

1-1-2005

AY 2004/2005 FS meetings minutes: 05 Feb 16

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**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MINUTES**

February 16, 2005

Faculty Senate President Susan Greenbaum called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. The Minutes from the January 19, 2005, meeting were approved as amended.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT SUSAN GREENBAUM

President Greenbaum's report consisted of the following:

- The sabbatical application process will be reopened for faculty who are in their sixth year seeking a second sabbatical. The issue has been resolved satisfactorily and the change in language will be addressed during the bargaining session in the upcoming year.
- On the issue raised at the end of the January meeting having to do with maintaining order during Senate discussions, Parliamentarian John Ward read the following from "21st Century Robert's Rules of Order," 1995, Chapter 2 "Introduction to Business," Section 2 "How to Obtain the Floor:"

Only one person can speak at a time. A person must address the chair and wait for the chair to recognize the speaker. Members may or may not state their names when they try to obtain the floor. The chair must recognize any member entitled to request the floor. The chair has the right to ask the member the purpose of the speech. Members who have been granted the floor are to make their motions, present any communications, or speak to the point being debated. Once someone is granted the floor, they have the exclusive right to speak. When they are finished speaking, they yield the floor by sitting down. If two or more members rise to seek the floor at the same time, the member who first addressed the chair after the floor was yielded has the floor. It is up to the chair to determine who first addressed the chair. Speaking out is not allowed.

The maximum amount of time given to a speaker is ten minutes. At that point, the chair has the opportunity to address the person. A speaker has one opportunity to speak on each issue during a discussion. The chair has the right to ask the Parliamentarian to clarify Robert's Rules of Order.

President Greenbaum asked that the Senate abide by these rules so that everyone has an opportunity to participate in discussions.

- A planning meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Community Engagement is scheduled for February 28th to begin the process of identifying ways to strengthen, enhance, and improve efforts in engaging the community at USF.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft announced that candidates for the Vice President of Student Affairs will be on campus next week. Anyone who could was encouraged to participate in the interview process. She offered to invite to a Faculty Senate meeting newly appointed College of Medicine Vice President Steve Klasko and Dean of Public Health Donna Peterson to introduce themselves if the Senate so desired.

USF will be celebrating its 50th year in January 2006 and committees are being formed. Former USF President Betty Castor and Mrs. Grace Allen have agreed to serve. Senators were encouraged to be a part of the celebration.

The Legislative Session will begin next month in Tallahassee. USF is going to the Legislature with one voice and one message that it needs funds for base funding and enrollment growth. The Board of Governors (BOG) has asked the Legislature for \$80 million in enrollment growth; the governor put in \$20 million.

Senators were invited to attend the BOG meeting at USF on March 24th. There will be a SACS meeting in April.

REPORT FROM PROVOST RENU KHATOR

Provost Khator announced that USF received guidelines from the BOG pertaining to academic learning compacts (ALC). A couple of options will be designed based upon these guidelines.

Provost Khator reported on the following searches: The Graduate Dean search has been narrowed to four candidates. Three candidates have been recommended for the position of Vice President for Institutional Planning and Research. Candidates were currently on campus interviewing for the position of Associate Vice President for Planning and Enrollment Management. The search committee for the Dean of Architecture would be created in the near future. The position description needs to be developed and advertised for the Dean of International Affairs.

Provost Khator and President Genshaft recently attended a discussion meeting in Washington, D.C. where it was voiced that the social compact for higher education has been broken -- What is the role and responsibility of the government, the university, the parents, and the students? No solution was offered, but the discussion was intriguing. On the issue of accountability, another very important need is to create a database that has meaning for student affairs. The last thing discussed was the issue of the transfer of credit; that is, regarding transferring from one institution to another without hassle. All of this means continuous teamwork and accountability with accountability being looked at very closely. There was a lot of conversation, but not much in terms of a solution. Provost Khator would appreciate any advice on these issues.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT ROY WEATHERFORD

UFF President Weatherford pointed out that no one knows the meaning of the ruling made by the First District of the Court of Appeals with respect to the question of furthering the status quo continued during this recent period of unfortunate circumstances. PERC ruled that the USF Board of Trustees was not a successor employer to the Board of Education which was a successor employer to the Board of Regents. Therefore, faculty representational and contractual rights were terminated. When the court ruled that was a mistake, they remanded to PERC to fix it. President Weatherford emphasized that the current contract is the governing document. This is not a question about faculty current status, but what happened in those obscure months in between.

