

2009

AY 2008/2009 FS meetings minutes: 08 Nov 19

Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 3:14 p.m. by Faculty Senate President Laurence Branch. Due to a lack of quorum at the onset of the meeting, the agenda was rearranged to start with the administrative reports. However, due to an emergency President Judy Genshaft was not present at this time, nor was Provost Ralph Wilcox who was preparing for the Board of Governor's (BOG) meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 20th. Therefore, their combined reports were given by Senior Vice Provost Dwayne Smith and consisted of the following items:

- At its November meeting, the BOG will be considering three new Ph.D. programs at USF: Government, History, and Sociology. Optimism was high that the programs would be approved.
- Governor Crist will be making an announcement on Thursday, November 20th regarding tuition changes in Florida.
- A Budget Review Conference is scheduled for Friday, November 21st at which projected state revenues will be revealed.
- The two *New York Times* articles he distributed addressed that universities across the United States are being affected far worse than USF by budget cuts; private universities included. An additional handout provided a breakdown of where budget trouble is brewing throughout the United States. Florida falls within the group of states that had to close revenue gaps when they adopted their current budgets and now face new deficits midyear.
- Due to misinformation circulating about the mandatory winter closing during the week of December 22-26, 2008, there will be a missive sent out about the rules of engagement during that time.
- The task force on differential tenure and promotion has been dropped. The administration is looking at alternative methods of achieving the same mission without necessarily engaging in a formal change in the procedures.

At this time, President Branch was informed there was quorum and the meeting proceeded according to the distributed agenda. A motion was made and seconded to accept the October 15, 2008, Minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously passed.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- a. Committee on Committee Nominations (Ellis Blanton)

Committee on Committees (COC) Chair Blanton presented the following slate of faculty nominations to fill vacancies on the Faculty Senate Standing Committees and Councils.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
FACULTY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS
Fall Semester 2008**

Commencement and Convocation Committee

Ava Chitwood (CAS)
Ippokratis Kantzios (CAS)

Committee on Faculty Issues

Jana Martin (LIB)
Muhammad Rahman (ENG)

Council on Educational Policy and Issues

Susan Silver (LIB)

Council on Technology for Instruction and Research

Orhan Arslan (COM)

General Education Council

Roger Boothroyd (BCS)
Eleni Manolaraki (CAS)
Sonia Wohlmuth (CAS)
Sharon Geiger (Honors)
Patricia Maher (Undergraduate Studies)

Graduate Council

Orhan Arslan (COM)
Marzenna Wiranowska (COM)
Barbara Redding (NUR)
Mumtaz Rojiani (COM)
Deborah Williams (NUR)

Honors and Awards Council

Carol Borchert (LIB)
Sang-Hie Lee (VPA)

Library Council

Allison Edmonds (NUR)

Publications Council

James Andrews (CAS)
Merilyn Burke (LIB)

Research Council

Rita Ciresi (CAS)

Dale Johnson (CAS)

David Mann (MARS)

George Blanck (COM)

Laura Swisher (COM)

Kevin Kip (NURS)

These nominations came to the Faculty Senate from the COC with a motion to accept. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. According to their charges, the nominees for the Committee on Faculty Issues and the Council on Educational Policy and Issues will be appointed by Faculty Senate President Branch. The other nominations will be forwarded to Provost Wilcox for final consideration and appointment

b. Proposed Amendment X to Bylaws (Michael Barnett)

At the October meeting, Faculty Senate Secretary and Chair of the Bylaws Committee Barnett formally introduced Amendment X, which is a revision of proposed Amendment XII, so that it fits better within the flow of the current Bylaws. To achieve this, the Bylaws Committee proposed adopting a change to the Bylaws that retitles the current Amendment X to XI and Amendment XI to XII. In addition, he also presented a proposed amendment to establish the Resolution Implementation Committee (RIC) as a standing committee. These proposals were again presented at today's meeting for discussion and vote. Secretary Barnett reiterated that the purpose of Amendment X is to have a process to move resolutions through the Senate. There were three parts: the actual amendment itself; creation of the RIC; and renumbering of the amendment. The floor was opened for discussion.

