

2007

AY 2006/2007 FS meetings minutes: 06 Sep 20

Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2006

Faculty Senate President Michael Barber called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of April 19, 2006, were approved as amended.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DECEASED FACULTY (Michael Barber)

At this time of the year, it is the duty of the Faculty Senate President to record the passages of faculty for the previous academic year. President Barber asked everyone to stand while he read the following names.

- Dr. Gordon Brunhild, College of Business Administration
- Dr. Ward Stavig, College of Arts and Sciences
- Dr. John Obara, College of Engineering
- Dr. A.N.V. Rao, College of Arts and Sciences
-

A moment of silence was requested for the passing of these colleagues.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT MICHAEL BARBER

President Barber thanked Provost Khator for her help in making it possible for refreshments to be available during and after the meeting, thereby allowing a greater number to partake who have to leave the meeting early.

Name badges were available for everybody upon their arrival at the meeting. Vice President John Ward and Administrative Assistant Ann Pipkins were thanked for having the badges made.

President Barber intends to continue the practice of having the Senate Executive Committee meet monthly all year round during his two years as president. He would appreciate the efforts of these officers and council chairs to attend as many of those meetings as possible during the summer months.

Senator Graham Tobin, College of Arts and Sciences, was appointed as Parliamentarian for the 2006-2007 Academic Year. Senator Andrew Hoff, College of Engineering, was appointed to serve as the Faculty Senate representative on the Enrollment Management Action Team.

President Barber announced that there is a need for a representative to the University Lecture Series. Self-nominations are acceptable. Anyone interested in volunteering to serve on this committee should notify him via e-mail.

During the summer, the Senate Executive Committee worked on recommendations regarding the Departmental Faculty Governance Document Guidelines. The document was approved by the Senate Executive Committee and forwarded to the Provost. It is anticipated that the document will be distributed to Deans for dissemination.

The Board of Governors is meeting on the USF Tampa campus Wednesday and Thursday, September 20th and 21st.

The Faculty Senate received a request from Janet Moore, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, to discuss the topic of the “USF Commitment to Honor and Living the Commitment.” The item was referred to the Council for Educational Policies and Issues for consideration and a future report to the Faculty Senate.

Members of the Senate Executive Committee met with Provost Khator on September 13th to discuss important topics of common interest. Goals were to identify those items that would benefit most from faculty input, as well as to develop methods of enhancing communications between the faculty and the administration.

President Barber will meet with the Chairs of the College Councils on Friday, September 22nd to talk about Senate-Council relationships and to see how the Senate and the leaders of the College Councils can interact on topics of mutual interest.

Within the next month, President Barber plans to visit all the regional campuses to talk to their campus faculty leadership groups and discuss the relationship of the Faculty Senate to the regional campuses.

To improve communications with the rest of the faculty, the Faculty Senate intends to send out an email which would contain a few bulleted items such as the major topics of discussion from the Faculty Senate’s Wednesday meeting. This bulleted email would be sent out within a couple of days of the meeting to inform the faculty of issues the Senate discussed and actions taken. President Barber received a request from the Graduate Assistance United to discuss the 12-Hour Rule. He would be willing to take under advisement from the Senate as to how it would like to handle that request from the students to talk about the 12-Hour Rule in a Faculty Senate meeting.

The Senate Executive Committee has had extensive discussions, primarily led by Vice President John Ward, on the proposed Criminal Background Check policy. He has contributed a tremendous amount of insight into the challenges that exist within this policy, and the Faculty Senate should thank him for his strenuous efforts to make sure this policy is correct and benefits the whole institution.

Vice President Ward has finished his term as the liaison to the Marshall Center Board of Advisors. Professor Larry Branch, Chair of the Committee on Faculty Issues, volunteered to serve on the Board for the next two years.

President Barber expressed his appreciation for the roles of all the chairs of the various councils and committees and commended them for the jobs they did during the summer.

The Faculty Senate web site will be improved to make it operational and more user friendly as a vehicle for improving communication between the Faculty Senate and the rest of the faculty.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft announced that the Board of Governors meeting being held on the Tampa campus would be web cast for those who cannot attend.

After five years, Richard Beard has stepped down as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Rhea Law, formerly Vice Chair, is the new Chair. John Ramil is the Board of Trustees Vice Chair. It was five years ago that the Board of Trustees was formed and the first strategic plan was put into place. Chair Law will now create another Strategic Planning Committee to refine the plan for the next five years. She will be appointing a small group from throughout the University. Secretary Dale Johnson has been appointed to represent the Senate. The Board of Trustees is expecting this updated plan to be developed by December. Board of Trustee member Lee Arnold will chair this effort.

President Genshaft announced that USF reached a new level of \$310M in research awards and contracts. She thanked all of the faculty for their efforts in making this happen.

USF submitted two Centers of Excellence grants to compete for \$30M in funding for Centers of Excellence. Seven world-class scholar nominations were also submitted in competition for \$20M for world-class scholars; four from USF Health and three from USF Research. In addition, USF received \$8.5M to work on projects in marine science.

Currently a new Student Center is being constructed. The funds for this new center are from student fees. Construction is expected to take two years.

Although USF will be ending its 50th year on December 2nd, the University Lecture Series Committee will be bringing in more excellent speakers. President Genshaft encouraged participation on the University Lecture Series Committee.

President Genshaft commented that her office did receive the material on the proposed Criminal Background Check policy. This was started because many states have mandated background checks at universities, and other universities in Florida are looking into such a policy. USF wants to look at where the proposed policy stands in relation to similar policies at other universities in Florida. Consequently, a hold has been put on the proposed USF policy.