UFF has requested a consultation with the administration that includes the issue of temporary, part time, visiting, and adjunct faculty and their status within the university. The union has a policy adopted by both national affiliates, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers. It states all faculty should be paid on the pro rata basis for the teaching they do. There is a question of justice about paying differential salaries for the same work, a question of academic status, and a question as to whether or not the rules are being lived up to in terms of the definition of adjunct contained in the collective bargaining agreement. Senators were encouraged to assist the union with this issue.

REPORT FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON DAVID HOFFMAN

Mr. Hoffman was not at today's meeting. However, President Greenbaum informed the Senate that Student Government has revisited the issue of plus/minus grading and will have a proposal to bring before the Senate once again to reevaluate courses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

a. Senate Election Nominations (Kathy Whitley)

Secretary Whitley announced that the first electronic election would be February 17 through March 3, 2005. The on-line voting process will involve only those who are eligible to vote and who have openings in their colleges. She thanked Instructional Technology for their assistance in making this process possible.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Resolution on Accessibility of USF Web Content (Andrew Smith)

The resolution was presented to the Faculty Senate at its January meeting for discussion at today's meeting. Instructional Technology and Distance Learning Council Chair Tom Terrell emphasized that this web accessibility is required by law and is not an option. He added that USF will lose a significant amount of federal funding if it does not comply

with this ten year old law. A motion was made and seconded that this resolution be accepted and implemented.

Discussion was held regarding the main issues the resolution addressed which were graphic content use of screen readers for the visually impaired and to assure people with no auditory that they have an alternative. According to law, content must be accessible to those who choose to take a web-based course. The goal is that all future web pages be developed in accordance. There was a call to question with a call for a vote. The motion to accept the Resolution on Accessibility of USF Web Content was unanimously passed.

b. Shared Governance Committee Report (Gregory McColm)

As chair of the Shared Governance Committee, Senator McColm reported that the process has been divided into three initiatives: (1) to obtain a general picture of what is officially occurring in faculty governance at USF, (2) to obtain faculty perceptions of faculty governance via a survey, and (3) to put together basic material for a kit for those interested in creating their own guidelines. He thanked Senator Monica Metz-Wiseman (Library) and Vice Provost Robert Chang for providing the committee with copies of the existing guidelines that have been created by some departments and are being used. It is anticipated that the committee will have a report ready by August, 2005. The invitation to join the committee still stands.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed General Education Council Charge (Ellis Blanton/Glen Besterfield)

Committee on Committees Chair Blanton presented the draft charge for a proposed General Education Council before turning the floor over to Senator Besterfield to answer questions and lead discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the second paragraph on Membership to insert the words “each of the” so that it would read “... and one member from each of the regional campuses” Justification for the amendment was that the regional campuses are so similar in that the issues they face relative to the issues of undergraduate work are the same.

Before this motion could be discussed, St. Petersburg Senator Chin-Tang Liu made the motion that there be two representatives from that campus. The motion was seconded and opened for discussion. The amended amendment would give St. Petersburg Campus two representatives while Sarasota and Lakeland would have only one. There was a call to question and a standing vote was taken on the amended amendment. The motion to add two representatives from the St. Petersburg campus failed.

Discussion returned to the original amendment to the membership section. A standing vote was taken and the amendment for one representative from each of the regional campuses was passed. There was a call to question on further discussion of the charge.

A vote was taken and the proposed General Education Council charge was unanimously passed as amended.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

- a. College of Nursing Senator Cecilia Jevitt asked if anyone had information on whether or not there are guidelines for ethics courses to please let her know. The college was looking to the Senate for guidance.
- b. Senator Chin-Tang Liu expressed concern that there should be a better alliance with community colleges to ensure transfer students are prepared to take classes at the university.
- c. Senator Gregory McColm asked President Genshaft what the retention rates were of transfer students versus freshman and sophomore. Provost Khator replied that USF does not do such a comparison.

There being no further issues, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.