

1999

AY 1998/1999 FS meetings minutes: 1999-03-17

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FS Minutes

March 17, 1999

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

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President Moore called the meeting of February 17, 1999, were approved a

The Minutes from the meeting of

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Janet Moore)

President Moore's report included the following announcements:

- As President of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Janet Moore has been asked to serve on the Ombudsman Screening Committee. The position description for a university-wide salary ombudsman was developed by the Ombudsman Screening Committee and disseminated to all faculty. This individual will be responsible for assisting all University of South Florida (USF) employees who express salary concerns based on gender and/or race. A copy of the position description and an application form was included in today's meeting. Interested faculty were encouraged to apply by the deadline of April 2, 1999.
- The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) made its recommendations to the Office of the General Counsel on five proposed revised USF Policies and Procedures. The recommendations consisted of minor rewording and the retention of one part of a policy.
- Dr. Katherine Cole, Biology Advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences, was appointed to the Enrollment Planning Steering Committee.
- Ms. Dorothy Beach, Advisor in the Student Affairs Office, has been appointed to the Title IX Committee.
- The Agenda and Index to the Board of Regents (BOR) meeting held March 11-12, 1999, is available in the Faculty Senate Office. This material includes a discussion on such issues as medical education and training in Florida, as well as a report on honors programs and colleges in the State University System (SUS). She reminded Senators about the reading room available in the Faculty Senate Office in which these materials are available.
- President Castor met with the SEC on March 3, 1999 to discuss her interest to initiate a project to recognize the members of USF's charter faculty in particular and the total

faculty in general. The SEC requested that the Honors and Awards Council address this topic and investigate the various ways that such recognition could be made. Senators were encouraged to make recommendations directly to the members of the Honors and Awards Council which is chaired by Dr. Charlene Long. Once that council reviews the different options and makes its recommendations, they will be sent to the SEC and brought before the Faculty Senate.

- After the last Faculty Senate meeting, a Senator polled the faculty in his/her college and forwarded several issues and concerns to President Moore. These issues and concerns were presented to the SEC and responses were discussed. Two issues were concerns about the Tenure and Promotion Guidelines and the Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Guidelines. It was decided that these two concerns warranted further investigation and will be forwarded to the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee. The other items of concern were already being addressed by both the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils. The Senate Executive Committee was encouraged by the initiative of this Senator as such action helps the Faculty Senate become a more potent force in faculty governance.
- The SEC discussed the general and specific concerns that were expressed at the February Faculty Senate meeting around the issue of impact, or lack of impact, that Senators, chairs and committee members have upon matters of importance at the university. The Senators were reminded that the Faculty Senate is a deliberative body with an agenda that allows input through its 14 standing committees and councils, as well as from the Senators through written or spoken recommendations to the SEC and the Faculty Senate itself. It can only operate effectively and have an impact through the acceptance of responsibility and good service from the Senators and its standing committees and councils. An added feature for flexibility is the input that can occur during the Issues from the Floor segment. Issues from the Floor is a designated ten minutes for the introduction and discussion of any issue that a Senator wishes to put before the group. Should that discussion lead to any resolutions, those can be brought forward during New Business.
- After today's meeting there will be an Open Forum for the 12 Strategic Planning Task Forces held in the same location from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the Open Forum is to disseminate information about the various Task Forces and their recommendations, as well as to allow input from the faculty at large to the Task Forces on their deliberations. Copies of the draft summaries from each Task Force were included in the materials for today's meeting. Copies of the complete reports are available in all USF libraries, through a SEC member, at the Faculty Senate Office, and on the web site for USF's Strategic Plan: 2000. Feedback can also be provided directly to the Task Force co-chairs. Additional Open Forum dates are March 19 and 24, 1999. Attention was drawn to the deadline of April 15, 1999, for submission of comments or written suggestions.

PRESIDENT CASTOR

Due to the fact that President Castor was unable to attend today's meeting, Provost Tighe presented a combined report which consisted of the following items:

- On the Legislative front, the House and the Senate are moving very rapidly on the appropriation process. It is anticipated that action will be completed on the appropriation bills by the end of this week. The House and Senate are so far apart on a variety of issues that it is difficult at this point to make any safe inference or conclusion about how USF will stand in the budgeting process. However, it does look

like the reductions in Postsecondary Education Capital Outlay (PECO) funding will be restored in both the House and Senate. Therefore, it appears that USF's capital outlay projects will be approved. The key one to be approved is the new College of Engineering building for which USF expects to receive full funding. USF is also confident it will receive a 2 million dollar appropriation which will be directed to purchase equipment for the new WUSF television station.