REPORT FROM PROVOST RENU KHATOR

Provost Khator welcomed everyone and congratulated Faculty Senate Barber on his election.

Distributed to aid with her report was a data sheet called “Fall 2006 – Sixth Day Enrollment (After Drop/Add)” which contained figures and percentages for student enrollment, as well as USF’s campus diversity. Provost Khator added that there were 233 new faculty this year: 118 in Academic Affairs, 115 in USF Health; 87 were ranked faculty, 28 of whom were in USF Health.

Provost Khator announced the following administrative appointments: Robert Forsythe, Dean, Business Administration; Delcie Durham, Associate Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies; Sunil Saigal, Interim Dean, Engineering; Robert Friedman, Interim Dean, Florida Mental Health Institute; and Leellen Brigman, Associate Vice President, Enrollment, Planning and Management. There are four dean searches underway for the College of Marine Science, the Library, Engineering, and the Florida Mental Health Institute.

Provost Khator recognized Student Government President Frank Harrison as a representative on the Board of Governors. In that capacity, he represents all the students in the State of Florida at the meetings.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT ROY WEATHERFORD

President Weatherford reported that the UFF has been in consultation with the Administration on the issue of the proposed policy on criminal background check (i.e., fingerprint policy). There was concern from some faculty in the College of Public Health whose assignment took them into public schools. The university required these faculty to be fingerprinted and to pay for the process. On the other hand, President Weatherford had been told that some of the faculty in the College of Education have been fingerprinted but did not have to pay for it. It is a matter of concern for those faculty involved. When the issue is raised with Administration, the position is taken that this is not a term or condition of employment, but a term or condition for a particular assignment. If it is determined that fingerprinting does become a general term or condition of employment, then it and any associated costs will have to be bargained. President Weatherford encouraged the Faculty Senate and the Administration to keep this in mind to avoid any unnecessary conflicts in the future.

REPORT FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government Associate Director Alecia Peacock and Sabreena Khan, Director of Research and Development, reported on the following initiatives which Student Government has been working on:

- College Readership Program
- Extended Library Hours
- Enrollment Management Action Team
- Department of Research and Development
- Academic Integrity Council

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

a. Approval of Nominees for Senate Vacancies (Dale Johnson)

Secretary Johnson presented the nomination of Professor Martha Lynn Gackle, Choral Music Education, for a Senate vacancy in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. A

motion was made and seconded to accept her nomination. The motion was unanimously passed.

Due to the lack of information submitted by all of the nominees for the College of Medicine vacancies, these were tabled until the next Faculty Senate meeting.

b. Nominations from Committee on Committees (Kim Lersch)

Committee on Committees Chair Lersch presented the following slate of nominees for vacancies on Standing Committees and Councils of the Faculty Senate:

John Ferron, Professor, Ed. Measurement	General Education Council
C. David Frankel, Instructor, School of Theatre and Dance	General Education Council
Edward Kellner, Instructor, Computer Science	General Education Council
Glenn Smith, Asst. Prof., Secondary Education	USF-wide Technology committee CTIR
Wilson Palacios, Assoc. Prof., Criminology	Research Council

These individuals had been approved by the Senate Executive Committee for membership and were forwarded to the Faculty Senate with a motion to approve. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

At this time, President Barber opened the floor to discuss items that were dealt with last year, as well as items that need to be continued.

- The first item was the university constitution. Past President Susan Greenbaum stated that the Senate should continue this discussion, it should have a constitution, and it should be clarified why there has not been more bi-lateral interest in this issue. The Senate was at a stage where it received a report from a Senate representative, the Senate re-examined the concept of the constitution, and the idea was that the Senate would now lead a small committee to address what kind of constitution it would deem desirable and how to go about doing this. After a brief discussion, it was the collective wisdom of the body that the Faculty Senate enter a discussion with the Administration and begin the construction process of the constitution.
- As chair of the Committee on Faculty Issues, Larry Branch commented that there was work last year on a faculty handbook. At one point it was put on hold to see what would happen with the constitution. Therefore, there are two things that are going on simultaneously, discussion concerning the constitution and discussion concerning the

handbook. His committee is going to bring that forward and keep both things moving on parallel tracks with the constitution.

- The Committee on Faculty Issues is in the last stages of developing an evaluation protocol questionnaire for the USF President, Provost, Vice President for Health. Once the evaluation questionnaire has been developed, a copy will be provided to the three individuals in those positions and to the Faculty Senate.
- The Committee on Faculty Issues developed a career ladder for faculty in tenure and non-tenure positions. The committee has submitted a proposal to the USF United Faculty of Florida for its input.
- Past President Greenbaum reported that the Faculty Senate Resolution on the Foundation Surcharge never moved forward because the mechanism needed to disseminate the resolution was not in the Senate's control.

At this time, a motion was made and seconded that a list with as wide a definition of faculty as possible be established for the Senate to use to contact members of the faculty. After a brief discussion, there was a call to question. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

- President Barber will follow up on a parking report from the Center for Urban and Transportation Services, as well as the status of the parking town hall meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

President Barber solicited items that the Senate considered valuable topics for future discussion. Topics were: (1) additional revenue to renovate buildings, (2) the Senate's relation with the Board of Trustees, and (3) problems encountered by students with doing on-line evaluations of administrators and faculty. It was proposed that the Senate endorse, or strongly recommend, that the leadership of the university lobby the legislature for funds for renovations.

At this time a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m.