A Senator opined that the administration should be made part of the collaboration, not kept separate from it. It was recommended that the Bylaws Committee should develop a statement of shared governance to be more collaborative between all groups. Secretary Barnett noted that the amendment in no way precluded collaboration with the administration. Another concern was if only Senators or members of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) can sponsor a resolution, how would chairs of the standing committees and councils bring resolutions to the floor of the Senate especially since not all chairs of the standing committees and councils are members of the SEC. Secretary Barnett noted that the amendment allows those committees and councils headed by non-SEC members to bring resolutions to the Senate through sponsorship by an SEC member or other Senators, and so while there is no explicit mechanism to allow for it, the amendment does not block the access of these committees and councils to the Senate.

There was a call to question. A motion was made and seconded to accept all three parts of Amendment X. The motion was unanimously passed. The amendment will now become Article X of the Bylaws to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA (UFF) PRESIDENT SHERMAN DORN

UFF President Dorn's reported on three collective bargaining issues: Sabbaticals as Efficient Retention, Sweeteners in March proposal on Article 22, and How high is the annual marginal cost of USF's current sabbatical program? A grievance is being filed on the mandatory use of administrative leave during the Christmas holiday.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

At this time, President Genshaft reported on the following items:

- Earlier in the day, during a meeting with the University Investment Committee, USF Foundation board member Robert Dressler collapsed and later died at the University Community Hospital. A funeral service will take place at 10 a.m. on Friday, November 21st at Congregation Rodeph Sholom Synagogue.
- Budget issues:
 - There will be a special Legislative session in January.
 - PICO funds are down \$130 million.
 - The Governor will announce tomorrow that Florida universities will be able to raise their own tuitions by 15 percent per year for seven years, or until our tuitions are at the national average, whichever comes first. Thirty percent of new tuition brought in must go to need-based financial aid.
 - The State is not going to put any more money into Bright Futures.
 - Tuition increases will be used for instructional, faculty enhancements, and counseling/advising services.
 - Cutting tenured faculty would be the very last thing USF would do during budget reductions.

REPORT FROM CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER MICHAEL PEARCE

CTO Pearce's report consisted of an update on the status of the objectives he presented to the Faculty Senate a year ago, along with future timelines and objectives in the form of a new IT organization working together with the USF system structure. He announced that the new IT web site, <http://www.it.usf.edu>, has on-line chat capabilities directly with support people.

REPORT FROM STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE JERRY TROTTER

Mr. Trotter reported the following Student Government activities that have taken place this year:

Student Impact:

New Student Resource Agency that includes Alumni and Athletic Services
Computer Services has been taken to a new level
WBUL is looking into going High Definition

Voter Registration Drive: “Wake Up Wednesday s” & Presidential Debate
Shirt Exchange Program
Recycling Program
Undergraduate Research Fair

Building Ties:

Student Organizations: Collaborative Bulls Fund, Leadership Socials, Bulls Country Collaboration
Marketing Department: Displaying SG presence, new leaf, Muvico, contracting, larger vision, new website
Faculty Senate: University Wide Committees, collaboration meetings
Administration & Student Affairs: Eric Reiter & Gary Manka, Summit and vision meetings
Safety on Campus: Dr. Benson, Tom Sisko, NITE walk, Always on Alert

Internal Improvements:

Voting Transparency and Accountability Legislation
Surveys: Students and SG
Strategic Plan
Transition Material
Travel Request Forms

Creating New Opportunities:

Programming Board
SG Reconciliation and Mediation Protocol, Legislative Leadership Development
Advocacy (including Mentorship)
A&S Fees: A&S Finance & Budget Re-Alignment, allowing fundraising and “dues,”
Subjectivity versus objectivity.

External Improvements:

Florida Student Association: differential tuition, Bright Futures
Next Bus Bull Runner tracking company
Advocating student interests & representing them
MOSI partnership

Vice President Steve Permuth commended Mr. Trotter and the entire Student Government for being so actively involved in the governance structures at USF. He added that Student Government is also partnering with the Faculty Senate and the United Faculty of Florida in co-hosting Dr. Leroy Dubeck of Temple University on a budget trend analysis presentation which will include a review of the budget of USF. Tentative dates for Dr. Dubeck’s visit are either January 22 or 23, 2009. More specifics will be forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

President Branch presented the following resolution on the nomination and appointment of faculty liaisons to the Board of Trustees (BOT) workgroups:

The following Resolution was passed unanimously by the USF Faculty Senate Executive Committee on October 29, 2008, and will be offered at the full Faculty Senate meeting on November 19, 2008.

