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**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MINUTES**

November 15, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Faculty Senate President Michael Barber at 3:12 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of October 18, 2006, were approved as amended. The corrected version will be posted on the Faculty Senate web site.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT MICHAEL BARBER

President Barber's report consisted of the following announcements:

- The Board of Trustees Workgroups Academic and Campus Environment (ACES), Finance and Audit, and Health Sciences and Research met on November 2, 2006. Most important item was financing for the next round of parking garages.
- In an attempt to maintain communication with the faculty on the regional campuses, President Barber will visit Lakeland campus on Thursday, November 16, and the Sarasota campus in January.
- Office of the Regents hosted a reception for the Millionaires Club. This is for people who have brought in a million dollars in funding, as well as those who have brought in more than 20 million dollars. Colleagues should be congratulated in doing an outstanding job in bringing funding to the institution.
- The Honors and Awards Council has sent out an email soliciting nominees for its faculty awards. The deadline to submit a notification of nomination to the Faculty Senate Office is December 8. Anyone interested in nominating someone for an Honorary Degree or being nominated for a teaching award was encouraged to review the information on the web site at <http://web.usf.edu/FacultySenate>.
- Senators were asked to either volunteer or encourage colleagues to serve on the University Wide Committees and Councils. Deadline for submitting nominations is November 27, 2006. Vacancy information is available on the Faculty Senate web site at <http://web.usf.edu/FacultySenate>.
- The Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Communications Committee has met to discuss ideas about how to improve the website and communication within the Senate and with respect to colleagues.
- Marshals are needed for Commencement on December 16, 2006. Web casting may be available in the spring.
- The Committee on Faculty Issues has reviewed the faculty handbook. Its recommendations for revisions have been forwarded to Vice Provost Dwayne Smith.

- A Parking and Transportation Services Advisory Committee was created in 2001. Documentation on the committee has been sent to Mr. Manuel Lopez, Director of Parking Services.
- President Judy Genshaft has disseminated the 2007-2012 strategic plan via e-mail asking the university community to provide feedback. Senators were encouraged to respond.
- Although the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) will be meeting in December, the Faculty Senate will not meet. The next meeting will be on January 24, 2007.
- Two new College of Medicine Senators were welcomed – Drs. Patricia Kruk and Esteban Celis.
- President Barber will make an inquiry into how members of the Board of Trustees (BOT) workgroups are selected and how long they serve.

REPORT FROM VICE PROVOST DWAYNE SMITH

Neither President Genshaft nor Provost Khator was able to attend today's meeting. On their behalf, Vice Provost Smith reported the following:

- USF has been awarded \$10 million to create a Florida Center for Excellence in Biomolecular Identification and Targeted Therapeutics. Out of the large number that were submitted, only four were awarded. USF was the highest rated in both the preliminary analysis and the final analysis.
- USF will be authorized to hire four world class scholars. Out of the fifteen given, USF was awarded four. It awaits approval by the Board of Governors.
- The University of Florida is to be allowed to charge an "academic enhancement fee" which would be a surcharge of \$500.00/student/semester or \$1000.00/year. This will be in addition to full enrollment funding and technology fees. He pointed out that this fee is not covered by Bright Futures Scholarships.
- Due to the growth of USF, authorization has been given for 63 new faculty hires on the Academic Affairs side. The regional campuses and USF Health are doing their own hiring. In addition, there are three separate dean searches underway in engineering, FMHI, and the library. Search committees for all of these are fully staffed and functioning.
- Shared departmental governance document guidelines have been distributed. Senators were asked to encourage their departments to incorporate these guidelines into their departmental documents.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT ROY WEATHERFORD

United Faculty of Florida President Weatherford reported current, on-going bargaining issues. Vice Provost Smith presented clarifying remarks on the report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS:

a. Nominations from Committee on Committees (Kim Lersch)

Committee on Committees (COC) Chair Lersch presented the following nominations which had been approved by both the COC and the SEC and came to with a motion to approve:

Mary Armstrong, Assistant Professor, FMHI	Commencement and Convocation Committee
Paul Camp, Librarian, Library	Commencement and Convocation Committee
Joan Morris, Instructor, Nursing	General Education Council
Jacqueline Reck, Associate Professor, School of Accountancy	Graduate Council
Patricia Blake-Rahter, Instructor, Communication Sciences and Disorders	Library Council
Vehkat Bhethanobotla, Associate Professor, Chemical Engineering	Research Council

The motion to approve the nominations was seconded and unanimously passed.

b. Library Council Update (Kim Lersch)

COC Chair Lersch reported that the Library Council had not met in over a year. She called a meeting of the members on October 12th at which Gail Donaldson volunteered to chair the council and get it operational.

COC Chair Lersch announced that a solicitation for nominations has been sent out via e-mail. She encouraged Senators to either self-nominate or nominate colleagues and send the nominations to either her or Ann Pipkins in the Faculty Senate Office. The deadline to apply is November 27, 2006.

c. Report from Ad Hoc Communications Committee (Dale Johnson)

Secretary Johnson reported that the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Communications Committee (FSCC) met for the first time on November 8, 2006, to discuss bringing the Faculty Senate web site up to date and operational. With the personnel support from Provost Khator, progress is being made with 90 percent of the site functioning properly.

The e-mail distribution list will be used to send Senate related announcements to every faculty member. There will also be a mechanism by which faculty members can go to the Faculty Senate web site and communicate with their Senators. The web site and e-mail distribution list will be used in combination to facilitate communication between the Faculty Senate and the faculty.

