

1998

AY 1997/1998 FS meetings minutes: 1998-01-21

Faculty Senate

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FS Minutes

21 Jan 1998

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

January 21, 1998

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:17 p.m. The Minutes from the November 19, 1997 meeting were approved as presented. The Minutes from the Special Meeting of December 10, 1997 were approved as corrected.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (J. Moore)

President Moore made the following announcements:

- Dr. Adam Herbert, former President of the University of North Florida, has been hired as the new Chancellor. President Moore pointed out that Dr. Herbert is on record as being in support of tenure. On the other hand, he is interested in pursuing a blend between multi-year contracts and tenure.
- The Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) will meet next week in Tallahassee, and both President Moore and ACFS President Michael Knox will attend. Dr. Herbert has been invited to attend in order to confer with the Faculty Senate Presidents.
- Regent Steve Uhlfelder has been reappointed to the Board of Regents (BOR) for another 6 year term.
- Dr. Julie Djeu, College of Medicine, has been appointed to the President's Leadership Council to replace Dr. Marc Defant.
- The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) reviewed seven proposed or revised USF policies and procedures from the Office of the General Counsel last year. Two policies dealing with issues of academic computing were forwarded to the Academic Computing Committee for its review and comments. Revisions were made to a third policy dealing with issues related to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Office of the General Counsel sought additional faculty feedback on these three policies and changes were made accordingly. There were no recommended changes by the SEC to the remaining four policies and procedures.
- Professor Tom Kemp will serve on an Ad Hoc Committee on the Use of University Space by outside individuals. Senator Julian Dwornik is serving on the Ad Hoc Committee of Food and Drink Consumption in the classrooms. Reports from these committees will be forthcoming.
- The Sustained Performance Evaluation Committee was finalized in December. A roster of this committee is available in the Faculty Senate Office. Vice President Sara Mandell serves on this committee on behalf of the elected faculty. She has been charged with reporting to the Senate Executive Committee on proceedings which President Moore will share with the Faculty Senate.
- The Instructional Technology Council has formed a subcommittee to look at the University's Strategic Plan and write a separate section devoted to the use of technology in the classroom, as well as distance learning. This

committee has also joined with the Academic Computing Committee to examine how technology fees will be utilized by USF.

- The Faculty Senate now has a second web site which is being kept on the USF Library's list serve. The title of this site is "USF Faculty Senate Archives." The address for it is www.lib.usf.edu/spccoll/guide/f/fs/guide.html. The Minutes for the Senate Executive Committee and Faculty Senate meetings are being added to the web site after they have been approved.
- Dr. Ivan Barlow-Rademeyer was welcomed as a new senator. He will be filling a vacancy in the College of Medicine for the remainder of the spring 1998 semester.

PROVOST TIGHE

President Castor was unable to attend today's meeting, so Provost Tighe presented a report on her behalf, including the following highlights of the Governor's proposed budget, emphasizing the items that have implications for USF:

- The Governor is budgeting \$1,200 for employees earning \$20,000 or less, \$1,000 for employees earning between \$20,000 and \$30,000, and a 2.78 percent salary increment for all others to be effective January 1, 1999.
- The Governor is budgeting 5.3 million dollars recurring for library resources, in contrast to the BOR's request for 8.5 million dollars.
- The Governor approved the State University System (SUS) calculated plan for enrollment growth, which includes an additional 988 FTE for the SUS as a whole, but only 23 would be allotted to USF. This would translate into approximately \$225,000 for USF.
- Nineteen million dollars has been funded for enrollment specialities which would be used to support targeted, selected programs. USF will be in competition with all the other universities for this funding.
- The budget includes a request for a \$50/semester technology fee, in addition to a request for a 6.58 percent tuition increase. Provost Tighe indicated that it was improbable that these requests would be authorized, but USF would be supportive of both. Money received from the technology fee and tuition increase would be 2.8 and 2.7 million dollars respectively.
- There are additional funding requests of 5.2 million dollars to enhance the enrollment growth for Type I centers, particularly for oceanography and the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging, neither of which has had an operation funding increase since 1986.
- There is money available in the Governor's budget under a category entitled "public/ private partnerships." This money would be used to secure additional funding for the I-4 corridor initiative. USF will request 3 million dollars in recurring funds.
- Three million dollars has been allocated from the tobacco settlement to be distributed equally to USF's Medical Center, Moffitt Cancer Center, and the University of Florida's Medical Center.
- The Governor is seeking matching gifts for the BOR's request of 33 million dollars to be used for Challenge Grants.
- The Governor is seeking to allocate 5.5 million dollars in performance-based budgeting. A method for allocation has yet to be worked out based upon various such areas of performance as graduation rates and retention.

