

2010

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Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
February 24, 2010

Faculty Senate President Laurence Branch called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Before proceeding, he read the following motion:

Whereas we are one University and one community of scholars engaged in education and research,

Whereas the interdependence of faculty, students, and administrators is one hallmark of USF as one University,

Be it known that we – the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida – express deepest condolences to our President, Dr. Judy Genshaft, on the loss of her Mother earlier this month.

The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Moving to the formal agenda, a motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the January 27, 2010, meeting as presented. The motion unanimously passed.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Award Recommendations from Honors and Awards Council – Sang-Hie Lee

As Chair of the Honors and Awards Council (HAC) Senator Lee presented recommendations for faculty awards that are under the auspices of the Faculty Senate. The recommendations came to the Faculty Senate with a motion to accept: Professor Dmitry Khavinson for the Askounes-Ashford Distinguished Scholar Award; Professor Robert McCormick for the Jerome Krivanek Distinguished Teacher Award; and Professor Bill Kinder for the Distinguished Service Award. There were no nominations received by the HAC for the Honorary Degree. The motion to accept these recommendations from the HAC was seconded and unanimously passed.

b. Proposed Revisions to Askounes-Ashford Distinguished Service Award Guidelines – Sang-Hie Lee

HAC Chair Lee presented a proposed revision to 3. b. Evidence of significance to the field by adding (4) **Documentation of impact on the global scholarship**. It came with a motion to approve from the HAC. The motion was seconded and the proposed revision was discussed. Chair Lee explained that the HAC wanted to add this requirement to be consistent with the university's strategic plan of global recognition. The proposed revision has not been discussed with the Askounes-Ashford family. In addition, the question was raised as to what the difference is between international, as stated in (2) of

the same section, and term global. The proposed revisions were tabled and the Senate recommended that it be taken back to the Council for reconsideration. In addition, Chair Lee should work with the family, as well as the USF Foundation on this and other changes the HAC would like to make to these guidelines.

c. Election Nomination Results – Paul Terry

Secretary Terry announced the results of the Senate nominations as follows: Eleven nominations were received from the College of Arts and Sciences to fill 6 vacancies. Five nominations were received from the College of Engineering to fill 4 vacancies. Voting to elect Senators for these two colleges will take place on-line beginning Friday, February 26, 2010. The remaining nominations received were as follows: Behavioral & Community Sciences, 4 vacancies, 1 nomination; College of Medicine, 6 vacancies, 4 nominations; and College of The Arts, 3 vacancies, 2 nominations. Secretary Terry encouraged Senators to re-run from the colleges that need more people.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Textbook Affordability Update – Tapas Das and Emanuel Donchin

Associate Provost Das distributed and reviewed a handout called “Highlights of Textbook Affordability related activities at USF: A Report to the Faculty Senate, February 24, 2010.” This was an update on the recommendations from the USF System-Wide Faculty/Student Committee on Textbook Affordability, co-chaired by faculty members Ms. Monica Metz-Wiseman (Library) and Dr. Anete Vasquez (COEDU). In addition, he reviewed key features of the system-wide Regulation No. USF 3.029: Textbook Adoption and Affordability which was adopted on November 12, 2009. Ms. Metz-Wiseman added that the most recent occurrence has been the placing on reserve in the Library two books for classes with 150 or more students. These books have been donated by the publishers.

The following two proposed questions were discussed and edited at a meeting of the Council on Educational Policy and Issue (CEPI) and subsequently approved by the Senate Executive Committee: 1. It will be required that USF faculty members include ‘*a brief statement justifying the selection of the textbook(s) and/or support materials*’ in the syllabus. 2. An additional question (#9) will be added to the student evaluation as follows: *Use of required textbook and/or support materials, if applicable, in learning the course.* However, the score of the 9th question will not be considered in the average score computation process.

CEPI Chair Donchin explained that the initial wording was to add two questions to the evaluation questions, because the questions were never measured due to a lack of an evaluative tool. There was a task force created in 2007 that looked into textbook prices, and there will be another task force with CEPI to evaluate teaching and enlist the aid of other groups. During the CEPI discussion of whether the textbook was appropriate for the course, another question surfaced and that was “Is there another policy for people

assigning their on textbooks in their on class?" Other issues dealt with copyright laws from putting books on-line. CEPI is trying to get a firm answer to this question. An even bigger issue is privatization which could force publishers to raise prices.

Student Government Senate President Pro Tempore Matthew Diaz added that at some universities, faculty are charged fines for not being in compliance with meeting deadlines for submission of textbook information.

