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FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
June 18, 2008

Present: Michael Barber, Larry Branch, Emanuel Donchin, Susan Greenbaum, Dale Johnson, Gene Ness, Sandhya Srinivasan, Larry Thompson

Guests: Ellis Blanton, Steve Permoth

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. The Minutes from the May 7, 2008, meeting were approved as presented.

**REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT
MICHAEL BARBER**

Vice President Branch was presented with a plaque in recognition of his contributions and service to the Faculty Senate during the 2007-2008 academic year. In addition, he was congratulated on being selected as a Distinguished University Professor.

President Barber was reminded that the newly elected officers are to be invited to future Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and Faculty Senate meetings of the 2007-2008 academic year. It was so noted that this be allowed during the transition period.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Recommendations on 0-614 Post Retirement Employment Policy (Emanuel Donchin)

At the May 7, 2008 SEC meeting, the Council on Educational Policy and Issues (CEPI) was asked to review the proposed Post Retirement Employment Policy and provide recommendations. CEPI Chair Donchin reported that CEPI reviewed the document and suggested three specific changes. (a) The words "Full time" should qualify the verb "rehire" in the document. It is important, in CEPI's view, to make it clear that the policy does not refer to rehiring a retired employee on a part time basis, even if it is to serve in the person's pre-retirement position. (b) Wording should be added that makes it clear that the policy does not apply to retired tenured faculty who are rehired part time to teach, or to perform other academically relevant tasks. (c) Language needs be added that makes it clear that this policy does not apply to individuals hired to positions funded entirely by extra mural grants or contracts. The SEC approved returning the policy document, with CEPI's recommended changes, to the office of Legal Counsel.

b. Status of Inter-Campus Academic Review (ICAR)

A brief discussion was held regarding the status of the nominations from the Faculty Senate which were forwarded to the Provost by President Barber. Clarification will be sought from Vice President Kathleen Moore who is chairing the review.

c. CEPI Chair

Senator Donchin announced that he has been chosen by CEPI to continue as its chair for the 2008-2009 academic year, thus continuing his membership on the SEC.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Status of Task Force to Review Administrative Structure (Larry Branch)

Vice President Branch reported that the President's Office is appointing the following five members to the task force: Betty Castor (Patel Center Executive Director), John Curran (Associate Vice President for USF Health), Trudie Frecker (Acting Chief Financial Officer), Michael Hoad (Vice President for USF Communications and Marketing) and Ron Jones (Dean of College of Visual and Performing Arts). In addition, there are five Past Speakers/Presidents of the Faculty Senate who have agreed to be on this committee: Susan Greenbaum, Michael Barber, Elizabeth Bird, Kofi Glover, and Janet Moore. Senator Gene Ness has accepted the invitation to chair the task force. Six additional people have volunteered to serve: Kathleen Armstrong, Artis Hansen, Steve Tauber, Emanuel Donchin, Tom Massey and Paul Terry. Dr. Terry is the only regional campus volunteer. Vice President Branch will talk with these volunteers before making a public announcement of the final members. He anticipates asking the volunteers formally by electronic mail by the end of this week to participate and hold a preliminary meeting. Faculty Senators will be invited to the initial meeting to provide input as to what is expected of this task force.

Vice President Branch pointed out that no mention has been made regarding staff support for the task force. Senior Vice Provost Dwayne Smith has been acting as intermediary so far.

b. Academic Integrity/Distance Learning Guidelines (Emanuel Donchin)

CEPI Chair Donchin and CTIR Chair Srinivasan announced that more time is needed to review this information.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Global Faculty Senate Distribution List

President Barber announced that the Global Faculty Senate Distribution List has been updated and a test was done to determine its validity. Currently, Ms. Pipkins is the only authorized person to post to and modify the list. The global list will be sent to the SEC officers for review to determine if there is anyone not included that should be.

b. USF Tampa Reorganization Plan and the Faculty Senate

President Barber announced that the Academic Affairs Reorganization Plan has been made public. He pointed out that this is the plan that the administration proposes to move forward. SEC members were asked if they wanted to comment on the reorganization plan which is anticipated to go into effect on July 1, 2008. The floor was opened for discussion.

Concerns expressed included:

- No concrete, detailed explanation has been offered.
- This plan is different than the previous one, again with no explanation.
- No budgetary impact listed; no indication as to how resources will be organized; no indication of cost savings and implementation.
- Where did this plan come from and what is the impetus to reorganize the whole university at a time when it is in such tremendous uncertainty? Why were there no consultations with the people involved?
- Departments were not consulted; no input from faculty was sought.
- There was no consultation with the Faculty Senate or explanation given as to how this proposal will affect the Faculty Senate.
- The Faculty Senate membership apportionment and membership on its standing committees and councils is impacted.
- What is being presented does not seem to be achieving any of the goals.
- The Faculty Senate has the responsibility of advising the administration on all academic matters, and this is clearly an academic matter on which the Faculty Senate has not been consulted.
- Where does the plan come from and what is the urgency in implementing it particularly since there seems to be such disarray in how it is to be defined. What is the goal? And, if there is a goal of cost savings, it surely has been calculated and it should be revealed.
- Does anyone know why this is being done? Why it is USF has to realign?
- A lack of analysis or deliberation that this realignment deserves was not done.
- It would have been better for it to have been announced that this proposal would be implemented July 1, 2009 after it was totally discussed, debated and input received from all appropriate groups.
- What is the role of the Board of Trustees (BOT) and ACE in this process? How were these two groups avoided in bringing about this proposal?
- What is the impact on the student catalog, differential teaching loads, wages, ICAR, tenure and promotion, work hours, terms and conditions of employment, student progress toward degrees, student diplomas?

At this time, discussion turned to what actions the SEC can take regarding the proposed realignment. President Barber commented that it was now time to present these concerns to the Provost and address the effects of realignment on the Faculty Senate, from reapportionment to committee restructuring.

Vice President Branch offered the following proposal for discussion: The Faculty Senate formally send a communication to the President, the Provost and the Vice President for Health requesting that consistent with its responsibilities to provide advice on academic matters, the Faculty Senate requests that the Provost present the proposal to the Faculty Senate which will anticipate being able to discuss and respond with approval or disapproval within a designated time frame. He pointed out that somewhere along the line there needs to be something that says the Faculty Senate cannot be ignored, and that it needs time to look at the proposal. With the proposal being presented on June 24th to be implemented on July 1st does not allow time for the Faculty Senate to meet its responsibilities. CEPI Chair Donchin commented that if there is no leeway on the July 1st deadline, then the Faculty Senate should be willing to work with the administration.

CEPI Chair Donchin suggested that there be a meeting with the Provost and have him explain what exactly is taking place, why there has been no faculty or Senate consultation.

Past President Greenbaum stated the role of the BOT should be explored in this process since it was bypassed. It may be an opportunity to slow down the process until the next BOT meeting. In addition, Vice President Branch asked that the Senate seek clarification on the Provost's expectations for the Senate providing consultation on academic matters, an explanation of how the responsibilities of both the BOT and ACE have been met regarding this reorganization. It is not possible for the Faculty Senate to have an informed discussion of all the matters and provide the required advice by the July 1st deadline. It is a constitutional requirement that the Faculty Senate should be involved in these types of decisions.

President Barber stated that he will set up a meeting on Wednesday, June 25th between the SEC and the Provost. CEPI Chair Donchin recommended instead that President Barber and President-Elect Branch request a personal meeting with the Provost with a list of concerns discussed at today's meeting. Depending upon the response received from the Provost, President Barber will formulate a request for a group meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.