

2003

## AY 2002/2003 SEC meeting minutes: 02 Nov 02

Faculty Senate

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# USF Faculty Senate Archives

## SEC Minutes

**November 2, 2002**

### SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 2, 2002

#### MINUTES

Present:	Glen Besterfield, Elizabeth Bird, Julian Dwornik, Susan Greenbaum, William Kealy, Jana Futch Martin, Kelli McCormack Brown, Cheryl McCoy, Mary Lou Morton, Gregory Paveza, Nancy Jane Tyson
Provost's Office:	Phil Smith
Student Government:	Gregory Sanderson

President Paveza called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. He then asked that the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) approve the revised agenda with one correction which was to move item 2 under New Business to item B. With that correction, the agenda was approved as revised. The Minutes of October 2, 2002, were approved as corrected.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Gregory Paveza)

President Paveza talked briefly about the passage of Amendment 11 by Florida voters the previous day. He pointed out that with the passage of this amendment, whoever succeeds him as Faculty Senate President will be sitting on the Board of Trustees (BOT), which raised two issues for him. One is that the University of South Florida (USF) is in a unique position. With the recent resignation of Trustee Swygert from the Board, a vacant spot exists on the BOT. President Paveza stated that it might be possible to suggest to the Governor, through the appropriate channels, that an interim appointment might be the president of the Faculty Senate in keeping with the passage of Amendment 11.

The second issue is whether or not the Faculty Senate should reconsider the current structure of how officers are elected in this body. His biggest concern is a structure

in which the Senate president changes every year which means that about the time that individual gets a feel for functioning on the BOT, he/she will rotate off the Board. Therefore, President Paveza will find three people who are prepared to serve on the Bylaws Committee, and have them explore the possibility of a single, two-year term for the officers of the Senate. It would require some restructuring of the Senate Bylaws and Constitution, but in the long run it makes some reasonable sense in terms of the ability of the Faculty Senate President to serve as an effective member of the BOT.

President Paveza announced that at the last SEC meeting he asked that the Ad Hoc Conference Committee on the Grading Structure report back to the SEC at its December meeting. If the members of the SEC agree, he would like to move that report to January. The reason is that the Senate tends not to meet in December, so for the SEC to have a report from this ad hoc committee in December, which would have to be postponed until the January meeting, is not going to speed up the process. In addition, given the fact that the university is into a period of breaks and holidays, giving them the extra month will probably allow them to conduct their business. Therefore, President Paveza asked that the Senate Executive Committee allow him to extend that reporting period by one month. There were no objections to this request.

### **PROVOST'S REPORT (David Stamps)**

Provost Stamps presented the following items that his office will be working on this year:

- SACS Accreditation Visit in 2005: USF is already in the process of working with the various departments in preparing for compliance as it is related to student learning outcomes. The other part is the quality enhancement plan which was previously explained by the Provost at an earlier SEC meeting. SACS has changed its criteria significantly in that they no longer have the 400+ must statements. There are certain student learning outcomes, and approximately 100+ compliance statements, but they are not must statements anymore.
- Honors College: One candidate was visiting this week, and the other three candidates will be coming in for the Dean of Honors College position. Once a permanent dean is hired, there will be further discussions about the structure of the Honors College.
- Expansion of Mathematics Center: In an effort to work more in terms of retention of the students, approximately \$250,000 has been funded for the expansion of the Mathematics Center.
- Writing Center: Although USF has a small writing center that is supported by the English Department, a comprehensive writing center will be established. This center is also a major issue in terms of retention of students.
- Center for the Humanities: Included in the strategic plan this time is the establishment of a Center for the Humanities. This will be a high priority.