Provost Tighe returned to the issue of seeking special legislative funding to support enrollment growth on regional campuses and at New College. He reiterated that USF would handle the enrollment growth over the next 10 years by absorbing approximately a 12,000 head count with an additional 6,000 FTE students. USF expects to grow on the regional campuses rather than the Tampa campus. Therefore, the legislative request being put together would call for additional faculty positions at all regional campuses. In addition, special funding would be requested to offer courses in response to requests from Pasco and Hernando Counties. The Bayboro campus would expand to 8 faculty.

USF has entered into discussions with St. Petersburg Junior College to explore offering on a county-wide basis a four year degree program, whereby students from St. Petersburg Junior College would go to the St. Petersburg campus and then continue on to their final degree campus. USF is seeking a legislative funding component to enhance library and laboratory facilities on the St. Petersburg campus at the lower division. In addition, St. Petersburg Junior College will seek its own funding to support its faculty going to that campus. Four additional faculty positions at Manatee/Sarasota campus are being requested; two positions at New College and two additional faculty positions at Lakeland. This total regional campus enrollment growth strategy will equal approximately 1.7 million dollars. All of these initiatives are premised upon receiving money from the Legislature.

Provost Tighe has received feedback from the deans on the areas that their faculty feel are critical issues to consider in the strategic planning process. Within the next couple of weeks, Dr. Tighe will cull the lists to come up with a final list to present to the Faculty Senate. He will then proceed to appoint task forces to work on each of the critical areas.

Provost Tighe announced that the search for a new dean at the Sarasota/Manatee campus is underway and the closing date for applications is January 31, 1998. The search for the Dean of the College of Fine Arts is still being advertised.

The question was raised that as USF seeks to increase enrollment on the branch campuses, will enrollment be taken away from the Tampa campus. Provost Tighe responded that this consideration was taken into account when the initiatives were put forward and felt that the program areas will not decrease Tampa's enrollment. He reiterated that the branch campuses offer upper division and graduate level courses, as well as courses that are sought after in business and education for people who want to continue their professional degrees.

Provost Tighe clarified that two years ago USF had a substantial increase in first time in college (FTIC) students; this year the number remained stable. There has been an enrollment decline at the graduate level, mainly in the unclassified or non-degree seeking student areas. Overall, USF has had a stable enrollment this year relative to Florida institutions. However, in order to enhance recruitment efforts, additional staff have been hired.

Discussion was held regarding the staffing of the regional campuses, particularly the junior campuses. Provost Tighe indicated that the additional faculty slots are intended to be in the main, resident faculty on the regional campuses, and not itinerant faculty. The aim is to provide the regional campuses with the additional resident faculty which they have not had the resources to fund in the past. Dr. Tighe feels that this cooperative program will meet the concerns of the area residents by offering four year degree programs without having a huge investment of new resources.

The questions were asked about who is doing the strategic planning other than the deans, and whether or not this body is represented on the strategic planning task force. Provost Tighe replied that the planning process is in the early days of updating the strategic directions of the university which were last addressed in the September, 1992 document titled "Shaping Our Future." He indicated that the way to proceed was by first determining the truly critical focal areas of the university that need to be addressed, which is the step that the process is currently at. After this has been done, task forces would then be set up with broad representation from faculty, staff, and students.

UFF REPORT (S. Singh)

Senator Singh presented the following four items with which the UFF has been involved:

1. At the State level, management and faculty have begun to talk about multi-year contracts, but have reached an impasse. Management wants multi-year contracts, faculty do not.
2. At the local level, there have been consultations with President Castor during which emphasis was placed upon the issue that faculty concerns were heard and that issues were resolved on an informal basis. The Provost's office has engaged in informal resolutions and UFF would like to continue this process. Senator Singh indicated that when it comes time for a formal resolution, the resolution should be brought before a neutral body where at least the procedure of due process is considered. The UFF is having discussions with President Castor to find a better way to deal with issues.