- USF has received a 2 million dollar gift from All Children's Hospital to create a new chair in Medical Oncology. This will qualify for an additional 2 million dollars from the State.
- The NCAA Final Four will be held in St. Petersburg this weekend. As a co-sponsor of this event, USF should receive a lot of exposure.
- Comments on Chancellor Herbert's position expressed at the BOR meeting in Tallahassee the previous week regarding the issues concerning the status of medical education in Florida were shared with the Senators. Fundamentally, the Chancellor set up a more rational course which is to expand Florida's existing medical schools and residence programs throughout the state.
- There will be a memorial service held for USF Library Director Sam Fustukjian on March 24, 1999. Currently, it is scheduled to be held in Tampa Campus Library. A scholarship fund has also been established. Both of these items will be broadly advertised to the public within the next week.
- Approximately 50 applications were received for the Pilot Center Interdisciplinary Grant Program. The next step will be to have the applications forwarded to the Research and Graduate Councils for their review. Final decisions will be decided by the Provost based upon recommendations received from these councils.
- The final round of salary increases will be forthcoming in April. This is the final stage of the market equity adjustment process with the increments being retroactive for the contract year.
- The final draft reports from each task force on the Strategic Planning Process are now available on the web. Feedback is being solicited from the faculty as a whole on these draft reports. Senators were encouraged to stay after today's meeting for the first of three Open Hearings with representatives from each task force to respond to ideas and suggestions. It is anticipated that final reports from the task forces will be completed by early summer. The next stage will be to put all of these ideas into a coherent, overall statement of strategic planning to be shared with everyone in the fall.

UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA REPORT (Senator Surendra Singh)

Senator Singh presented a follow-up report on last month's activities.

- The contract, as amended, has been ratified. However, it still needs to be ratified by the BOR.
- There has been excellent collaboration, cooperation, and consultation on the issue of market salary study. The market study was done well and performed equitably.
- During consultation with President Castor, the following items were discussed: (1) the sex and race equity appeal process in that the appeal process is not given the appearance of fairness; (2) merit raises for in-unit chairs; (3) the development of a

joint statement on the grievance process in order to strengthen the due process; (4) the use of adjuncts and teaching assistants in teaching exit required courses; and (5) how to improve faculty morale at USF.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

a. Senate Election Report (Secretary James Vastine)

Secretary Vastine presented the 1999/2000 Faculty Senate Election Final Report.

b. Nomination of Senate Officers (Secretary James Vastine)

At this time, Secretary Vastine asked the continuing and new Senators to caucus for a few minutes to consider either self-nominating or nominating a fellow Senator for office. The following individuals were nominated: Jesse Binford, President; Suresh Khator, Vice President; James Vastine, Secretary; Fredric Zerla and Charlotte Dixon, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Julian Dwornik and Steve Johnston, Member-at-Large. A ballot will be mailed out for the positions of Sergeant-at-Arms and Member-at-Large. At the Faculty Senate meeting on April 21, 1999, there will be a caucus to select members of the Bylaws Committee and the Committee on Committees.

c. Committee on Committees (Chair Barbara Loeding)

Chair Loeding encouraged everyone to consider either self-nominating or nominating a colleague for membership on the university-wide councils and committees. Information on existing vacancies, along with a nomination form, were included in today's materials. A letter has been sent to chairs of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees and Councils reminding them of the process by which their members are notified of committee/council activities. That is, it is the chair's responsibility to be in touch with their members as to the meeting dates, times, and activities of his/her committee or council.

d. Governmental Relations Committee (Chair Navita James)

Chair James presented the following resolutions and suggestions which were endorsed by the Governmental Relations Committee on March 5, 1999:

Resolution 1:

USF Faculty Senate support in principle the Florida State House and Senate bills in the current legislative session that require a minimum number of Fine Arts high school credits be included in determining high school grade point averages for college admissions and awarding of scholarships.

[re: Our responsibility (#1) to "represent the USF faculty perspective on higher education issues to government officials."]

Resolution 2:

The Governmental Relations Committee requests the USF Faculty Senate President meet with other presidents from other SUS Senates to explore whether faculty statewide would benefit from being treated as a separate professional group in the statewide raise process which currently includes faculty with all other state employees.

[re: Our responsibility (3) to "provide greater understanding of the unique role of faculty among state employees.]

Resolution 3:

The Governmental Relations Committee recommends the Faculty Senate undertake a survey of USF faculty to determine their current membership on Federal, State, County, and Municipal Boards, Commissions, and Councils.

[re: Our responsibility (#5) to "advance the placement of faculty on important local and state committees and boards, including the Board of Regents."]

NOTE: See the attached list of suggestions from the Governmental Relations Committee.

Resolution #1 was discussed. Senator Mitchell Silverman recommended a friendly amendment to the resolution: "USF Faculty Senate support in principle the Florida State House and Senate bills in the current legislative session that require acceptance of a minimum number of Fine Arts high school credits be included in determining high school grade point averages for college admissions and awarding of scholarships." A motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution as amended. The motion was unanimously passed.

Resolution #2 was discussed. Senator Mitchell Silverman warned that this resolution could be a union issue in terms of contracts and negotiating salaries. Chair James clarified that this resolution states that explorations on the issue should take place; no action is requested at this time.

