

5-3-2017

# AY 2016/2017 SEC meeting minutes: 03 May 17

Faculty Senate

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**USF FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA**

May 3, 2017

3:00 – 5:00 p.m., **Marshall Student Center 3700**

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda (5 minutes)
2. Approval of Minutes from April 5, 2017 Meeting (2 minutes) (action item)
3. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs
  - a. Update on Officer and SFC Nominations – Matthew Knight
  - b. College of Medicine COC Election Results – Matthew Knight
  - c. Alternate Assignment – Rick Will
  - d. Council Positions for Schools within Colleges – Rick Will
4. Old Business
5. New Business
  - a. Campus Climate Report – Phil Levy
  - b. Discussion Concerning the Undergraduate Council and RCM
6. Report from Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox
7. Report from USF System Faculty Council President Jim Garey
8. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)
9. Adjourn

Next scheduled meeting: June 7, 2017

**Tampa Faculty Senate Office**

University of South Florida • 4202 East Fowler Avenue, FAO 226 • Tampa, FL 33620-6100  
(813) 974-2889 • FAX (813) 974-5914 • [fsenate@usf.edu](mailto:fsenate@usf.edu)

**USF FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
May 3, 2017

Present: Kyna Betancourt, Jim Garey, Barbara Hansen, Matthew Knight, Philip Levy, Barbara Lewis, Oma Singh, Scott Rimbey, Drew Smith, Amy Thompson, Rick Will, Greg Teague

Provost's Office: Terry Chisolm, Dwayne Smith, Ralph Wilcox

Guests: Cynthia Brown-Hernandez, Danielle McDonald, Kevin Yee, Arthur Shapiro, Zahraa Khan, Alena Pirok, Mary Alao

President Jim Garey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the Minutes, as amended, from the meeting of April 5, 2017.

**REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS**

a. Update on Officer Nominations – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight reported that there have still been no nominations for the vacant officer positions of Sergeant-at-Arms and Member-at-Large.

b. College of Medicine COC Election Results – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight reported that Dr. Subhra Mohapatra was elected by the Senators from the College of Medicine to be their representative on the Committee on Committees.

c. Alternate Assignments – Richard Will

Dr. Will asked for clarification regarding the appointment of alternates on Committees and Councils. An office-holder on a committee attempted to designate a proxy to serve as an alternate for the duration of the term; this appeared to Dr. Will to be a circumvention of the COC's due process. Discussion was held, and it was agreed that proxies cannot be appointed by any member of a committee or council to complete their terms, but must go through due process.

d. Council Positions for Schools within Colleges - Richard Will

A question was raised at the April Faculty Senate meeting about representation on Senate councils and committees; specifically, it was asked whether a college like CAS (College of Arts and Sciences) should have membership that more accurately reflects the diversity of the College. For example, should it matter that CAS membership on the General

Education Council is almost exclusively from the School of Humanities? A suggestion was made that councils and committees might ask college leadership to address these concerns, but should not attempt to mandate a change.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### a. Campus Climate Report – Phil Levy

Dr. Levy reported that the committee tasked with addressing campus climate has created a working document that articulates the fundamental principles of what it means to be a part of the USF community. This *ad-hoc* committee was comprised of faculty and students. This document represents a distillation of existing rights and values statements into declarations that are irreducible; these are not laws, but foundational principles that represent the core values of the students, faculty, administration, and staff of the University. The document was projected on screen for discussion. Provost Wilcox suggested that there might be additional statements relating to behavioral tone, civil discourse, and what constitutes a civil society. Dr. Levy replied that the document is still in flux and will undergo revisions in the next year. President Garey suggested that the full Senate discuss this document in a future meeting.

### b. Report on General Education – Kyna Betancourt

Dr. Betancourt reported that the General Education Council unanimously approved a framework for the revision of the General Education Curriculum. A full report will be delivered to the Provost in the next week.

### c. Discussion Concerning the Undergraduate Council and RCM – Jim Garey

President Garey reported that there are concerns among the faculty that the new RCM (Responsibly Centered Management) model will encourage certain departments to pursue SCH (Student Credit Hours) currently offered by other departments; similarly, there is a sense that RCM will create an SCH zero-sum game. He asked if there might be a way for the curriculum committees to have their decisions examined by the RCM Advisory Committee to ensure that there are no improper attempts to accumulate SCH. Dr. Teague suggested that we wait until there is truly a need before we add a new level of review; he added that the RCM Advisory Committee is trying to reduce these incentives and that, in reality, SCH is not the major motivation in the RCM model. Provost Wilcox added that there is a misconception that RCM will drive USF strategy and the curriculum, which is not true. Rather, it will fit in nicely with the new General Education Curriculum and will be responsive above all to the students and the strategic priorities of the University.

## **REPORT FROM PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT RALPH WILCOX**

Provost Wilcox reported that there will be 6 graduation ceremonies in May and encouraged faculty to attend. He reported that the Higher-Education budget seems to be moving forward with Senate recommendations that may benefit USF. At the moment, it looks to be the best year for Florida education in 15 years, and could be a significant change agent for USF, but we must be cautiously optimistic. Provost Wilcox stressed the need for the SEC (Senate Executive Committee) to meet throughout the summer to address RCM, performance-based funding, preeminence, and appropriations distributions. He also mentioned that the Strategic Initiatives Committee is developing a 5-year plan to address the student-to-faculty ratio, and is working to get it to 19-to-1. This is an aggressive plan that will hire 300 new faculty in areas that will contribute most to our AAU (Association of American Universities) aspirations.

Vice-Provost Chisolm added that the Strategic Plan should be ready by the end of the fiscal year, and that the Faculty Information System implementation plan has just completed Phase 1. Phase 2 will involve the evaluation system, and faculty input will be crucial.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.