- Internet-Based Programs: One of the challenges facing USF is the increasing number of web-based programs being offered by universities. These are not courses but complete programs.
- Faculty Nomination for Awards: Vice Provost Catherine Batsche has provided a list of all the national and international awards and honors for faculty. Chairs, deans, and other faculty are encouraged to nominate faculty. A fifteen page document has been put together telling when the nominations are due, how to nominate individuals, and the different national and international awards and honors for which someone can be nominated.
- Interdisciplinary Degree Programs: USF wants to move toward getting approval for more interdisciplinary degree programs particularly at the graduate level. USF is looking at degrees in biomedical engineering, computational biology, liberal arts, applied geographical and environmental sciences. USF is also pushing to go forward with a doctoral program in music.
- Study Abroad Programs: In conjunction with the Dean of International Studies, USF is trying to expand the study abroad opportunities for USF students as well expand opportunities for faculty to offer study abroad programs. International Studies has presented a proposal that helps with our ability to fund these programs and fund faculty salaries for teaching in the study abroad programs. This is something the administration is looking at that very closely and should be able to accomplish.
- Associate Faculty Reward System: The Provost's Office has been talking with Carol McKenna Lewis, Director of the Center for Community Partnerships, about establishing a formal faculty associates program where faculty members will become associate faculty in the center. Some type of reward system would be created for faculty who are associated with this Center.
- Independent Research Courses: USF will be encouraging the development of structured, independent research courses. For example, when projects occur within the community, faculty can pull together and provide courses. Students can sign up at different times during the semester using off-cycle registration in these courses and get academic credit for working in independent research courses that are community based.
- Federal Grand Applications: Faculty are still encouraged to submit for more federal grant applications.
- Interdisciplinary Buildings: Discussion has taken place in terms of building larger buildings. Rather than building interdisciplinary buildings, the idea is to build a large classroom building, a large faculty office building, with research and teaching laboratories. The idea is to enhance interdisciplinary education. It will also mean no more classes being held at the University Mall.

In response to the interdisciplinary buildings, several SEC members recommended

that consideration should be given about where they are placed, and how people are going to get to them. It was pointed out that people do not like having to walk, especially faculty where they have to carry heavy textbooks and with Florida weather it can be difficult for some faculty to teach classes. It was recommended that either an underground or overhead walkway be constructed to facilitate the mobility of people.

William Kealy, Chair of the Instructional Technology and Distance Learning Council (IT-DLC) was interested in the idea of a facility that promotes a multi-disciplinary approach. However, he was concerned that the right programs get in, and wondered if there were ways to promote the growth of interdisciplinary programs. For example, he felt there would be more interest if people knew there was some support or an award involved. Provost Stamps replied that this was a good idea, and that he will certainly take it under consideration. Although this has been tried in the past, the Provost commented that it did not work out quite as well as hoped. However, based upon that experience it should be possible to be successful this time.

Senator-at-Large Elizabeth Bird expressed concern about the way grant funding is administered here at USF. When there are two people involved on a grant, only one of those people can actually get credit for that grant. This tends to make it less attractive. She asked if it would be possible to work out these types of problems. Provost Stamps responded that he felt that these types of things can be worked out, especially if the time is taken to do so.

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON REPORT**

Student Liaison Sanderson reported that the Student Senate meeting was canceled this week to allow for the preparation of Homecoming.

## **REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS**

### **a. Replacement Senator (Jana Futch Martin)**

Secretary Martin announced that Senator Mary Cuadrado of Sarasota is going to be on a research grant in New Mexico during Spring Semester 2003. The Sarasota faculty have elected a faculty member protemp to cover for this time period and her name is Janice Faust. The motion was made to approve Professor Janice Faust from Sarasota as the Senator protemp for Mary Cuadrado. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

### **b. Research Council (Mary Lou Morton)**

Research Council Chair Morton announced that the Internal Awards applications have all been turned in. Decisions will be made by the beginning of December. She encouraged everybody to talk to colleagues about checking the web, and to provide feedback on the wording. The categories for the Internal Awards are:

- New Researcher Grant for \$10,000 maximum

- Established Researcher Grant for \$5,000 for twelve months
- Creative Scholarship Grant, which is new, \$10,000 for ten months
- Conference Support Grant for \$10,000 for twelve months. This grant is for helping create national and international conferences.
- Faculty International Travel Grant for a maximum of \$2,500
- Interdisciplinary Internal Award Grant that will be available in the Spring (amount to be determined)

c. Committee on Committees (Cheryl McCoy)

1. Committee/Council Nominations

Chair McCoy announced that the Committee on Committees (COC) met to review the nominees for vacancies on the Faculty Senate committees and councils. She explained that during the fall the COC only does the vacancies for Faculty Senate Standing Committees and Councils. In December there will be another call going out for Faculty Senate Standing Committees and Councils and the University-Wide Committees and Councils. Nominations from the December solicitation will be reviewed in the spring semester.

At this time, Chair McCoy presented a list of nominees recommended for current vacancies. President Paveza stated that this comes as a motion from the COC so it has already been moved and seconded as a report of a committee to the Senate Executive Committee. There was no discussion held. The motion was unanimously passed to accept the list of nominees and to forward them to the Faculty Senate for consideration at its November meeting.