After more, unresolved discussion and a request that written copies of the resolutions be made available for the Senators before voting, President Moore interceded. She stated that the SEC had not reviewed these resolutions from the Governmental Relations Committee. Therefore, President Moore recommended that the last two resolutions be submitted to the SEC for review and consideration. After that time, the Faculty Senate members will be provided written copies of the resolutions for the April meeting. Chair James agreed to this, but requested that the full report appear in the Minutes. That request was granted.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

President Moore reiterated that the purpose for Issues from the Floor is to allow Senators the opportunity to bring items which they consider important concerning the faculty and academic issues to the attention of this body in a timely manner. The procedure is that the Faculty Senate President recognizes a Senator who wishes to present an issue. Discussion from Senators, faculty and other guests are allowed for ten minutes per issue. Any motions must be brought forward under New Business by a Senator. At this time, President Moore opened the floor for issues to be discussed.

Senator Victor Peppard introduced Professor Manny Lucoff of the Mass Communications Department to address some issues related to the radio and television stations at USF. Professor Lucoff announced that during the Fall Semester of 1998, the administration made the decision to move the stations out of Provost Tighe's office and to place them under the auspices of University Advancement. This was viewed as a problem by Professor Lucoff who stated that news media broadcast stations should not be supervised by people who do

the marketing, public relations and press releases for the university. Professor Lucoff would like the Faculty Senate to consider a resolution asking reconsideration of this administrative move. Another issue raised by Professor Lucoff was why an oversight board was created composed of people who have little knowledge about broadcasting to oversee a broadcast station.

Provost Tighe was asked to respond to Professor Lucoff's concerns. The Provost indicated that the key issue, as addressed by Professor Lucoff, was the question as to whether or not there should be any concern that this arrangement jeopardizes the editorial integrity of the stations or their freedom to broadcast the news as they see fit. Professor Lucoff is concerned that this arrangement allows interference by the administration with the program functions of the stations. However, USF has a long-standing policy that prohibits any such interference with the editorial integrity of stations by any administrator or management in this university. Provost Tighe pointed out that the move was a joint decision. There are strong financial issues in getting the support for the stations that they need in order to fulfill their mission and prosper. The purpose of the board is not to manage the stations, but to try and be supportive of them, to make them financially sound, and to assist them in fulfilling their missions. The advisory board is chaired by the Provost because President Castor wanted to have the Provost's oversight and academic perspective at the helm of the advisory board.

Senator Chris Ponticelli recommended that due to the complexity of this issue, that it be referred to the SEC for discussion and brought back to the Faculty Senate. Senator Charles Arnade proposed that an ad hoc committee be created to address this issue. Due to the time limitation, the issue was unresolved so President Moore asked that any resolutions be brought forth under New Business.

Senator Fredric Zerla raised the issue regarding exit requirements that are being taught by adjunct professors and teaching assistants instead of experienced faculty members. He asked that the SEC look at who should be teaching the exit courses and have something to discuss at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Undergraduate Council Chair John Robison indicated that his council will be addressing this issue at its next meeting. The Undergraduate Council will present its report to the SEC with a follow up report given at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote on Updates to Bylaws (Senator Fredric Zerla)

Senator Zerla pointed out that the changes to the Bylaws are: (1) to add two new Faculty Senate Standing Committees (Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee and the Governmental

Relations Committee) to the current list of committees and councils, and (2) to add the definition of ex-officio. A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed changes to the Bylaws as presented. The motion was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Commencement and Convocation Committee Resolution (Professor Georg Kleine)

Professor Kleine attended today's meeting to represent the Mace Committee and to present a resolution on the use of the University Mace. Due to the deterioration of the previous mace and to commemorate USF's 40th anniversary, Undergraduate Dean Robert Sullins initiated a major study of how maces are being used at other

universities. The running theme in the use of maces is that they are a symbol of academic authority of the president of a university. Earlier this year, the Commencement and Convocation Committee formed a sub-committee to work on this project. College of Fine Arts Emeritus Dean Harrison Covington was asked to undertake the task of designing a new mace. Professor Kleine stated that the University Commencement and Convocation Committee passed the following resolution at its meeting on February 10, 1999:

Resolution on Use of the University Mace

Whereas the University Mace is a symbol of authority representing both the Faculty Body and the officials of the University, and

Whereas, it brings great dignity and a sense of pageantry to university ceremonies of prominence,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends all consideration be given to the inclusion of the University Mace in its major university ceremonies, including commencements, honors convocations, and other significant events. Furthermore, it is the recommendation of the Faculty Senate that the University Mace be maintained as a symbol of the University's authority and displayed in a place of honor that is protected and yet accessible to the University Community.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was unanimously passed.

b. Other

At this time, Senator Arnade made the motion that an ad hoc committee be appointed by President Moore to investigate the placement of WUSF-FM and WUSF-TV under University Advancement. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

c. Global Employment System (GEMS) Presentation

Trudie Frecker, Director of Human Resources, attended today's meeting to present a status report on the GEMS program.

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

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