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Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate President Susan Greenbaum called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. The Minutes from the March 23, 2005, meeting were approved as presented.

**REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT SUSAN GREENBAUM**

President Greenbaum announced that, traditionally, a reception is held after the final Faculty Senate meeting of the spring term. However, neither President Genshaft nor the Provost Khator was able to attend, so it will be held in the fall. It is anticipated that all of the following outgoing Senators will attend:

- **Arts and Sciences**
  - Elizabeth Bird
  - Carolyn DiPalma
  - Gurleen Grewal
  - Arthur Bochner
  - Marilyn Myerson
  - Graham Tobin

- **Business**
  - Ellis Blanton

- **Education**
  - Jenifer Schneider

- **Medicine**
  - Robert Hauser
  - Tapan Padhya
  - Bernd Sokolowski
  - Hector Vila

- **Visual & Performing Arts**
  - Christopher Steele

- **Lakeland**
  - Barbara Loeding

- **St. Petersburg**
  - Ellen Hufnagel

- **Sarasota**
  - Mary Cuadrado
President Greenbaum also noted the departure of Secretary Kathy Whitley who is resigning to take another position on campus. The Senate is very appreciative for all of Ms. Whitley’s hard work and hopes she will continue to stay involved in things going on here. In addition, President Greenbaum thanked everyone for their hard work this year on the Senate and on its committees and councils.

Retiring Associate Provost Philip Smith will be making comments later at today’s meeting related to his departure and return to Tennessee. President Greenbaum personally thanked him for his assistance on the USF collective bargaining team.

At this time, President Greenbaum introduced Diversity and Equal Opportunity Director Jose Hernandez to answer questions on a draft of USF’s new Statement on Diversity which reflects a similar statement that the Senate approved last year. Senator Christopher Steele recommended that if USF is going to have such a document that it look at existing polices in other places such as Princeton University which has a very similar document half this length and is much clearer. Director Hernandez responded that his group has looked at other universities and has seen the variances and feels that this document is consistent with USF’s equal opportunity policies. Any suggestions, either editorial or substantive on the draft document, should be forwarded to Director Hernandez.

President Greenbaum reported that the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) visit the previous week went very well. This review comes around every ten years to recertify eligibility to receive federal funds. The university geared up for this a very long time and did a very good job of putting together the university’s position to receive very high marks. Some follow-up will occur, but by and large the outcome was successful.

The ICAR document was a vital factor in the USF response to concerns about inter-campus relations and other fundamental issues. It took a great deal of work and perseverance and was an exemplary case of shared faculty governance producing the kind of procedures and safeguards for the academic integrity of faculty interest with which USF wants to be associated. President Greenbaum thanked both Senators Steve Permuth and Elizabeth Bird for having made those very important contributions. There were other people involved but since this is the Senate, she wanted to give the Senators their due. In addition, Drs. Kathleen Moore, Daniel Gardner and Ralph Wilcox all did exceptional work in preparing for the visit. The faculty who worked on the General Education council also deserves to be congratulated.

President Greenbaum reiterated that some of the things that faculty can do to protect academic freedom is to ensure strong faculty governance at USF. She is very dismayed at the very low voter turnout at the elections, nominations, and other manifestations of lack of interest. These are certainly issues that need to be addressed. This summer President Greenbaum plans to convene a small ad hoc group of Senators to consider what kinds of changes might be needed to revitalize participation and enhance the capacity of the Senate. If anyone would like to participate, they should contact her. The long-awaited faculty survey is coming out. This is a short instrument that is being sent to all faculty with a few questions about departmental governance. Senators were asked to broadcast the survey within their respective department.
REPORT FROM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft was not present at today’s meeting.

REPORT FROM PROVOST RENU KHATOR

Provost Khator was not present at today’s meeting.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENT ROY WEATHERFORD

UFF President Weatherford announced that in the name of the chapter, the union had filed a grievance on summer school appointments. The university accepted the agreement on the grounds that summer school appointments did not actually hurt the union. If it hurt anyone, it hurt only individual members. However, they did offer to distribute a memo to the deans and academic officers explaining more clearly the intent of the original policy and assuring UFF that it is not the university’s intention to take summer teaching away from regular faculty and give it to others. President Weatherford was concerned about how it will play out at the department level. The union does not have the resources to monitor the process, and he encouraged Senators to monitor how summer appointments are done in their departments.

UFF will begin collective bargaining shortly to reopen the contract on salaries, as well as up to three other items it chooses to introduce that would move forward the interests of faculty.

Finally, President Weatherford acknowledged retiring Associate Provost Phil Smith’s value to the university and wished him all the best.

REPORT FROM ASSOCIATE PROVOST PHIL SMITH

Associate Provost Smith thanked UFF President Weatherford for his kind remarks and expressed his kindness and respect for him as well. He then gave the following brief synopsis of his relationship with the Senate:

“For the thirty years spent at USF, twenty-three have been spent with my having some official capacity or relationship to this body. I served thirteen years as a Senator. I served two years as a Speaker of the Senate, now called president. And for the last ten years, I have been the liaison for the Provost Office for the Senate. Much of my time has been spent working with the Senate. The memory of that is one of the fond things I take with me. I realized at the March meeting that the April meeting would be the last. It has been a good run, and I leave with the notion that the Senate, over the years, has addressed many important issues. Some have been like those candles that blow out and don’t return. Then there are those that come and come again. I do believe that never before has it been so important for the USF Senate/Union to unite its efforts to move this university forward. I have great respect for your leadership. Thank you, Susan, for the opportunity to say thanks and I appreciate what your leadership has brought to the Senate.”
REPORT FROM STUDENT GOVERNMENT LIAISON DAVID HOFFMAN

Student Government Liaison Hoffman was not at today’s meeting but Mr. Hampton Dohrman reported that the inauguration ceremony of the new Student Government president and vice president took place on Monday, April 18, 2005. Mr. Maxon Victor as President and Sameer Ahmed as Vice President were inaugurated. They will take office until on the 8th of May.

