

1-1-2007

AY 2006/2007 FS meetings minutes: 07 Mar 21

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Faculty Senate, "AY 2006/2007 FS meetings minutes: 07 Mar 21" (2007). *Faculty Senate Publications*. Paper 214.
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FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of February 21, 2007, were approved as presented.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT MICHAEL BARBER

Vice President John Ward announced that due to unforeseen circumstances, Faculty Senate President Michael Barber was unable to attend the meeting. Therefore, Vice President Ward conducted the meeting with no report given.

REPORTS FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT AND PROVOST RENU KHATOR

Before beginning her report, President Genshaft asked for a round of applause for out-going United Faculty of Florida President Roy Weatherford who will be stepping down as president effective April 1, 2007.

President Genshaft's report consisted of the following items:

The Strategic Plan. The academic freedom comment made at last month's Senate meeting was incorporated into the Values Section of the plan. Members of the Benchmark Committee were thanked for their work on devising a number of measures for the strategic plan. However, a global measurement is yet to be created. All the town meetings are finished. The next step will be to bring the strategic plan to the Board of Governors to approve its framework. Following that, each unit will draft its own compact plan as part of the master plan. In addition, a business plan is being put forth as to what kinds of resources it will take to get the strategic plan operational.

Projected Education and Capital Outlay (PECO) funding. This is the third week of the session for the Legislature and the Senate. PECO 2007-2008 funding allocated for USF was 74.5 million dollars which is the third largest amount distributed to universities. This also includes ten million dollars for infrastructure. The House is looking to add a 5 percent tuition increase, and fund partial enrollment at 74 million dollars. The Senate has not yet come out with a budget.

Governance Structure. President Genshaft will begin discussions with Faculty Senate President Barber and Vice President John Ward about a faculty governance structure that will work throughout the whole USF system.

Provost Renu Khator briefly reported on the following:

- Florida needs to make sure it provides Access to all of its students.
- USF is looking at what consequences there might be of a standardized General Education Curriculum for the State of Florida.
- Discussions are taking place about including degrees awarded in the FTE enrollment funding formula.

- The Board of Governors is considering taking requests for new doctoral degrees from universities. USF is looking at what this means for it. The Faculty Senate will be kept apprised.
- In regards to PECO, the new requirements that have come out from the Board of Governors include renovations of buildings. Finally, Cooper Hall and Social Sciences can be moved up the list to put them in another category.
- Four mini strategic plans need to be developed for the campuses to be integrated into the master strategic plan.
- It is time to develop a business plan about what kind of investment is involved in order to become AAU approved. Discussion will take place with the Faculty Senate on how to proceed to the next step.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT ROY WEATHERFORD

President Roy Weatherford announced that he chose not to seek reelection and the Union voted Sherman Dorn in as the next President of the United Faculty of Florida – USF Chapter. Dr. Dorn will take over his new duties on April 1, 2007. Dr. Weatherford also pointed out that current negotiations may lead to an impasse.

REPORT FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON MARVIN TADOR

Mr. Tador, Student Government Associate Director of Internal Affairs, attended today’s meeting to present an Executive Proposal *Buyback/Faculty Initiative* developed by the Student Government Executive Office and the Barnes & Noble USF Tampa Bookstore. The purpose of the proposal is to encourage faculty members to submit their book orders as early as possible for upcoming semesters to aid in the buyback process. Senators pointed out that some faculty do not know what classes they will be teaching, what text they will use, or how many students will need the books. Although faculty realize the impact this has on both students and faculty, the attitude conveyed was that there was little the faculty could do to remedy the problem. Mr. Tador would like to find an amicable solution to this problem. He asked that Senators send comments and/or suggestion to him at mtador@sg.usf.edu.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

- a. Request for Change in General Education Council Membership (Kim Lersch, Janet Moore)

Committee on Committees Chair Kim Lersch presented a request from the General Education Council to make the following changes to its membership: (1) Due to the fact that the majority of courses are from the College of Arts and Sciences, add 4 additional members from the that college. (2) Since the St. Petersburg campus has a separate general education council, they would like to have their representative on the Tampa council serve in an ex officio, non-voting capacity. The request had been approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. After clarification that the St. Petersburg representative would an ex-officio, non-voting member, a motion was made and seconded to approve these two requests from the General Education Council. The motion was unanimously passed.

b. Senate Elections Final Report; Call for Officer Nominations (Dale Johnson)

Secretary Johnson reported that the voting turnout for the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Engineering was light. Also, there is at least one technical issue that is being tracked. The new Senators for AY 2007-2008 are:

College of Arts and Sciences

Gail Donaldson
Emanuel Donchin
Michael Gibbons
Steven Tauber
Robert H. Tykot
E. Christian Wells

College of Education

Glenn Smith
Arthur Shapiro

College of Engineering

Grisselle Centeno
Kingsley Reeves

Libraries

Charles Gordon

College of Medicine

Philip Amuso
Maria Cannarozzi
Esteban Celis
Patricia Kruk
Andreas Seyfang

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Martha Lynne Gackle
Sang-Hie Lee

Vacancies remain for School of Architecture (1 three-year term); College of Business (1 three-year term); College of Medicine (1 three-year term; 1 one-year term); College of Public Health (1 three-year term) and St. Petersburg (2 three-year term; 1 one-year term).

Secretary Johnson announced that nominations for officer elections were being accepted. Open positions are Vice President, Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Member-at-Large, and Committee on Committees. Nomination forms were distributed with today's meeting materials and are due in the Faculty Senate Office by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 23rd. Ballots will be mailed to continuing and new Senators. After April 6th, there will be a new leadership for next year.

c. Report from Council on Technologies for Instruction and Research (John Ward)

Vice President Ward reported that the university has created a Computer Technology Officer (CTO) position that will report to the Provost and collaborate closely with the AVP Information Technology, college deans, and academic support units. There will be a new division of labor that takes all of the academic uses and places those under the program. The other more technical aspects will remain with the IT director. A search committee is being created. The Faculty Senate hopes it will be able to have a presence on that committee – either a Senator or at least a faculty member.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Travel Reimbursement Presentation (Joy Morton, JR Reed, Nick Trivonvich)

Controller Nick Trivonvich reported that a new Travel Module is currently being tested and is expected to be implemented late May, 2007. There will be focus groups and demonstrations in the near future. The system is automated so it is anticipated that errors will be minimized. Ms. Morton, Function Manager of the Travel Module, gave a PowerPoint presentation of what the software will provide. Highlights of the presentation included: Why this system? Benefits for the Traveler. Benefits for the Departments. Expected Changes in Business Processes. Receipt Imaging and Submission. Travel Implementation Team. Ms. Morton announced that training sessions will begin the week of April 30th.

At this time, Vice President Ward announced that due to a lack of quorum further business of the Faculty Senate would be tabled. The meeting was de facto adjourned at 4:30 p.m.