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## AY 2012/2013 FS meeting minutes: 2012-10-17

Faculty Senate

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**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**October 17, 2012**  
**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Chamber Room 4200 Marshall Student Center**

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of New Senators
3. Approval of September 19, 2012 Minutes
4. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs
  - a. Approval of Committee on Committees Nominations – Ellis Blanton (5 minutes)
  - b. Approval of Honorary Degree Recommendation – Marzenna Wiranowska (5 minutes)
  - c. Proposed Kosove Awards – Marzenna Wiranowska (10 minutes)
5. Old Business
  - a. Strategic plan update - Graham Tobin (5 minutes)
  - b. Budget process update - Ralph Wilcox (5 minutes)
6. New Business
  - a. Open Enrollment Updates 2013 – Aurora Albritton (10 minutes)
  - b. Proposed Conversion of Patel School into a College – Kalanithy Vairavarmoorthy (30 minutes)
  - c. General Education Update - Bob Sullins, Karla Davis-Salazar (10 minutes)
7. Report from President Judy Genshaft (10 minutes)
8. Report from Provost Ralph Wilcox (10 minutes)
9. Report from USF System Vice President Gregory Teague (5 minutes)
10. Report from USF United Faculty of Florida – Paul Terry (5 minutes)
11. Report from Student Senate President Pro Tempore Scott Sandoval (5 minutes)
12. Report from Faculty Senate President Gregory Teague (5 minutes)
13. Issues from the Floor (5 minutes)
14. Next scheduled meeting – November 14, 2012

## **USF FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

October 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Faculty Senate President Gregory Teague. Before proceeding, he commented that with the full agenda for today's meeting, the Senators had four choices to think about: (1) have more meetings, (2) have longer meetings, (3) postpone some items until a later time, or (4) talk about only those items that really need to be talked about. President Teague then introduced the newly appointed Senators who had been approved for one-year terms by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC): Arts and Sciences – Emanuel Donchin, Patrizia LaTrecchia, Cynthia Patterson; Behavioral and Community Sciences – David Chiriboga; Medicine – Sheila Connery, Mike Schoenberg, Charurut Somboonwit; and Nursing – Versie Johnson-Mallard.

### **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2012 MINUTES**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting as written. There was no discussion. The motion unanimously passed with no abstentions.

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

a. Approval of Committee on Committees Nominations – Ellis Blanton

Committee on Committees (COC) Chair Blanton brought to the Senators' attention the list of recommendations from the COC to fill existing vacancies on the Standing Councils of the Faculty Senate. The list came to the Senate with a motion to approve. Chair Blanton announced that he was recently notified that Dr. Megan Sheffield, nominee for Member-at-Large on the Research Council, is leaving USF to take a position at Clemson University. Therefore, the COC will go back to the list of nominations and submit the next person in line from Arts and Sciences for Member-at-Large. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the recommendations was unanimously passed. Appointment letters will be sent from President Teague with the exception of the Research Council recommendations which will be forwarded to the Vice President of Research and Innovation for review and appointment.

b. Approval of Honorary Degree Recommendation – Marzenna Wiranowska

On behalf of the Honors and Awards Council (HAC), Dr. Wiranowska presented Dr. Jerry Atwood's nomination for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science. The nomination was submitted by the Department of Chemistry. It was approved by the SEC on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and came to the Faculty Senate with a motion to approve. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Atwood's nomination will be forwarded to President Judy Genshaft for review and consideration.

c. Proposed Kosove Awards – Marzenna Wiranowska

HAC Chair Wiranowska attended today's meeting to present two new awards that will be administered under the auspices of the Faculty Senate: the Kosove Distinguished Graduate Teaching and Service Award and the Kosove Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Service Award. As a Kosove Society graduate, Senator Heather Agazzi approached the HAC with the proposal to create these two awards for USF faculty. Using the guidelines for the Jerome Krivanek Distinguished Teaching Award, Senator Agazzi fashioned guidelines for the two awards. Over the past year, the HAC has been working closely with Senator Agazzi and Mr. Danny Cooper, Assistant Director of the Alumni Association, on the guidelines for these awards. Each is a lifetime achievement award and is worth \$7,500.00. They will be incorporated into the fall awards process so that they can be presented in the fall with the first two awards to be made in December, 2013. The nomination guidelines were approved by the SEC and presented to the Faculty Senate on behalf of the HAC with a motion to approve. There was no discussion. The motion to approve the Kosove Awards was unanimously passed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

