

1999

## AY 1998/1999 SEC meeting minutes: 1999-04-07

Faculty Senate

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# USF Faculty Senate Archives

## SEC Minutes

April 7, 1999

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### SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 7, 1999

#### MINUTES

Present: Janet Moore, Andrew Cannons, James Carey, Julian Dwornik, Barbara Loeding, Gene Ness, Chris Ponticelli, John Robison, Cheryl Rodriguez, James Vastine

Provost's Office: Thomas Tighe, Phil Smith

Guests: Rick Fender, Marie Hunnicutt, Ram Pendyala, Curtis Wienker

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of March 3, 1999, were approved as presented.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Janet Moore)**

President Moore's report consisted of the following announcements:

- A letter was sent to the Honors and Awards Council requesting that they serve as the committee to gather suggestions and help determine a way to honor charter faculty and faculty in general at the University of South Florida (USF). A copy of the letter will be included in the Minutes for future reference.
- Professor Katherine Cole, Counselor in the College of Arts and Sciences, has been appointed to fill the faculty vacancy on the Enrollment Planning Steering Committee.
- The Marshall Center Enhancement Planning Workgroup is looking at ways for better utilization of the Marshall Center. The Workgroup consists of five sub-committees: programming, marketing, operations, facilities, and funding. President Janet Moore and Senator Fredric Zerla have agreed to serve as faculty representatives on two of the sub-committees.
- A letter has been sent to Professor Kevin Archer, Chair of the Faculty Evaluation and Standards Committee, requesting that committee's consideration of the two issues which were brought to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) on Tenure and Promotion Guidelines and the Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) award.
- On April 1, 1999, Dr. Charles Schanie, a compensation consultant, met with the faculty leadership and members of the general faculty, as well as people in Human

Resources and the President's staff. Dr. Schanie received information regarding USF's current compensation practices, including information about the current faculty market/merit salary increase process, the TIP and Professional Excellence Program (PEP) awards. USF has asked Dr. Schanie to make recommendations both for the future salary enhancement funds and for overall improvements to compensation practices for all faculty and staff.

- There is a consultation team on campus today and tomorrow to assist and advise in the Marshall Center Enhancement Workgroup. President Moore circulated the agenda of the team's visit.

## **PROVOST TIGHE**

Provost Tighe reported on the following items:

- What are the implications of USF being designated a Research I institution in the State University System (SUS)? The critical issue is whether or not there will be additional funds for graduate education and research. In the Legislative session, Chancellor Herbert's request for a special enhancement fund for graduate education and research has received a strong measure of support from the Governor, from the House, and from the Senate. This means that these groups are willing to see the SUS be given a new kind of funding to enhance graduate education and research. At this time, the funding amount and its distribution is not known.
- The Legislature strongly supports continuation of USF's I-4 corridor base funding. In addition, another special package supported by the Legislature would be targeted toward the expansion of semiconductor activities in the Lucent Technology vein that would be shared with the SUS as a whole.
- There have been steps taken within USF to strengthen graduate education. Five new graduate program proposals have been forwarded to the Board of Regents (BOR) for consideration at its July meeting. The new programs include a Ph.D. in Applied Physics, a Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition, an M.A. in Environmental Sciences, an M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis, and a M.A. in Early Childhood Education and Development. In addition, President Castor has elevated a special campaign to raise money for competitive, graduate student research fellowships. These steps are indicative of USF moving in the direction of a Research I institution.
- In the process of reviewing the new proposed graduate programs that are currently going forward to the SUS for formal approval, the Graduate Council was commended for its procedure of reviewing new degree programs. The Undergraduate Council was encouraged to consider a similar type of process. • A proposal has been developed, and forwarded to the BOR, for the creation of a new water development institute to conduct research on water and water resources.
- There have been 48 applications received for the Pilot Interdisciplinary Center Grant Program. The peer review will be undertaken by the Research Council with some members participating from the Graduate Council. They have been asked to rank the top 15 with the final decision to be made by the Provost.
- There is a call for proposals for the new graduate certificate programs, as well as a refunding of existing certificate programs. The response deadline is April 19, 1999.
- Three finalists for the Dean of International Affairs have been selected to be interviewed over the next couple of weeks. In addition, there are five finalists for the

Dean of the Lakeland Campus to be interviewed on this campus over the next couple of weeks.

- The issue of transferring WUSF-TV and radio from Academic Affairs to the Vice President for Advancement was addressed at this time. Vice President Kathy Stafford and the Provost met with the faculty of the Mass Communications Department on March 18, 1999. The Provost explained to the faculty members that the purpose of the transfer was done in order to give the station greater visibility. Mass Communications Professor Manny Lucoff felt the change might interfere with the news reporting integrity of the station. During the meeting with the department, faculty pointed out that the firewall which needs to be between management and news reporting is not at the presidential or vice presidential level, but at the level of operations between those who prepare and report the news and those who manage. The Mass Communications faculty would like the administration to consult with their department on such matters, as well as include additional faculty on the advisory board whose areas of scholarly expertise deal directly with these issues. In addition, the faculty suggested having workshops for the station's staff so that they are aware of the internal operations of the station.