Secretary Johnson added that the current discussion board on the web site will be taken down and replaced with another mechanism. He asked if anyone had suggestions or finds something that is not working on the site to contact the FSCC.

d. Report from Faculty Handbook Update (Larry Branch)

President Barber reported on behalf of the Committee on Faculty Issues that it has reviewed the faculty handbook and the committee's recommendations have been forwarded to the Provost's Office.

e. Report from Academic Toolkit Survey (Philip Reeder)

Professor Reeder, Chair of the Council on Educational Policy and Issues (CEPI), reported that in response to an academic integrity survey conducted by USF Student Affairs last spring, the council is sponsoring the creation of an academic online toolkit to provide resources to both faculty and students. In order to better address the concerns and needs of these groups, CEPI will be sending out an e-mail asking them to identify topics to be included in the toolkit. The information provided will then become part of the information that will be available on the academic integrity toolkit. It is anticipated that a report will be ready by either February or March.

A second item is a student assessment of instruction. CEPI is looking at a way to develop a new tool to use but is in the informational gathering stage. It is anticipated that a website will be created to solicit input from students and faculty on what they would like to see in these assessment tools before proposing a new one. A proposal will be forthcoming to the Faculty Senate mid-spring semester 2007.

OLD BUSINESS

a. USF Commitment to Honor (Janet Moore)

Undergraduate Studies Associate Dean Moore presented revised versions of the *USF Commitment to Honor* and the *USF Commitment to Honor and Living the Commitment* documents which were amended based upon the recommendations received during the October Faculty Senate meeting. She reminded the Senators that this is a philosophical statement of the ideal. It is not meant to encompass every facet of every possible thing that a university can do. A motion to approve the amended version was made and seconded. The floor was opened for discussion of the amended documents.

At this time Senator Steven Tauber presented the following amendments:

To the *Commitment to Honor* he proposed adding “and non human animals” to the end of the second resolve on the first page. To the *Commitment to Honor and Living the Commitment*, he proposed adding after the last sentence of the first resolve on page two “We also support humane treatment and respect for the dignity of all non-human animals used in research, in custody of the university, and on university grounds.” A motion was made and seconded to approve the two amendments presented by Senator Tauber. The proposed amendments were then briefly discussed. There was a call to question and a vote was taken. The motion to approve the amendments failed.

Discussion returned to the amended documents. There was a call to question. The motion for the Faculty Senate to approve the amended *Commitment to Honor and Commitment to Honor and Living the Commitment* was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Faculty Senate Faculty Survey on Research Resources (Greg Teague)

Past Research Council Chair Teague presented the results of the “USF Research Council Faculty Survey on Research Resources-Preliminary Report.” The purpose of the study was to assess faculty perceptions of the level of support for research and scholarly activities available to them at USF. Faculty perceptions were sought in the following areas: financial resources, material resources, human resources, intellectual/scholarly resources, administrative/academic support, and grant support. Demographic information about respondents was also requested. Principal investigators were Greg Teague, FMHI, Research Council, member and past chair, Carol Mullen, COE, Research Council Chair and Uday Murthy, COB, Research Council, past vice-chair. The goals were to ascertain levels of support and importance to faculty across the University of South Florida, identify current problems, and strengthen critical components of research infrastructure. At this time, Chair Mullen and Past Chair Teague reviewed the following:

- Background
- Abstract
- Purpose and Goals
- Content and Methods
- Overall Quantitative Results
- Variations
- Summary, Conclusions, Plans

The survey results will be made available to anyone who requests them. Professor Teague added that the Research Council will continue its qualitative analysis and link those findings to quantitative data. It is anticipated that a final report will be submitted to Vice President of Research Bob Chang and Provost Renu Khator in December.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

- a. Senator Gregory McColm introduced the following resolution on the USF Strategic Plan:

Resolution regarding the 2007-2012 USF Strategic Plan

WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan lays goals for the academic development of the University of South Florida and for supports for said academic development, and

WHEREAS, the success of any plan requires an amount of information and a level of commitment greater than that mere faculty input and solicited comment can provide, and

WHEREAS, the successful development of the University is a high priority to faculty who anticipate working at the University over a period of decades, and

WHEREAS, the Senate is the primary representative of the Faculty in considering academic issues at the University,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate offers its services to the Board of Trustees in assessing the performance of the University under the last plan, and in formulating the Strategic Plan of 2007 – 2012, and further

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate offers its services as a genuine partner and participant.

Due to a lack of quorum, the resolution was tabled until the next Faculty Senate meeting. To avoid this happening in the future, President Barber recommended that resolutions first be submitted to the Senate Executive Committee so they can then be put under New Business on the agenda to be addressed while there is still a quorum.

- b. Senator Weimin Mo brought up the issue of workload discrepancy among faculty on the Sarasota and Tampa campuses. President Barber referred Senator Mo to CEPI Chair Philip Reeder to look into this issue.
- c. President Barber will look into the question of whether or not Sarasota faculty want to become autonomous.
- d. Issue of new Senator orientation will be discussed at the December Senate Executive Committee meeting.
- e. The creation of a graduate teaching award will be discussed at the December Senate Executive Committee meeting.
- f. Regarding a faculty dining location on campus, Senator Michael Barnett was referred to Senator Richard Oehler who represents the faculty on the ULS Committee.

- g. In order to avoid duplication of committee work, Senator Sondra Fogel suggested that committee chairs review their charges so that there are no crossovers in duties and responsibilities and to ensure that the committees are performing as prescribed by their charges.

There being no further issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.