Senator Michael Gibbons commented that it does not make sense to add the 9th question because it cannot claim any validity; it is unanswerable. Senator Elizabeth Bird made the motion that the Faculty Senate not accept question 9 until there is a better and more answerable way to do this. The motion was seconded and discussed. Associate Provost Das explained that question 9 would be a one year pilot question during which time it would not be used as a part of faculty evaluation. Data would be collected for one year and then a decision would be made as to its validity. Provost Wilcox clarified that the purpose of question 9 was to find out whether or not the assigned textbook was of use in the course. There was a call for the vote. The motion to delete question 9 as proposed passed with one opposed vote.

Senator Steven Tauber made the motion that instructors be strongly encouraged to include a brief statement explaining their selection of the textbook in the syllabus. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business for today's meeting.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft reported the following:

- Legislative Session will begin early March.
- There is a little more PECO money available than last year. Distribution to each university is not known at this time.
- To address the lack of consistency across the board of medical school formulae, the BOT task force recommends there should be one funding price given. The issue is still under discussion.
- Governor Charlie Crist has appointed Ms. Ava Parker as Chair of the BOG and Mr. Dean Colson as Vice-Chair. The new appointees will serve until January 6, 2017. The Governor still has two appointments to make to the BOT.

- The New Florida Initiative is looking for universities and colleges to be the economic engine for bringing revenue into the State of Florida. There is a recommendation that \$100 million go to universities and colleges.
- Lunch and Learn Sessions with faculty are on-going. Some changes have been made based upon themes that come out of these lunches. Tours and visits to faculty in their departments are continuing in an effort to learn about initiatives.
- The Global Sustainability Conference was held on February 10 and 11, 2010. The Global leadership award was granted to Dr. Bae-Yong Lee, President of Ewha Womans University in Seoul, Korea.
- In response to the State of Florida Executive Order 10-06 issued by Governor Crist on January 15th, USF will not sponsor or sanction trips by students to Haiti due to safety reasons. Faculty and staff who have demonstrated expertise to render assistance or pursue academic and professional activities in Haiti must coordinate any trips through Dr. Roger Brindley (brindley@usf.edu). Some earthquake victims have been airlifted to Tampa General Hospital where they are being attended to by USF physicians and nurses.

Senator David Shapiro recommended that USF establish a formal relationship with the Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Deschappelles, Haiti. He discussed his knowledge of the facility based on first-hand experience, and the sophistication of the hospital that has served as a teaching facility for residents from several universities such as Yale and Harvard. Dr. Shapiro offered his willingness to act as a facilitator or liaison in that effort.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST RALPH WILCOX

Provost Wilcox reported the following:

- To provide focus to the upcoming Legislative Session and what it potentially can mean to the USF System and its budget in particular, he distributed a three-sheet handout. The first one titled “USF System Resource Change” listed the projected budget over the next 4 to 5 years assuming no change in state appropriation and incremental growth in tuition, neither of which is assured at this time. The second (“Student-Faculty and Student-Administrator Ratios – Fall 2007”) and third (“Percentage of 2011-2012 Space Needs Met – Main Campuses”) pages pertained to the current resource challenges faced across the USF System.

The second handout showed that student-faculty ratio in like public universities and juxtaposed against the national mean for doctoral universities for very high research, USF does not fare particularly well. It speaks to the growing workload in seeking the needs of students that USF faculty are facing. The purpose of presenting this information is that the first commitment is to preserve and grow full-time faculty cohort at USF, as well as to (1) meet the needs of those students currently enrolled, (2) support faculty scholarly and research agendas and activities, and (3) affect USF’s commitment to the university engagement initiatives. These are the primary commitments.

The third handout demonstrated that USF cannot build fast enough in order to improve the resource picture. However, given the insufficient faculty and space resources on the USF Tampa campus (including Academic Affairs and USF Health), growth has been stemmed to manage enrollment.

- Work on student success continues. Senators were urged to register and participate in one or more of the four campus-wide forums that have been scheduled for next month. Input is needed from faculty, staff, and students with regard to what USF can do better and how.
- The inaugural Phi Beta Faculty Public Intellectual Lecture Series will be held on Thursday, February 25, at MOSI from 6:30-7:30 p.m. This is a partnership between USF and the City of Tampa, co-sponsored by Mayor Pam Iorio.
- On March 24-26, USF Department of Government and International Affairs and the College of Public Health will be hosting a conference on the Future of Governments in Afghanistan. This is a three-day conference which will end with a key note presentation by General David Patraeus.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT SHERMAN DORN

UFF President Dorn reported on the following issues:

- The bargaining relationship between the Faculty Union and the BOT is maturing. A MOU has been signed for the phase-in of instructor promotions. A ratification vote will be held over Spring Break and the first week afterwards. Two of the campuses (Tampa and St. Petersburg) have his signature with chapter's authority to implement promotion guidelines immediately.
- There are a number of proposals on the table. UFF has put forth proposals for all but one of the articles. The BOT team has put forward proposals on approximately one-third to one-half of the articles. There is a bargaining page on the UFF web site.
- University of Florida finally has a contract after 5 years.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT LAURENCE BRANCH

President Branch pointed out that as a member of the BOT, he received from the State of Florida the financial audit for USF which has been shared with everyone. It is available in the Faculty Senate Office should anyone want to look at it further.