a. Strategic Plan Update – Graham Tobin

The Strategic Plan has been refined. Four Town Hall meetings have been scheduled. Feedback on the Strategic Plan is still being accepted and should be submitted within the next few days. The Plan, Executive Summary, and measures are still on the web site. A revised version will go out to the various committees for review with the final version being presented to the Board of Trustees (BOT) on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

b. Budget Process Update – Ralph Wilcox

Provost Wilcox gave an update on the budget, or re-engineering process, which includes the Strategic Plan, capital plan and university-wide campaign. He announced that the critical point to bring planning groups and products together is fast approaching, and it is time to bring faculty and other constituents into the budget planning process at USF. The Provost noted that USF is not facing an eminent financial crisis, but will need to continue the process of careful planning now in order to avoid one.

A handout was distributed called Budget Re-engineering at USF (October 3, 2012-Update). The handout provides an overview of the processes underway, organized around the questions "What are we doing? Why are we doing it? What will guide our actions?" and "What is our timeline?"

Several committees have been formed:

- The first committee will be focused on setting requirements. It will shoulder the tremendous burden of digging down into the budgets of each unit and assessing resource levels by comparison of like universities. It will examine the alignment

of units with the Strategic Plan. Dr. Dianne Morrison-Breedy is chairing this committee.

- The second committee will examine ways to increase efficiencies at the university. It is chaired by Mr. Nick Trivunovich.
- The third is a programming committee which will operationalize the rules developed by the first committee and implement them across the university. Dr. Eric Eisenberg is the chair of this committee.

Two processes are moving forward in parallel. First, a freeze on hiring and unnecessary expenditures has been implemented to cover the \$37M shortfall for this fiscal year. Second, steps are being taken to bring recurring revenues and recurring expenses into alignment.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Open Enrollment Updates 2013 – Aurora Albritton**

Ms. Aurora Albritton, Associate Director of Benefits for USF, attended today's meeting to remind Senators that Open Enrollment is taking place until November 2, 2012, and there are some benefit plan changes that they need to be aware of: Blue Cross/Blue Shield is now Florida Blue, Comp Benefit Plans are now Humana Dental Plans, Medco is now Express Scripts. In addition, there are some premium and co-pay changes. Everyone should have received their Open Enrollment package from the State of Florida. One major change is that dependent certification must be done in People First before enrollment can occur. Representatives from the Benefits Office are visiting departments to speak about Open Enrollment, but if there are questions, Ms. Albritton can be contacted at either 974-5706 or [aalbritton@usf.edu](mailto:aalbritton@usf.edu).

### **b. Proposed Conversion of Patel School into a College – Kalanithy Vairavarmoorthy, Carl Herndl**

Dr. Vairavamoorthy, Director of the Patel Center for Global Solutions, and Dr. Carl Herndl attended today's meeting to present plans to create a new academic unit focusing on global urban sustainability, the Patel College of Global Sustainability (PCGS), and to obtain feedback to strengthen the document to take back for faculty consultation. Before reviewing the proposal, Dr. Vairavamoorthy gave a brief outline of the Patel School of Global Sustainability and where it stands today. He noted that, given the success of the School, the natural progression now is for it to move to being a college; thus, the current proposal for a PCGS.

Dr. Vairavamoorthy pointed out that the large document presented today does not give details of college structure or specific academic programs, but those aspects will be worked in as time goes by. There was a large consultation process and some of the recurring questions from that consultation were highlighted in the cover memo of the proposal. However, Dr. Vairavamoorthy concentrated on three main points: (1) The vision and mission of the new college very much supports and contributes to the Strategic

Plan of USF. (2) The idea of creating well-educated, global citizens and developing diverse and dynamic global citizens and leaders that strengthen communities. (3) The idea of generating new types of leaders equipped with interdisciplinary skills that can address issues of sustaining development.

Dr. Carl Herndl, Professor in the English Department, where he directs the Ph.D. program in Rhetoric, took the floor to talk about the possible benefits of the proposed college to other units. The PCGS team is aware that the new college has to collaborate with existing units, and that relationships will need to be created that are mutually beneficial. However, not all collaborations will proceed at the same pace. Initially, the new college will have to work very closely with faculty in natural and environmental sciences and policy because those faculty have expertise that can help the college integrate ways to develop urban areas with extended ecosystems. The new college would be a way to augment already existing international research projects and to offer new opportunities to expand what is already being done. Sustainability challenges are not only technical, but involve challenges of collaborating with communities, talking with policy makers, reaching out to citizens, and developing new and effective innovative communication strategies. This means there will be additional collaborations with faculty in many other areas, including government international affairs, anthropology, sociology, communications, English, and women and gender studies. A formal mechanism would be created to bring people in the humanities and social sciences together to facilitate this process. Dr. Herndl added that just the possibility of having this new college will help programs to recruit the very best doctoral students to USF because of the possibility of interdisciplinary work.