It was the opinion of the Provost that this issue was on its way to being resolved at the department level by taking the indicated steps. Therefore, the Provost suggested to the SEC that instead of proceeding with a faculty ad hoc committee at this time, to postpone that action until further investigation of the matter, considering the changes that the department is recommending, such as adding additional faculty to the advisory board and some internal steps of the station management. In the Fall Semester, the Provost will present a progress report to the SEC. Since this issue is listed under New Business on today's agenda, President Moore planned to re-visit the Provost's recommendations at that time.

## **REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

### a. Research Council (Chair Gene Ness)

Review of the applications for a pilot interdisciplinary center grant is underway. The Research Council awarded 28 out of 52 research and creative scholarship grants and 36 out of 45 travel grants.

### b. Committee on Committees (Chair Barbara Loeding)

The Committee on Committees (COC) approved a minor change to its nomination form for membership on university-wide committees and councils. The change asked for the reason why a person would like to serve on a particular committee or council. The COC also reviewed changes to two charges (the Graduate Council and Instructional Technology Council). The change to the Graduate Council charge was included in today's materials for consideration by the SEC. The charge will be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting on April 21, 1999. The change to the Instructional Technology Council charge was tabled by the COC and sent back to the chair of that council with further recommendations for consideration. The COC approved 61 people for recommendations to fill existing vacancies on university-wide committees and councils, leaving 41 vacancies. The COC addressed the question raised by Senators about why they did not receive correspondence from the chair of his/her committee/council inviting them to meetings. Investigation revealed that the Provost's Office was not sending a copy of the appointment letter to each of the chairs. Mr. Phil Smith has been informed about this recommended change.

c. Governmental Relations Committee (Julian Dwornik)

Three resolutions were presented by the Governmental Relations Committee at the Faculty Senate meeting of March 17, 1999. However, due to the fact that the SEC had not reviewed the resolutions prior to that meeting, they were being presented at today's meeting for that purpose. The first resolution was approved at the Faculty Senate meeting with a friendly amendment to the wording. Therefore, this resolution does not need to be presented at the April 21, 1999, Faculty Senate meeting. Resolution 2 was approved as presented. In Resolution 3, the word "country" should be changed to "county."

Discussion was held regarding the suggestions endorsed by the Governmental Relations Committee. Of particular concern was suggestion 2 which pertains to the creation of a budget for the Governmental Relations Committee which could be used for faculty travel to Tallahassee to support legislation endorsed by USF faculty and/or to host legislators and their staff for faculty sponsored events on the USF campus. The suggestion was made that this section be reworded to reflect that the faculty would not become lobbyists for USF. President Moore asked Vice President Dwornik to investigate this issue with Chair Navita James before the next Faculty Senate meeting. The motion was made and seconded that the SEC support the resolutions submitted by the Governmental Relations Committee. The motion was unanimously passed. The resolutions will be taken to the Faculty Senate meeting on April 21, 1999.

d. Faculty Committee on Student Admissions (Chair Ram Pendyala)

Chair Pendyala attended today's meeting to give a follow-up report on the concerns expressed after the SUS of Florida issued its report regarding alternative admissions. In the SUS report there was a comparison across universities reflecting a rather high proportion of alternative admissions coming into USF relative to peer institutions. The charge was given to the Faculty Committee on Student Admissions (FCSA) to explore why this was happening and investigate means by which that proportion could be reduced to a more comparable level of other institutions. Chair Pendyala described the process and the current status of the alternative admissions. To aid in this discussion, he distributed copies of tables showing Alternative Admissions for Fall 1998 and 1999 Admissions, Status and Profile of Summer Admissions, a Comparison of Summer Bridge Programs in Selected SUS Institutions, Guidelines for Summer Admission, and a BOR Scale for Admissions. Chair Pendyala pointed out that the process is very good in assuring that academic standards are being upheld.

Discussion was held regarding the program capacity for Student Support Services (SSS) and the Personal Excellence Program (PEP). SEC members expressed concern about the capacity numbers and how those numbers were obtained. Chair Pendyala will ask the FCSA to revisit the issue of admissions and enrollment planning, as well as the PEP to see how the numbers are obtained. Next, the Guidelines for Summer Admission were reviewed and discussed. Chair Pendyala indicated that the FCSA plans to revisit Category I of the guidelines, because students who have a 2.70 - 2.99 grade point average and meet all unit requirements are being admitted to the summer program carte blanche. It may be necessary to combine Categories I and II so that all students falling under those guidelines will automatically be referred to the FCSA.

e. Undergraduate Council (Dean Curtis Wienker)

