elect the Chair for Committees on Committees for next year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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