3. The Sustained Performance Evaluation Committee was elected by the faculty and is now a fully, operational group.

4. There are two faculty concerns: (1) to have formal resolutions occur in more neutral territory, and (2) to have tenure promotion decisions based upon criteria, rather than guidelines. The UFF will continue to discuss these concerns.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Elections

Secretary Julian Dwornik presented the Senate election apportionment and schedule for the 1998/1999 academic year. The motion was made to accept these documents as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Governmental Relations Committee

Senator Kofi Glover, Chair of the Governmental Relations Committee, presented the committee's charge. A motion was made to accept this charge. After Senator Glover gave a brief background history of the Governmental Relations Committee, he opened the floor for discussion. The point was raised that this committee could be used to influence appointments to the Board of Regents, particularly in the case of electing a new chair.

Discussion was held as to whether or not to have this committee involved with other public issues and to present faculty views of these issues as part of the process. The decision was made that USF faculty must stay with higher education issues. A suggestion was made that the Governmental Relations Committee should avoid political issues that could damage it, as well as being careful on how it does approach issues. Senator Glover indicated that this permanent committee was established to enable the faculty to deal with legislative matters by having more faculty input. The committee will give the faculty a voice to be heard by legislators. It was suggested that the Governmental Relations Committee should bring significant issues to the Senate Executive Committee or the full body of the Senate to be addressed in an open forum prior to presenting them to the Legislature. The motion to accept the charge of the Governmental Relations Committee was seconded and unanimously passed.

Graduate Council

Professor Ken Buckle, Chair of the Graduate Council, reported on the status of the Graduate Council actions regarding graduate credentialing (memorandum dated January 20, 1998). He indicated that the Graduate Council had approved the interim policy on the issue of elimination of graduate credentialing as recommended by Dean Johnson. Dean Johnson has prepared a policy statement for the Graduate Catalog, as well as a letter for the deans reflecting the recommended changes. The Graduate Council recommends the full Faculty Senate ratify this policy change which has the following salient points:

- 1. All credentialing of regular USF faculty at the Assistant, Associate, and Professor levels has been eliminated for supervision of masters degrees, participation on masters committees, Ph.D. committee membership, and all teaching at the graduate level.
- 2. Outside committee membership on masters committees is left to the department's discretion and membership on Ph.D. committees requires a CV to be submitted with the committee appointment form.
- 3. A CV is to be submitted with the committee appointment form for the Ph.D. supervisor. The Ph.D. committee form will be approved at the Department, College and Graduate Schools, as was the policy before this revision.

Discussion was held regarding these recommendations. The point was raised that these recommendations do not adequately address the issue of interdisciplinary programs. It was suggested that the Graduate Council and Dean Johnson look at developing appropriate policies in regard to interdisciplinary programs and address how the issue of major professors on those committees will be handled without adding additional burden on faculty and departments. In

regard to point 3 of this recommendation, it was suggested that the Graduate Council review this policy to come up with something that will preserve the dignity of faculty as well as academic standards.

Professor Buckle indicated that during negotiations with Dean Johnson, it was not possible to get a consensus of the Graduate Council to fully eliminate oversight of the Ph.D. supervisory faculty.

The motion was made that this policy statement be sent back to the Graduate Council for further consideration based upon the discussions at this meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

President Moore reported that the Senate Executive Committee has identified two items to forward to Provost Tighe in response to his request for suggestions on focal areas to be considered for the strategic planning process. One overarching parameter throughout all of this strategic planning is that academic freedom is vital to the university and is something to be preserved. A second focal area is to identify measures of a quality education at this university. During this meeting it was suggested that a third focal area be that of developing a better sense of university community. It was recommended that a task force take a close look at factors that will aid in the development of an overall university culture including faculty, students and staff in order to create a better sense of community.

President Moore encouraged everyone to review the minutes from the special tenure and promotion meeting of the Faculty Senate on December 10, 1997. There will be another opportunity to have items identified to represent the ideas of the Senate.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

A request was made that a clear statement be made about the position of the Administration with regard to multi-year contracts vis-a-vis tenure.

The issue of re-structuring the meeting format was raised so that items on the agenda can be covered within the allotted time. Suggestions were made and President Moore will take them to the Senate Executive Committee for consideration. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.



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