

## **USFSP Faculty Senate Update 9 January 2009**

USFSP faculty senators met with Interim Regional Chancellor Margaret Sullivan soon after her appointment. The senate looks forward to her leadership in facing the challenges of SACS accreditation and budgetary strictures.

The senate has also worked closely with “Provost” Noonan and appreciates her candor and cooperation in grappling with faculty issues.

David Carr and Brianne Reck meet with BOG member, Judith Solano.

USF Intercampus Faculty Council meetings have been instituted and are attended by the chairs.

State Faculty Senates meetings. The USFSP Faculty Senate has now been added to the list of members.

To avoid the delays that occurred this Fall, the senate decided that faculty councils and committees first meetings will be called at the beginning of the fall term by their chairs for the previous year.

The principle of secret balloting for the election of council and committee members has been affirmed by the senate.

Faculty senators will create a new faculty committee or increase the purview of an existing faculty committee to advise the administration on issues of technology used in teaching and research.

The distribution of faculty retention monies raised questions from various quarters. Librarians and academic advisors who have faculty status were not included. Criteria employed in effect turned the awards into merit raises.

The formation of a military veterans’ task force to serve the needs of those personnel returning to college, and the senators will canvass their colleges for faculty representatives.

The senate will begin “Final Fridays Forum,” a series of workshops on online courses. The first will be held 30 Jan.

The structure and functioning of the USF “system” raises some concerns. The “system” seems unresponsive to the needs of USFSP. For instance, USFSP Final Exam schedule was not posted on Blackboard; only Tampa’s displayed. This resulted in considerable confusion on the part of both faculty and students on this campus. Additionally, USFSP faculty lack systematic representation on Tampa campus councils and committees, which function as “system” bodies and make decisions affecting all four campuses.

The senate draws your attention to an address by Leroy Dubeck on the USF Budget on either 22 or 23 January on the Tampa campus. Professor Dubeck has analyzed the budgets of four state universities in Florida. He is being sponsored by both the Tampa Faculty Senate and the faculty union.

Respectably submitted,  
David R. Carr  
Chair, USFSP Faculty Senate