The vision of the proposed college is to set the global sustainability agenda and make a difference in the lives of people around the world. The mission of the college is to create a hub of global sustainability experts for innovative research, teaching and practical application that engages the many challenges to sustainable development. In this regard, the PCGS addresses and supports the implementation of the 2013-2018 USF Strategic Plan's commitment to "design and build sustainable communities through the generation, dissemination and translation of new knowledge across all academic and health related disciplines." The interdisciplinary vision of the college will facilitate collaboration among engineering, natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, business and health in ways that are extremely rare, if not non-existent, in other institutions.

Dr. Vairavamoorthy pointed out that the creation of PCGS is an emerging movement both nationally and internationally. USF has all of the necessary elements to be a leader in this area, including faculty talent, strong support from the administration, strong connections with international organizations, and a visionary benefactor. Everything is converging. The proposal to expand the School to a College at USF is very timely – USF's expertise, its international reputation and support make it a very important thing to be done.

The floor was opened for discussion.

Senator Wendy Nembhard had several questions/comments:

WN: What is the current enrollment of the School?

KV: Enrollment is limited, it is approximately 35.

WN: I have not heard, nor do the documents speak to, the need for a college, it seems to be all center-related but not academic. Why the leap to a college with only 35 students?

KV: Issues that would be overcome if Patel School became a college would be the awarding of its own graduate degrees, it would receive SCH, and would have some control over programs and courses by having new faculty positions. The new college would be a “boutique” college in that it would be a highly specialized college which could make it easier to recruit students. To start, there are 6 new faculty positions and resources to undertake quite a lot of partial appointments with other colleges across campus.

Dr. Tom Mason, Chair, Council on Educational Policy and Issues, requested that Dr. Vairavarmoorthy comment on the following two issues:

1. Specific language from the Strategic Plan, much of which was included in the proposal, such as “design and build sustainable communities through the generation, dissemination and translation of new knowledge across all academic and health related disciplines” and on the same page public health is referred to.
2. Also, the policy statement that is referenced calls for a specific articulation and sharing of support received. He asked for a candid sharing of some of the issues that had been raised to Dr. Vairavarmoorthy of some of the arguments against moving this forward as a college.

KV: We have not had support from USF Health, but we have had support from individual faculty with USF Health who teach in our programs currently. USF Health was invited to participate on the advisory committee in relation to the writing of the document. Originally, they had accepted, but later declined without a really clear reason. We are unclear as to what their motives were, but the earlier meetings did involve the dean of Public Health in some of the discussions. They did not want to commit faculty to this initiative, but would like to be involved (inaudible). Within the last 6 weeks, we received word from the highest level that USF Health has decided not to be involved in the advisory committee.

Senator Norma Alcantar raised several concerns:

1. Participation. As director of a sustainability-related graduate certificate in the School of Engineering, she has not been informed or asked to participate.
2. What are the benefits for faculty and students?
3. What are the goals of the new institute that is to be created?
4. How will her sustainable classes be affected?
5. How does this proposed college compare to other similar ones in the U.S. (i.e., Arizona State)?
6. Diversity. She would like to see more women represented on the PSGS Faculty Advisory Committee and as teaching faculty.
7. What will happen to what she teaches?

Dr. Vairavarmoorthy responded that he would like to address most of these concerns with her one-on-one. In terms of benefits to faculty, there has already been significant engagement with faculty from across the campus, but most of that has been where faculty have actively approached them with ideas, which have turned into something more tangible. Students outside of the Global School of Sustainability attend its courses and students work with its researchers. Faculty with research ideas that are “out of the box” will be encouraged to apply for funding.

Although Arizona has a good school of sustainability and has built itself a reputation, USF’s will surpass it very quickly because it is based on international work and it has funds.

Women and gender is important and he tried to incorporate that. He has had several discussions with faculty across campus and offered to provide support but the faculty have not delivered on it. It is a priority for Dr. Vairavarmoorthy.

Senator James Strange commented:

JS: A case has been made for cross-listing (interdisciplinary aspect) everything that the school does. Sustainability sounds a little like survival. Is that what this college is about? What is the future of this college? What is its aspect of survivability?

