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# AY 1999/2000 FS meetings minutes: 00 Apr 19

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# USF Faculty Senate Archives

## FS Minutes

April 19, 2000

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### FACULTY SENATE MEETING

April 19, 2000

#### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m. The Minutes from the March 22, 2000 meeting were approved as presented.

#### **FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Jesse Binford)

A letter drafted by President Binford and Parliamentarian Nancy Tyson and approved by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) was sent to Governor Bush regarding the proposal to abolish the Board of Regents (BOR). Copies were also sent to the University of South Florida (USF) Service Area Legislators, as well as to Chancellor Herbert and Mr. Thomas Petway, Chair of the BOR. A resolution regarding the Governance Bill will be discussed later during today's meeting.

President Binford will introduce President-elect Judy Genshaft at her first public reception at the Martin Luther King Plaza on April 25, 2000, from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Discussion has been taking place regarding the possible removal of free parking as one of the amenities for Emeritus faculty. This issue will be reviewed at the May meeting of the SEC. Senators were invited to share their comments regarding the issue with any member of the SEC.

#### **INTERIM PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (Richard Peck)

President Peck's report consisted of the following items:

- The SEC was thanked for the resolution on the proposal to abolish the BOR. Copies of the resolution were taken to a meeting of the Council of Presidents and the BOR. A vote was taken in the Florida Senate on an amendment sponsored by the Chancellor to remove the BOR from the bill, and it was defeated 71 to 40. The bill does not take effect until the year 2003, so there is time to fix the situation.
- USF has approximately 26 million dollars in carry forward funds which the Legislature would like used as a matching challenge grant. However, by doing this, USF would use up its savings in order to match contributions from donors. Representative J.B. Alexander is to be thanked for saving 48 million dollars in

matching funds for donor contributions. In addition, USF was able to keep the 26 million dollars in carry forward funds.

- Representative Alexander has indicated that next year he would like to look into the issue of part time students and how they might be treated better. Currently, in order to receive a scholarship to one of the state public universities, a student must be full time. One proposal would be that a student who takes six hours would be qualified for half a scholarship, or nine hours for three-quarters of a scholarship. Representative Alexander would like suggestions from USF on what he might do to help part time students of whom there are more here than perhaps at the other universities.
- The regional campuses have been treated well. Representative Alexander put in 1.1 million dollars for Polk County which was submerged into a total amount for all of the branch campuses. However, Representative Alexander would appreciate it if that 1.1 million dollars of the money received by USF for the branch campuses would be designated to go to Polk County.
- Capital matters were reported as follows: 7.7 million dollars for the Kopp Engineering Building renovation; 3 million dollars for utilities and infrastructure at USF; 1 million dollars for planning of the natural and environmental sciences building; and \$600,000 for equipment purchases for Engineering III building. The House has put in its budget 20 million dollars for infrastructure of which USF may receive 2 million dollars.
- There are specific bills which concern everyone, the principal one being the elimination of the BOR and the creation of a super board over which one individual will preside. This board will be responsible for making decisions ranging from child care to vocational education. It has a minor benefit conceivably - each institution will have its own nine member board. If one member of that board for each institution was a Regent, there would be ten Regents and four appointed members on a board that would actually make financial decisions for everyone. If each board is allowed to decide what each institution will receive and spend, then the issue becomes persuading the Legislature that the local board do something.
- Another bill of concern is One Florida. It retains all existing pathways to admissions except for the consideration of race in making a decision. Student alternate admits will now be known as student profile assessments.
- USF has received some money for over enrollment for this year but nothing for next year. This may lead to putting a hold on admissions.
- There has been no agreement on salaries, but discussions seem to be greater than the 2.5/2.8 percent received in the past. Numbers as high as 4 percent are being discussed, but nothing has been finalized.
- There will be an across-the-board 5 percent tuition increase and probably a 5 percent differential tuition increase which can be applied and used at USF.
- The branch campuses will receive 9.8 million dollars. The only responsibility that USF has is to be certain that Polk County receives 1.1 million dollars due to Representative Alexander's help on other issues.
- The Challenge Grant is back to 48 million dollars of state money to match contributions at the same percentage rate as in the past.

- The House and Senate reached a compromise that 5 million dollars for graduate student and fellowship waivers would go to Research I universities only. This remains to be negotiated.
- The Senate has put 5.25 million dollars into its budget for faculty market equity; the House did not fund this item.

Past Faculty Senate President Janet Moore asked President Peck to speak to the issue of the St. Petersburg and Sarasota campuses becoming separate universities. His response was that all regional campuses want to become independent immediately which, in the long run, most do by earning their way there. One of the firm beliefs of the advisory council is that the regional campuses do not participate in the budget process and feel like they are treated like stepchildren. The Governance Bill would take away the campuses of St. Petersburg, Sarasota and a branch in Broward County to create free standing universities. President Peck indicated that one thing that may soothe the regional campuses is to have a vice president who has access to both the budget and president's councils thereby giving them more participation in discussions. To this end, an acting vice president has been appointed to be in that position so long as Dr. Peck is Interim President. Whether or not to have that appointment continue will be a decision made by President-elect Genshaft. The Legislative Committee has voted an amendment to the bill that will delay it for a study that has to be completed by January as to the probable impact of the severing of the university. The numbers derived from this study will demonstrate whether or not it is worth doing.