2. Committee Status Reports

Chair McCoy announced that the COC has numerous committee issues that are still outstanding, mainly the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee and the Bachelor of Independent Studies Committee. Neither committee has submitted annual reports for the past several years. Last year there was a resolution presented to the Faculty Senate to disband these two committees. Although Chair McCoy met with members of the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee last spring, the meeting did not go well.

On behalf of the COC Chair McCoy asked for guidance from the SEC as to what to do with these types of committees that are no longer functioning as they should, if at all. After a brief discussion, Secretary Martin suggested that the SEC revisit the charges for the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee and the Bachelor of Independent Studies Committee. President Paveza asked Chair McCoy to provide copies of such to the SEC for the December meeting. Chair McCoy



stated that she would also pull together a full account of what has happened with these committees and include it in the meeting materials.

3. Charge Language

Chair McCoy indicated that another issue brought up by the COC dealt with the language in the various committee charges. There are several committees that have references to New College or to things that do not exist anymore. Chair McCoy asked how to present these changes to the SEC. President Paveza replied that the COC should go through and strike out all of the inappropriate language and present them enmasse to the SEC as amendments to the charges.

At this time President Paveza requested of Chair McCoy that the COC provide him with a recommended procedure for appointment of faculty to the BOT committees.

d. Instructional Technology and Distance Learning Council (William Kealy)

Chair Kealy announced that the IT-DLC is still pursuing the agreement with Adobe. He pointed out that things look much better with Macromedia. They are aggressively pursuing some type of a large-scale agreement with USF.

A related matter, but not necessarily an IT-DLC issue, is that the dean of the College of Education met with Jim Marshall, Vice President with Apple Corporation. They are working to move very quickly to create an agreement between USF and Apple which is looking promising. The critical mass is being built around some of these companies and their interests with USF.

On the WebCT issue, Chair Kealy has asked Alicia Balsera, Associate Director of Academic Computing, to prepare a list of all the colleges and faculty who are currently using WebCT to see if some cohorts can be identified that can make use of the 3,000 licenses that are available on WebCT.

Ms. Monica Metz-Wiseman will address the IT-DLC regarding the work on electronic dissertations and theses, specifically new formats that may be used along these lines.

Chair Kealy asked for guidance on how to fill the seven vacancies on the IT-DLC, particularly those on the St. Petersburg and Sarasota campuses. President Paveza replied that he agreed to a meeting with interim CEO Ralph Wilcox of the St. Petersburg campus and the chair of the Faculty Council at St. Petersburg to meet with them in about one week to ten days to discuss issues between the two campuses. During this meeting, he will bring up the fact that the Faculty Senate has not been able to get a Senator out of St. Petersburg for several years. He added that those SEC members who know people on the Lakeland and Sarasota campuses should approach them about being involved in issues on campus by becoming a Senator and being on committees. As for the other vacancies, President Paveza responded to encourage faculty in each of those colleges to apply.

Senator-at-Large Bird brought up the Commencement and Convocation Committee and its function. A brief discussion was held and it was decided that the SEC should also review the charge for this committee. Chair McCoy was asked to include for the December SEC meeting the Commencement and Convocation Committee charge along with the charges for the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee and the Bachelor of Independent Studies.

e. Graduate College (Kelli McCormack Brown)

Chair McCormack-Brown announced that on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Marshall Center there would a theses and dissertation awards ceremony. There are five dissertations and four thesis awards, as well as the Ann Lynch Award that will be presented. Everyone was invited to attend. Normally only four dissertation awards are given out, but there was enough money for five this time.

a. Agenda for the November Faculty Senate Meeting

1. Presentation by the FAST! Team (university's new financial system):  
The FAST! Team has asked to make a presentation to the Faculty Senate. With the SEC's concurrence, the Team will come and make a fifteen-minute presentation about how the new financial system will work. There were no objections.

b. Presentation by Athletics Director Lee Roy Selmon

Mr. Selmon attended today's meeting to share with the SEC what is going on in USF athletics, and what is being accomplished. He thought it would also be an opportunity to bring the SEC up-to-date and to encourage participation and involvement. He pointed out that the mission in the world of athletics is the same mission that everyone has, and that is to try and create the very best experience that is possible educationally. The Athletics Department strongly encourages student athletes to be good students first and athletes second. There are policies in place to encourage that as well.