Dean Wienker presented a modification to the Academic Renewal Policy of the Amnesty and Salvage Policies for the 1999-2000 Catalog. This change has to do with

students who are not admissible to the university because they are ineligible to return either to USF or a previous institution because they flunked out of both. This issue arose as a result of post-approval discussions regarding how this was going to be handled procedurally, what individuals were going to be involved, etc. During these discussions, it became apparent that Academic Renewal I cannot be done as it exists because of changes made by the Legislature last session in which they said that USF had to accept all community college credits and apply them toward the degree. In viewing it in that light, it was further concluded that Academic Renewal I was unnecessarily benevolent to students who had experienced academic problems at USF and other places. The existing Academic Renewal I policy reads as follows:

Renewal I students will be offered an opportunity to enter USF with all coursework and grades earned prior to their academic dismissal dropped from consideration in grade-point-average calculations at the University. Students who elect to exercise the Academic Renewal policy will not be allowed to use any credit earned from the academic terms from which courses are dropped for consideration, or from any prior terms, toward meeting degree requirements at the University and they may be excluded from admission to limited access programs.

The proposed modification to the existing policy is:

Renewal I students will enter USF as juniors and their USF grade point average will be calculated from that point forward. Such students will be required to earn 60 credits from USF, with a grade point average of at least 2.0, subsequent to the AA degree, in order to graduate from USF.

Dean Wienker pointed out that this modification is a substantive change. The motion was made to accept the proposed modification to the Academic Renewal I policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The proposed modification will be presented at the April 21, 1999, Faculty Senate meeting.

Chair Robison confirmed that according to Professor John Richmond, Chair of the General Education Council, the policy to allow instructors other than regular faculty to teach exit courses had been approved.

Chair Robison indicated that two-thirds of the Undergraduate Council agreed that the Administration should look into the plus/minus grading issue next year. He will also check with the Graduate Council to find out if that group has had an opportunity to discuss the issue.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business to discuss at today's meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. USF Parking Proposal (Rick Fender, Associate Vice President of Administrative Services and Marie Hunnicutt, Director of Parking Services)

Dr. Fender and Ms. Hunnicutt attended today's meeting to present the following background information on the new Parking and Transportation Proposal and to answer questions. Due to the lack of available flat surface left for parking lots, it will be necessary to construct additional parking lots and garages during the next several years in order to accommodate the growth in the number of students, faculty, staff,

and visitor vehicles requiring parking accommodations on the Tampa Campus. Given the typical construction cost of \$2,000 to \$4,500 per flat surface parking space and the \$8,000 to \$10,000 per garage space, it is essential to maximize the use of flat surface parking in order to keep user fees at a reasonable level. In order to fund additional parking facilities, USF plans to assess each new building for its parking impact, to begin charging visitors for parking, and to raise the parking fees charged to all faculty, staff, and students.

Comments from the SEC members included such things as: (1) Parking Services should consider the way in which people apply for reserved spots -- that is, oversell permits and go higher than one-for-one; (2) the infrastructure does not exist to accommodate late-night workers; (3) Parking Services should provide low-cost lots around most major, high use buildings that are open access to anyone of the university community; (4) Parking Services should put gates on the parking lots; and, (5) the University should consider another way to pay for new parking facilities other than by increasing fees. The SEC recommended that it would be appropriate to invite Vice President Hartley to the April 21, 1999, Faculty Senate meeting for a presentation of the new Parking and Transportation Proposal.

b. Ad Hoc Committee on Broadcasting Recommendations

At the March 17, 1999, Faculty Senate meeting, President Moore was asked to appoint an ad hoc committee on broadcasting recommendations. It is her intent to discuss the matter with the Mass Communications Department and allow them some time to work things out with the Provost and report back at the next Faculty Senate meeting. It was recommended that President Moore speak with the chair of the Mass Communications Department and find out what kind of progress has been made and take action as needed.

**OTHER**

a. Agenda for the April 21, 1999, Faculty Senate Meeting

Agenda items for the April Faculty Senate meeting are: Survey on Meeting Times, Undergraduate Council Report, Caucus on Committee on Committees and the Bylaws Committee, Graduate Council Report, Governmental Relations Committee Resolutions, and Parking Proposal Presentation (near the end of the meeting). President Moore will make an announcement about the ad hoc committee on broadcasting recommendations. After that meeting, there will be a faculty retiree reception at the Lifsey House from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

b. International Dean Candidates

There are three candidates scheduled to be interviewed on the Tampa Campus, and the SEC is invited to have two or more members to take the candidates to lunch. The first candidate lunch is Monday, April 12, 1999, from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. in the Marshall Center. President Moore asked if anyone was interested in joining the candidates for lunch and requested they let Ann Pipkins know.

c. May 5, 1999, SEC Meeting

The last SEC meeting will be a luncheon. Location suggestions included the Olive Garden and Don Jose. Members will be notified of the time and location for this meeting luncheon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

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