KV: We’re facing pressures that were never anticipated in terms of sustainability. We’re talking really about survival, and we’re talking about security. It’s about training new leaders.

Senator Emanuel Donchin raised the following points:

1. It was not clear to him what a person will do with a masters degree in sustainability and raised concerns about the extensive use of distance courses.
2. What about accreditation?

KV: Although the college is not entirely on-line, that is the future. It’s not what the college wants to do, but on-line education will become a defining characteristic of this new college only because it is the right thing to do.

Senator Nembhard raised several additional comments, indicating that no response was needed at this time, but that she felt they should be addressed:

1. How will taking additional resources to create another college during these tight budget times happen without hurting existing colleges?
2. The issue of overlapping of courses with other colleges.
3. What is the argument for becoming a college?

Senator Claudia Dold noted that the proposal includes no mention of consultations with the dean of the library.



President Teague stated that this is the first visit of this proposal before the Faculty Senate. A revised version will be brought back with these issues addressed. In the meantime, discussion can be done in some other fashion – on-line, or face-to-face.

c. General Education Update – Bob Sullins

Dr. Bob Sullins, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, reported that as of the 2014-15 academic year, the Florida State Legislature will have reduced the general education course requirements from 36 to 30 hours with general education courses limited to five courses in each of 5 disciplinary areas. Each student will be required to take one course from each area to satisfy the first 15 hours of the general education requirement. The second 15 hours will be up to the institution. He explained that Florida state colleges and universities are to work together to define the five courses that are to be offered by, and accepted by, those institutions.

Statewide committees have been formed to determine the 5 courses to be offered in each area. There are USF representatives on four of the five committees, but none on the humanities committee. Dr. Janet Moore, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, will participate as much as possible. Committee meetings are open and will be telecommunicated. The first one is scheduled for Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup> – the Steering Committee will meet in the morning and the Discipline Committee will meeting in the afternoon. Dr. Sullins commented that the process is scheduled to begin October 26<sup>th</sup> and to be completed by December, 2012. He is willing to return to the Senate meetings to provide updates as more information is received from the various committees.

## REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft took this opportunity to reflect on former Congressman Sam Gibbons' who recently passed away. He was instrumental in lobbying for the creation of USF, which was to be the fourth public university to be founded in Florida, and was to be the only public university south of Tallahassee, and south of Gainesville. John Germany was also instrumental in working with Sam Gibbons to get USF started. Classes began in 1960 and by 1970 USF had its medical school, and because of this USF was known as the medical campus. President Genshaft shared this information because of the phenomenal process USF has gone through.

**Comment [gsd1]:** I'm not sure what JG meant to say here - Gibbons wasn't a governor, so I've changed this to avoid saying something inaccurate. (She may have actually meant the governor at the time, but I think she may have referred to Gibbons as the "governor" in error).

Dr. Genshaft noted that USF is now facing another time in the life of a public university. She and Provost Ralph Wilcox have been participating on panels about the future of higher education. One of the issues that comes up on a national level is the importance of an interdisciplinary focus. How do public universities like USF move from their current way of thinking toward more interdisciplinary work? How is the structure set up so that it works? Another big theme that keeps surfacing is public-private partnerships and revenue sources other than state funds. USF is at a seventeen percent state funding. It needs to be prepared that this is going to not come back but be reduced again and again. How do other universities survive? They do so not only by being more efficient, but by generating more revenue sources such as with public-private partnerships. A new school/college can be added through the generosity and vision of Dr. Kiran Patel. This seems to be the future of revenue sources, as well as increased

enrollment of international and out-of-state students, especially at the graduate and doctoral levels. Another area where huge changes in public higher education will be seen is in the movement to more online courses. If students are coming in from high school with on-line courses, they certainly are going to want to have more on-line courses at the university.

How can USF be differentiated? How is it unique?

- Research profile is unique.
- It is entrepreneurial and innovative.
- It is located in an urban, metropolitan setting to give students more applied programs through co-ops, experiential, applied experience.
- Jobs – Are graduates finding jobs in Florida? Is USF affordable? Are graduates getting skilled jobs? Are graduates getting work in the discipline from which they received their degree?

Looking from the beginning with Sam Gibbons and how he started USF, there is a theme of change taking place, and USF may be asked to focus upon its graduate programs with competition coming from community colleges. This is an update that is being discussed among university presidents and provosts in terms of the future of higher education. USF needs to position itself for upcoming changes.

Three Trustees will be leaving as of January, 2013 that need to be replaced: Rhea Law (governor appointed), Gene Engle and Louis Saco (resigned) (both BOT assigned).