Whereas the University of South Florida Board of Trustees has the responsibility to establish policies at the University of South Florida,

Whereas the University of South Florida Faculty Senate has the responsibility to advise the USF President, Provost, and Vice-President for Health on matters that affect the university,

Whereas the University of South Florida Faculty Senate is the elected body of the faculty and is the sole representative body of the faculty,

Whereas the University of South Florida Board of Trustees has organized itself into three workgroups that focus on the attainment of institutional goals adopted by the Board of Trustees,

Whereas the Board of Trustees seeks to ensure that the actions of the Board are informed by the experience and perspectives of faculty, and the Board has established the practice of naming faculty liaisons to each workgroup,

Whereas the Board of Trustees seeks to support the principle of shared governance,

Therefore, be it resolved that henceforth the duly elected representative body of the University of South Florida faculty, the Faculty Senate, through its duly elected President, shall nominate all faculty liaisons to the Board of Trustees' workgroups, and

Be it further resolved that henceforth all faculty liaisons to the Board of Trustees' workgroups will serve staggered three-year terms, with the possibility of one uninterrupted reappointment.

He explained that within the BOT there are three workgroups each of which has faculty representatives. However, there is no vehicle to have the faculty representatives on these workgroups report back to the Faculty Senate. There are no rules or regulations regarding the term limits, and the assumption is that the appointment would be for two years. President Branch has discussed this with the Provost's Office and that office is also seeking clarification. The Provost's Office would like to maintain the ability to make all recommendations to the president of the university who then would make recommendations to the BOT about who the faculty members on the workgroups should be. In addition, the Provost's Office has informed President Branch that it feels faculty and administrators are appropriate individuals to serve as the faculty representatives on the BOT workgroups.

Consistent with Article X of the Bylaws, the resolution was introduced to the Senate, with discussion and a vote to take place at the January meeting. The recommendation was made to delete "through its duly elected President," in the second to the last paragraph. The resolution

will be posted on the Faculty Senate web site for review by the Senators before the January meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

President Branch reported that he, Senator Emanuel Donchin and President Genshaft attended a meeting of the Task Force to Review the Administrative Structure of the University to review the charge for that group. President Branch explained the origin of the task force. As Faculty Senate President, it is Dr. Branch's expectation that the next round of cuts is not going to be nearly as painless as the first, and he wanted to make sure there was shared information and understanding because if cuts start happening people will want to know that the pain is shared appropriately. It is in this context that the faculty has heard of redundancies in the financial system at the university and why the President had agreed to attend a task force meeting to present an overview. Also in attendance were representatives from the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity, the Finance Office, and the Office of the General Counsel, and Associate Vice President Linda Whiteford from the Provost's Office.

In the Finance department's report provided during this meeting it was revealed that there were approximately 77 million dollars devoted to that department, 857 staff positions out of a total non-faculty staff positions at USF between 3,400 and 3,500. It was pointed out that the 857 positions were 12.5 percent of the E&G budget of the university. Although USF Health has an additional component of finance, audit and review, none of that information was covered thereby creating a numerator of the Academic Affairs side, but a denominator of Academic Affairs and Health which brings up the question of where the redundancies exist.

The outcome of the meeting was that maybe the approach of just looking at FTEs was not going to produce anything, but what really should be done is to investigate the particular instances where people suggested there were duplication of effort. President Branch reiterated that the whole intent was to make sure that everyone has shared information so that when the next round of cuts come everyone can participate as informed individuals.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. The next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2009.

ADDENDUM
Follow-Up Items

1. Provost Wilcox to convene a committee to draft a university policy in the spirit of the CEPI document (FS Mtg. 9-17-08).
2. Provost Wilcox asked to provide FTE for the 2001 and 2008 benchmarks, as well as dollar support for people listed on the Institutional Growth, AY 2000/01 through AY 2008/9-Selected Measures handout (FS Mtg. 10-15-08).
3. Details to be provided by Vice President Permuth on Dr. Larry Dubeck's visit (FS Mtg. 11-19-08).
4. Discussion and vote on Nomination and Appointment of Faculty Liaisons to the BOT Workgroups resolution (FS Mtg. 11-19-08).

ADDENDUM
Completed Items

1. Names of two Faculty Senators sent to President Genshaft for the Alcohol Awareness and Education Task Force (November 24, 2008).