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AY 2015/2016 FS meeting minutes: 2016-02-24

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USF FACULTY SENATE MEETING
February 24, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Chamber Room 4200 Marshall Student Center

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2016 Meeting (action item)
3. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs (10 minutes)
 - a. Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight
4. Old Business (5 minutes)
5. New Business (35 minutes)
 - a. Information Items from Senate Executive Committee Meeting
 - i. Faculty-authored Course Materials Policy
 - ii. Captioning Policy
 - b. Student Evaluations (Jim Garey)
 - c. Reminders of Presentations for Next Meeting
6. Report from USF System President Judy Genshaft (20 minutes)
7. Report from Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox (30 minutes)
8. Report from USF System Faculty Council President Greg Teague (10 minutes)
9. Report from USF United Faculty of Florida President Arthur Shapiro (5 minutes)
10. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)
11. Adjourn - Next scheduled meeting – March 23, 2016

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USF FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2016

President Michael Teng called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the Minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting as amended.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight announced that the deadline for submission of Senate nominations was February 19th and there were still several vacancies. He encouraged Senators to self-nominate and/or refer a colleague to run. Any questions may be directed to either him or Ms. Ann Pipkins at fsenate@usf.edu.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for today's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Information Items from Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Meeting – Michael Teng

i. Faculty-Authored Course Materials Policy

After review and edification by the SEC and the USF System Faculty Council (SFC), the policy has been sent back to the originating group – Council on Educational Policy and Issues. From there, it will be forwarded to Provost Ralph Wilcox for vetting and promulgation.

ii. Captioning Policy

An ad hoc committee has been created to further vet the policy. Two faculty representatives will be on the committee to ensure proper vetting.

b. Student Evaluations – Jim Garey

Vice President Garey presented the results of an experiment, "Explorance Blue: One Department's Experience," conducted by the Department of Cell Biology, Microbiology and Molecular Biology which compared paper evaluations (from Fall 2014) to Explorance Blue (from Fall 2015). After his presentation, the floor was opened for discussion and resulted in the following comments: • Information on how to decipher the data is available on the ATLE web site. • The following ideas were suggested to increase response rate: have students use their smart phones to fill out evaluations in the classroom; make it a requirement that evaluations are done in the classroom and offer an incentive; have the evaluation form on Canvas to save trees. Another area that Vice President Garey is interested in pursuing is how to make the evaluation more meaningful

in terms of determining the effectiveness of an instructor at different course levels. He would also like to look at the format and framing of how evaluations are provided to students in the case of team teaching. • Senator Cynthia Patterson, a member of the Faculty Senate ad hoc committee that looked into the workings of Explorance Blue last year, commented that the committee's work is archived on its web site. She will review the archives to find out what the national research shows between paper and on-line evaluations.

c. Reminders of Presentations for Future Senate Meetings – Mike Teng

- Mr. Steve Prevaux will be invited to discuss his new role as the USF System Ombuds for Faculty, Staff and Administrators.
- Mr. Nick Trivunovich, Senior Vice President of Business and Finance, and Mr. Nick Setteducato, Associate Vice President of Resource Management and Analysis, have been invited to attend the March meeting to provide an update on RCM.
- Ms. Jennifer Condon, University Controller, will attend the March meeting to talk about Orbitz for Business.
- Vice President Paul Sanberg, along with Associate Vice President Sudeep Sarkar, will be at the April meeting to discuss the Huron recommendations. Questions will be taken from the floor.

REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

Before giving her report, President Genshaft clarified that Sun Dome activities are not subsidized by USF.

President Genshaft then reported the following items:

- The Legislative Session ends on March 11. Main legislative items of concern to the USF System: the pre-eminence bill; STEM Collaborative; PECO funding; Morsani College of Medicine and Hearsh Institute downtown project; additional funding to replace the *Bellocs*; and the open carry bill.
- If Governor Rick Scott's new initiative, Ready-Set-Work, is approved it would become the 11th metric next year. The proposal is for the two top majors from each university to have a 90 percent employment rate when the students graduate. USF's two top majors are psychology and criminology. A pilot project is in progress with Career Services, and work is being conducted by the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Behavioral and Community Sciences to look at what kinds of internships can be set up for students that are majoring in an undergraduate degree in psychology or criminology to further enhance their experience.
- Senators were asked to nominate honorary degree candidates who would bring prestige to USF.
- USF is at the top for producing Fulbright scholars in 2015.
- USF was ranked in the top 16 for Peace Corps volunteers.
- Ethan Yeh, son of Professor Daniel Yeh from Civil and Environmental Engineering, was the grand prize winner at the USF Young Innovator Competition this year which had over eight hundred participants (K-12).

- The Office of Decision Support was applauded for its work of data analytics used in garnering accountability.