## **REPORT FROM PROVOST RALPH WILCOX**

The Provost followed up on one point alluded to by President Genshaft and that is the shifting tides in higher education. The shift is from the university as a knowledge provider to the university as a knowledge-creator and facilitator of skill acquisition among its students. One of the competitive advantages that universities like USF have, in addition to the creation of new knowledge, is the ability to enhance and improve and effect the generalized types of skills acquisition that employers are increasingly asking for. Provost Wilcox urged the Senators, for the significance and relevance of USF education, to give pause and reflect on its role in the higher education process. Is it simply transmitting knowledge, or is it increasingly becoming molding and helping student acquire skills?

### Changes Across Campus

- The consolidation of all admissions into a singular USF Admissions Office, to improve and enhance the shaping of enrollment. There is value in leveraging efforts to recruit more out-of-state and international students by combining resources of undergraduate and graduate admissions.
- Dr. Judy Ashcroft, University College Dean, tendered her resignation earlier this semester. Rather than engage in a search for a new dean, Michael Pearce, Vice President for Information and Technology, has been asked to work with the leadership of University College to continue the progress it is making.

- Discussions are underway to consider a university-wide travel agency. Experiences of other universities using corporate travel agencies are cost containment and enhanced services. Faculty Senate President Teague has the dates of upcoming meetings where these discussions will be occurring.
- One of the primary responsibilities of the BOT is fiscal oversight. One particular practice that has evolved over time and is a problem at USF is of faculty members, researchers, staff and sometimes students purchasing items with department money and then processing “after the fact” purchase orders. That practice is not viewed by the BOT as being fiscally sound and responsible and USF has been challenged to rein-in that practice. Although there has been some improvement, there still remains considerable room for improvement. Senators were asked to work with their colleagues to help them understand how important it is that, when purchasing items, the proper procedure needs to be followed. President Genshaft added that this has appeared on audits over the past several years and it is no longer acceptable.

#### **REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM FACULY COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT GREGORY TEAGUE**

The Board of Governors is considering models that cut across the universities as opposed to working within them on the on-line education issue. It is important to pay attention to the plans.

The Tampa contingency is considering how being a member of the SFC can be beneficial to Tampa.

#### **REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT PAUL TERRY**

- UFF is having an Open House on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, in the Centre Art Gallery of the Marshall Center from 3:00-6:00 p.m. to which everyone was invited.
- Everyone was asked to fill out the bargaining survey. Several hundred have already been returned. First negotiation meeting has taken place with Dr. Robert Welker as the chief negotiator.
- Everyone is encouraged to vote in the upcoming elections for people who are going to be friendly to higher education.
- There is no word yet from the Florida Supreme Court on the mandatory 3 percent contribution for retirement.
- The Lakeland City Council declared Monday as “Judy Genshaft Day” in recognition of all her assistance.

#### **REPORT FROM STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE SCOTT SANDOVAL**

Mr. Sandoval was not present to give a report.

## **REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT GREGORY TEAGUE**

President Teague's report consisted of the following items:

- Secretary Gail Donaldson was thanked for the rapid turnaround elections.
- Two of the ad hoc committees are underway – the on-line student evaluation and the Canvas conversion. Other committees are on the horizon such as the classroom capture issue.
- Consultants on grants may have to become employees. It is not known whether or not this is something the Senate has any control over, but as it is a legal issue there are implications over how business is conducted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

## **ADDENDUM**

### **Follow-Up Items Faculty Senate**

1. Invitation to Mr. Skip Holtz [or other USF Athletics representative] to attend Senate Executive Committee to which Senators would be invited (FS Mtg. 03-31-10; revised SEC 3-7-12). This will be revisited by SEC (FS Mtg. 09-19-12).
2. Senator Steve Permut, UFF representative, suggested that the Faculty Senate consider creating a subcommittee to look into a self-insurance plan (FS Mtg. 03-21-12). Item will be reworded in response to budget needs (FS Mtg., 09-19-12).
3. Faculty are needed to serve on the committee to review the tenure and promotion guidelines (FS Mtg. 09-19-12).
4. Updates from Dr. Robert Sullins, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, from the committee work on the new General Education course mandate (FS Mtg. 10-17-12).

### **Completed Items**

1. Faculty are needed to serve on the committee to monitor the evaluation of instruction process (FS 09-19-12); FS Mtg. 10-17-12.
2. Faculty are needed to work on the Blackboard to Canvas transition (FS Mtg. 09-19-12); FS Mtg. 10-17-12.