Mr. Dohrman announced that the position of Faculty Senate liaison has been eliminated. That responsibility will be turned over to someone in a higher office to collaborate with the Senate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

a. Senate Officer Results (Kathy Whitley)

Secretary Whitley announced the results of the Faculty Senate Officer Election for 2005/2006:

Vice President
Steve Permuth

Sergeant-At-Arms
Michael Barber

Member-at-large to Executive Committee
Kim Vaz

In addition, with her resignation the position of Secretary would be open as of May 3, 2005. Ms. Whitley will be serving the university in a non-faculty position.

b. General Education Council Recommendations (Ellis Blanton)

Committee on Committees Chair Blanton presented the following slate of nominees for membership on the General Education Council:

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
Spring Semester 2005

Ron Dulaney (ARCH)
Sue Bartlett (COBA)
Terry Sincich (COBA)
William Murray (CAS)
Trevor Purcell (CAS)
Andrew Smith (CAS)
Nancy White (CAS)
The slate came from the Committee on Committees with a motion to approve. Senator Donchin nominated from the floor Professor Sarah Parton of the St. Petersburg campus. With that nomination, the motion to accept the slate of nominees was unanimously passed.

c. Proposed Changes to Research Council Charge (Ellis Blanton/Gregory Teague)

Research Council Chair Teague presented a change to the membership section of the council’s charge so that a nominee may request an initial appointment to serve fewer than a three year term, but not less than one, in order to be eligible to apply for internal awards.

There was a call to question. A motion was made and seconded to accept this revision to the membership section of the Research Council charge. The motion unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Ad Hoc Committee on University Community Engagement Report (Susan Greenbaum)

To allow time for discussion of the proposed change to the grading scale, President Greenbaum set aside her report.

b. Proposed Change to Grading Scale (Hampton Dohrman)

Discussion took place on Student Government’s Proposal for an Amended Grading Scale.

Senator Harry Vanden proposed a friendly amendment that USF remain with the grade point for the existing grades and that A+ be marked with an asterisk (*) on the transcript. That is, recognize the A+ as meritorious, but do not assign more than 4.0 to any grade. Clarification was made that the motion suggested USF retain the A+, with some signification, but it does not affect grade point. The motion was seconded and discussed. There was a call to question. A vote was taken on the proposed friendly amendment and the motion failed.
At this time Senator Emanuel Donchin made a motion to refer the Student Government’s grading scale proposal to the Undergraduate Council for review to be revisited in the fall. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. Vice President Permuth added that the Faculty Senate should recognize all of the hard work done by the Student Government on this issue. It should applaud their efforts and sensitivities on this legitimate argument, with legitimate points, on a legitimate issue.

b. Supplemental Summer Assignment for Summer 2005 (Steve Permuth)

The memorandum from Associate Provost Philip Smith, dated April 4, 2005, on the Criteria for Summer Teaching Assignments, was distributed as an information only document. Vice President Permuth thanked Associate Provost Smith for putting this information together.

c. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Program Expansion (Steve Permuth)

As Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Program Expansion, Vice President Permuth presented a “Policy on Expansion of Degree Programs across Campus Sites.” The policy is intended to provide a protocol for (a) the expansion of an existing USF degree program to a campus site within the USF system where the program has not been previously offered, or (b) the creation of a cooperative degree program involving the two campuses. He explained that there is no policy at this time, and that the document is simply an attempt to frame a resolution dealing with this issue. Vice President Permuth asked for and received a motion to support the document, in principle, to send forward to President Genshaft for her to do whatever is needed. The motion was seconded. After a brief discussion, there was a call to question. It was clarified that the motion on the floor was that the Faculty Senate agrees with this document, in principle, and that there is a need for a document to coordinate a program between USF and its independent campuses. The motion was passed with one opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

Past President Gregory Paveza presented the following resolution to congratulate Drs. Kathleen Moore, Associate Vice President and Daniel L. Gardner, Director of Institutional Effectiveness on their work with SACS:

Resolution of the University of South Florida Faculty Senate
To Congratulate
Dr. Kathleen Moore, Associate Vice President
And
Dr. Daniel L. Gardner, Director,
Institutional Effectiveness

WHEREAS for the past three years the University of South Florida has been actively engaged in preparing for the Reaccreditation Process and Site Visit by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, and
WHEREAS two individuals, DR. KATHLEEN MOORE AND DANIEL L. GARDNER carried much of the responsibility for the collection of required data, the preparation of materials for the reaccreditation documents, the promulgation of those documents, the shepherding of the committee process to develop the quality improvement document, and the preparation for the actual site visit, and

WHEREAS the University of South Florida has recently completed a highly successful reaccreditation site visit by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida meeting in a regularly scheduled session on April 20, 2005 wishes to extend its appreciation to and offer its congratulations for a job well done to DR. KATHLEEN MOORE AND DANIEL L. GARDNER.

A copy of this resolution will be entered into the permit records of the University of South Florida Faculty Senate, and further the Senate requests that a copy of this resolution be entered into the permanent personnel files of each of these individuals. A copy will also be presented at the next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting to DR. KATHLEEN MOORE AND DANIEL L. GARDNER.

Approved by the Faculty Senate by voice vote on April 20, 2005

________________________________________
Susan Greenbaum
President

Past President Paveza proposed that this resolution move forward as a motion. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

There were no issues from the floor were discussed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.