REPORT FROM PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT RALPH WILCOX

Provost Wilcox's report consisted of the following items:

- He echoed the president's comments and appreciation of the Office of Decision Support and its team.
- Four goals of performance-based funding or pre-eminence were reviewed: (1) student success, (2) research and innovation, (3) partnerships, and (4) funding. Senators were asked to keep focused on the current ten performance-based funding metrics and the twelve pre-eminence metrics.
- In the area of performance-based funding, USF has done well over the past 3 years and is doing well this year. It is anticipated that its score will be much like last year (with a scale of 1-50), but this year the scale is 1-100 with USF projected to have a score of 80 points out of the 100. Those points will be scored on the "excellence" side of the equation rather than on the "improvement" side. Areas to keep focused on are: year-to-year retention rate (freshmen), six year graduation rate, and reduction of excess hours at graduation. The Legislature is considering 100 million dollars of performance-based funding this year with 20 to 25 million dollars going to the top 3-4 universities.
- USF meets the pre-eminence benchmarks of the undergraduate metrics. Part of pre-eminence is USF's research profile. New faculty hires should be able to balance--not just deliver world class education in the classroom--but also show a willingness to move forward with a national/international, competitive research agenda.

Questions from the floor:

Provost Wilcox was asked to elaborate on the 11th metric that would be the Ready-Set-Work initiative. The governor's message is that it is important to find out how many students are employed after graduate school, and how much the working students are earning one year out. The Provost also wants to make sure that the top two disciplines are driving students into the work force after graduate school. It was pointed out that Peace Corps volunteers will not be counted in the work force or for going on to graduate school.

The issue was brought up of how to address the problem of excess hours. The Provost commented that it is not unreasonable on the part of the Legislature not to subsidize students who are lingering or pursuing multiple majors after they have received enough credits to graduate when there are other perspective students waiting to get into the university. If students want to stay around, they will have to pay full rate without state subsidy after 132 hours. Senator Richard Manning asked what the results have been of attempts to analyze the records of students who have gone over hours to see what a profile would be of a student in that situation. Is there a typical story? The Provost responded that USF has not done a good job in the past in providing clear pathways to graduation by not guiding students in the correct direction to avoid taking unnecessary courses. At that time it was not a problem, but today it is a huge problem because of the amount of debt incurred by students. Professional advisors have been hired by USF who look at the whole picture for the student. Areas for improving student advising are (1)

identifying a student's path, and (2) limiting the number of times a student can take a class. There is a need for culture change.

Senator Gregory McColm asked when talking about changing culture should USF be a little more vocal about attendance. For example, require a signature from an advisor to attend classes, as well as have it be a requirement for students to attend classes and mandate attendance. In addition, class schedules should require approval. The Provost replied that mandatory advising is a huge resource demand, and it is a decision USF has made by bringing in more academic advisors called "appreciative advisors." These are professional advisors that not only focus on the student's right path to graduation, but also recognize the needs of a student (such as financial aid, mental health concerns). He cautioned that if a policy is implemented, the funds must be available to support that policy. In other words, be careful what you ask for.

In closing, Provost Wilcox thanked the Senators for these conversations. He added that USF needs to invest in more faculty, professional advisors, and a career center. The utilization of technology as an advisory intervention will also be looked into.

REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM FACULTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT GREG TEAGUE

President Teague reported the following items from the February 18th SFC meeting held in Tampa:

- President Genshaft and Provost Wilcox met with the SFC, and one of the items addressed was the laboratory fees that do not transfer from an old course to a new one. President Genshaft reported at today's meeting that the issue is relevant to USF only and not a state issue. The BOT Workgroup will be asked that it not be an action item, but an information item. This would then allow USF to work on transferring the lab and the cost of the materials to the new course.
- In his new role as Ombuds Officer for the USF System Faculty, Staff and Administrators, Mr. Steve Prevaux attended the meeting to provide information on the duties and responsibilities of that position.
- USF Faculty Senator Elizabeth Shaunessy-Dedrick and SFC member brought up at a previous meeting the issue that although the SFC votes on policy #10-055 a follow-up is not done to find out how the restructuring process worked. Dean Vasti Torres and other members from the College of Education attended and presented their observations and lessons learned. All of them volunteered to talk with any units going through the restructuring process and are willing to share their experiences.
- Vice Provost Terry Chisholm talked about the Faculty Data Project. A computer application is under consideration.
- Dr. Peter Stiling provided information on a STEM Summit being planned for March 30th. The purpose of the summit will be to try and improve the probability that Tampa can grow in STEM areas, and that USF can be an important agent in that project at the same time helping students with better opportunities in the region.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA SECRETARY GREG MCCOLM

Secretary McColm provided information about the chapter meetings and who is involved in those meetings.

He reported that continuing contracts are being eliminated at the State College of Florida. He explained that once a faculty member is on a continuing contract, that individual can only be removed if there is due cause; it is not a property right like tenure. Everyone at the college will now be hired on annual contracts subject to non-renewal at will. The Board justified that this will bring the college in line with what is going on in private business, i.e., private industry. Faculty and administrators were not in favor. This is reminiscent of a bill that was defeated in 2011 to eliminate tenure at universities. What will happen in the 2017 Legislative Session is an interesting question. Secretary McColm pointed out that elections have consequences, and everyone in the Legislature is up for re-election, or election, and he encouraged everyone to take the elections seriously.

There will be a non-tenure track faculty meeting on February 25th from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Cooper Hall 314.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

President Teng reminded everyone to have RCM questions ready for the March meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.