There is anticipation that most of the administrative offices will be moving to the Dr. Kiran C. Patel Center for Global Solutions (i.e., Patel Center) upon completion. There is a proposal that the Faculty Senate Offices will be relocated to the Student Services building with much more

space for which the Senate is appreciative. There was also a strong recommendation from the Senate Executive Committee that a room in the Patel Center be named as a Faculty Senate Conference Room as a reminder that although the Senate is not physically present, it does participate in shared governance. If the Faculty Senate Offices are not co-located with the administration, the Senate wants to be remembered on a daily basis and so designating a room as a Faculty Senate Conference Room would go a long way in that direction. The response received was that there will be an approach to asking for endowments for public room space consistent with a corporate model with naming rights. President Branch feels that that approach is ill-advised. The Faculty Senate would never be in a position to come up with funds for such a purpose.

President Branch asked for reconsideration that although the general approach of asking for endowments for naming rights of buildings and conference rooms within buildings is a growing national trend, he thinks it should be tempered with the recognition that if the Faculty Senate is being asked not to co-locate with the senior administration that its presence through the naming of a conference room is an appropriate request.

In response to the issue of the evolution of the system and what shared governance might look like across campuses, President Branch commented that he is extremely concerned that there will not be a system-wide faculty governance structure that represents the needs of the faculty on the Tampa campus appropriately. All the models seem to have a denominator of four which is equal to the number of separately SACS accredited institutions and extends to all kinds of issues. For example, currently the Tampa Faculty Senate president is a member of the BOT, but which Faculty Senate president would fill that position and would it rotate every four years among the four institutions. Also, who would be the president of the Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) which was established as the entity to coordinate the Faculty Senates at the soon-to-be separately accredited institutions? Initially, the President's Office stated that the president of the IFC would be the president of the Tampa campus Faculty Senate. However, the Faculty Senate presidents of the other separately accredited institutions think the presidency should rotate every year. These are the kinds of issues facing a system-wide shared governance structure.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

1. In the interest of fair representation, Provost Wilcox wanted to state that the system chief academic officer (himself) has left the door open to alternative models with regards to appropriate faculty representation in shared governance across the USF system. He pointed out that a particular structure has not been settled upon at this time. More important to him was to ensure that there were duly elected Faculty Senate presidents from each of the four campuses at the table talking with one another and contributing to system-wide academic affairs and faculty decisions being made.
2. President Branch acknowledged that Provost Wilcox is the first chair of one of the existing management councils to invite faculty representatives from each of the four institutions to be present, participate and to become members of the Academic Affairs Management Council. At the same time, President Genshaft has been asked to allow faculty representation with full voting rights on all of the management councils because

they are groups that discuss how the policies, practices and procedures should work throughout the system. This is viewed as a shared governance issue and the Faculty Senate would continue to respectfully request that faculty be participants on every management council because faculty input is important and shared governance is one of the foundational bases to which everyone agrees.

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

ADDENDUM
Follow-Up Items

1. Provost Wilcox asked to provide FTE for the 2001 and 2008 benchmarks, as well as dollar support for people listed on the Institutional Growth, AY 2000/01 through AY 2008/9-Selected Measures handout (FS Mtg. 10-15-08).
2. President Branch to appoint an ad hoc committee to examine whether or not due process was followed in the dismissal of a faculty member (FS Mtg. 02-18-09). Graduate Council Chair Strange accepted the responsibility of looking into this matter.
3. Provost's Office to look into whether a policy exists on what constitutes a dean search committee (FS Mtg. 02-18-09).
4. The CEOs of the USF Polytechnic and the Sarasota-Manatee campuses will be invited to attend a meeting of either the Senate Executive Committee or Faculty Senate to discuss organizational structures and issues that influence their campuses (FS Mtg. 02-18-09).
5. SEC comments on the system introduction and narrative to be forwarded to President Genshaft (FS Mtg. 11-18-09).
6. Suggestion from Provost Wilcox of a conversation among the Senators on the meaningful difference between a baccalaureate degree from a community college turned four-year institution and one from USF (FS Mtg. 11-18-09).