Undergraduate Council Chair Ed Silbert made the motion that the Faculty Senate adopt a resolution to thank Interim President Richard Peck for his attention to the affairs of USF and for the pleasure of his company in terms of the Faculty Senate. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

### **PROVOST'S REPORT** (Thomas Tighe)

Provost Tighe's report consisted of the following items:

- The distribution of funds for the market equity program has been completed. The total amount spent across the Academic Affairs areas on market equity adjustments was \$460,000 compared to last year's amount of \$514,000. The bulk of these funds were distributed under the category of Pool A. The average increase for eligible faculty in Pool A was \$1,200. In Pool B the average increment was approximately \$900. The Pool C final stage is now complete with the information regarding the recipients being in the hands of the deans who have been asked to notify the individuals. The funds in Pool C come solely from the university's budget and not from the state funds. The average increment in Pool C was \$1,900. The Provost complimented Messrs. Phil Smith, Kevin Toso, and Ms. Carol Rolf of the Academic Affairs budget office for doing a superb job in accomplishing these distributions.
- Dr. Allen Krantz from the State University of New York has accepted the appointment as the new Executive Director of the USF Research Foundation. Dr. Krantz will begin his new position at USF on July 1, 2000. However, he will be here next week if any of the Senators are interested in meeting with him. The Provost pointed out that Dr. George Newkome, Vice President of Research, deserves enormous credit for creating and overseeing the Research Foundation.
- A letter co-signed by both Provost Tighe and Health Sciences Center Vice President Martin Silbiger has been sent to each member of the faculty advising them that USF

needs to attempt to increase the percent of the grants and contracts that are coming from federal agencies. Only about 30 percent of USF's present external grants and contracts are from federal agencies whereas the data shows that it is 60 percent for a typical public Research I university. The letter announced a decision to offer an incentive that the indirect cost made to that individual would be doubled for all federal grants secured by a principal investigator while at USF for the first time.

### **UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA REPORT (Fredric Zerla)**

United Faculty of Florida Treasurer Fredric Zerla announced that President Mitchell Silverman has reinstated the newsletter which has been published several times this year, including one within the past month. Treasurer Zerla indicated that President Silverman's ideas are expressed in the newsletters which are sent to the entire faculty.

### **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

#### 1. Senate Office Results (Jim Vastine)

Secretary Vastine announced the results of the Senate officer elections for the 2000/2001 Academic Year as follows: Dr. Nancy Jane Tyson, President, Dr. Suresh Khator, Vice President, and Dr. Gregory Paveza, Senator-at-Large. Mr. Jim Vastine, Secretary and Dr. Barbara Loeding, Sergeant-at-Arms, were automatically seated.

#### 2. Committee on Committees (Pam Tucker)

Chair Tucker made a motion to approve Dr. Debra Osborne from the College of Education for membership on the Publications Council. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

### **ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR**

Secretary Vastine asked if the Senators were interested in an electronic ballot for next year's elections. A couple of suggestions included investigating how someone would vote who does not use a computer and sending out a blurb on each candidate. It was agreed that electronic voting should be investigated for possible implementation for next year's elections.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to be discussed at today's meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. Resolution on Proposals to Abolish the Board of Regents (Jesse Binford)

President Binford asked for and received a motion for the Faculty Senate to support the following resolution which was sent to the USF Service Area Legislators and others on April 6, 2000:

**RESOLUTION ON PROPOSALS TO ABOLISH THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION TO THE FACULTY SENATE  
April 19, 2000**

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida

unanimously approved the following resolution and requests endorsement by the Faculty Senate:

**Whereas**, the Board of Regents (BOR) in its present form provides the stability and protection that the State Universities need in times of fluctuating political interests at the state and local levels, and

**Whereas**, a dedicated and centralized funding effort is essential to promote adequate opportunities in higher education for the citizens of Florida in a climate of inadequate tuition revenues and legislative under-funding, and

**Whereas**, a strong centralized BOR dedicated to higher education prevents an undesirable proliferation of institutions and wasteful duplication of expensive programs within the University System, and

**Whereas**, the existing long-range plan of the BOR encourages cooperative and concerted action to accomplish statewide and even national goals in teaching, research, and service, among and within the Universities, and

**Whereas**, this legislative proposal to abolish the BOR, as with any change of such magnitude, should not be approved until after thorough, careful consideration by appropriate constituencies and concerned citizens of the State of Florida.

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida strongly opposes the measures currently before the Legislature to abolish the Board of Regents and implement individual University governing boards in its place.

The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

2. On-Line Student Evaluations (Dr. Tom Porter, Testing and Evaluation)

Dr. Porter was not in attendance at today's meeting due to religious observance; therefore, this issue was postponed.

3. Caucus for Committee on Committees (Pam Tucker)

At this time, a caucus was held to determine the members for the Committee on Committees for the 2000-2001 Academic Year. The membership will consist of: Senator Sara Mandell (College of Arts and Sciences), Senator Ellis Blanton (College of Business Administration), Senator Jenifer Schneider (College of Education), Senator Roger Crane (College of Engineering), Senator Sandra Robinson-Waldrop (College of Fine Arts), Senator Marion Becker (Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute), Senator Cheryl McCoy (Libraries), Senator Wenlong Bai (College of Medicine), Senator Theresa Beckie (College of Nursing), Senator Steven Field (College of Public Health), Senator Kim Lersch (St. Petersburg Campus), Senator Elizabeth Larkin (Sarasota Campus), Senator Barbara Loeding (Lakeland Campus), and Senator Fred Strobel (New College Campus). The chair of the Committee on Committees will be Senator Jenifer Schneider from the College of Education.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

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