Mr. Selmon praised Ms. Phyllis Labaw in the academic enrichment area for her commitment and dedication to seeing that the athletes get the necessary things in order to do their best.

Mr. Selmon pointed out that the student athletes are tracked. The department works well with the professors in tracking attendance, their performances from test to test from midterms on, and identifying if they need tutors which are available to come in and assist the student athletes. The mean GPA of all USF student athletes in the fall of 2001 was 2.97, almost 3 points up from last year. The GPA for Conference USA for our student athletes was 3.48 in 2001 and 2002 which earned USF second place in the Conference out of the 14 schools that are in the conference. This identifies the overall top performers in the classrooms. The institution that has been consistently winning it in recent years is St. Louis. This is a private institution, and they are always performing well. USF's goal is to unseat them and be number one in the Conference academically with its GPA's. Among our male population, the



GPA was 2.77 this past spring versus 2.71 in the fall of 2001. There has been some improvement in that area as well. Also, for the female athletes there has been improvement in that same period from 3.19 to 3.26. USF is heading in the right direction, and it is going to keep pushing its student athletes to really stay focused in their class work.

USF has nine women's programs and eight of those teams' overall GPA's exceeded 3.0. The young ladies are doing a nice job, and the one team that did not achieve that particular mark ended up with a 2.94. They were almost at a 3.0 or better as a team themselves. The teams that had the highest mean GPA in the spring of 2002, in the history of these teams, was the women's cross-country team that came in at 3.58 as a team. The women's sailing team was a 3.55 GPA, and the men's golf team was a 3.0. This is the highest in history that those teams have collectively reached those levels of GPA. USF is one of the highest Conference honor roll participants. One hundred and seventy six student athletes from USF made the Conference honor roll at 3.0 which is the benchmark.

USF has eighteen different sports, and the fall sports teams have been in competition and have been doing very well. The football program is making the most of the season. Mr. Selmon praised Coach Levitt and his staff and players that have won six of their games, and only lost two. USF will be in Conference USA next year competing with its football program. There has been talk about a bowl opportunity. Whether it becomes reality is still yet to be played out.

Mr. Selmon announced the unveiling of plans to build a new athletic training facility. The training center is important in that it will bring all the different programs together under one roof. He feels that having nicer facilities will enhance the experience for current and prospective students. As a result, USF will be able to continue to enhance the quality of its student athletes and effectiveness of their abilities on the courts and fields. This facility will be located just northeast of the Sun Dome in the north parking lot on the east side. It will be a two-story, 103,000 square foot facility. It will house locker rooms for football coaches, offices for administrative staff, as well as the development team, all of whom are currently housed in trailers on the east side of the Sun Dome. The new facility will have coaches' offices for many of USF's Olympic sports teams, tennis, softball, and baseball programs which are now located in the Sun Dome. This facility will have all offices in one location on the top level. On the ground level will be the locker room space for the coaches, as well as player and locker rooms for the aforementioned programs, as well as the football program. It will be large enough for all of the players to do their strength conditioning exercises. On the second level will be a new academic enrichment center that will help enhance USF's competitiveness and academic performance. It is hoped that this facility will gain approval from the Board of Education in January. Shortly thereafter, construction will begin.

In conclusion, Mr. Selmon pointed out that he wanted to share with the SEC what is going on in the Athletics Department and that its main philosophy is about education. He emphasized that his staff should never lose that focus and to encourage athletic students to work well in the classroom. It is also an opportunity to express his great appreciation for citizens in this community that support this department.

## OTHER

- a. Vice President Greenbaum asked if it would be appropriate to bring before the Faculty Senate a discussion about filling the vacancy on the BOT with the President of the Faculty Senate. President Paveza replied that it would if the SEC sees it as an appropriate agenda item to take to the full Senate for discussion with any action the Senate might like to take. He will bring to the Faculty Senate a resolution or motion from this group that the Faculty Senate consider discussing and recommending to the President of the university that, if there is an appointment of an interim member before the new Board goes in place, she recommend that the President of the Faculty Senate be appointed as an interim member. A motion was made and seconded that President Paveza should draft a resolution as stated above and present it to the Faculty Senate at its November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was unanimously passed.
- b. President Paveza announced that unless there is a need for the December Faculty Senate meeting, it would be canceled.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m

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