1-1-2016

AY 2015/2016 FS meeting minutes: 2016-03-23

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USF FACULTY SENATE MEETING
March 23, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Chamber Room 4200 Marshall Student Center

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes from February 24, 2016 Meeting (action item)

3. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs (15 minutes)
   a. Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight
   b. Officer Nominations – Matthew Knight
   c. Recommendations from Honors & Awards Council – Melanie Griffin
     (action item)

4. Old Business (30 minutes)
   a. Update on RCM – Nick Trivunovich and Nick Setteducato

5. New Business (15 minutes)
   a. Mr. Steve Prevaux, Ombudsman

6. Report from USF System President Judy Genshaft (20 minutes)

7. Report from Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox (20 minutes)

8. Report from USF System Faculty Council President Greg Teague (10 minutes)

9. Report from USF United Faculty of Florida President Arthur Shapiro (5 minutes)

10. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)

11. Adjourn - Next scheduled meeting – April 20, 2016
President Michael Teng called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the Minutes as presented from the February 24, 2016 meeting.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight presented a list of nominees to fill fall semester vacancies. Any nominations received after today’s meeting will be one-year appointments.

b. Officer Nominations – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight announced that, except for the Sergeant-at-Arms position, all other officers have re-nominated. Anyone interested in applying for this position should fill out a nomination form and send it to Ann Pipkins in the Faculty Senate Office (fsenate@usf.edu) before the April meeting.

c. Recommendations from the Honors and Awards Council – Melanie Griffin

On behalf of the Honors and Awards Council, Chair Griffin presented the nomination of Dr. Elizabeth Bird for the Kosove Distinguished Graduate Teaching and Service Award for 2016. Supporting documentation for her nomination was included in the meeting materials for today’s meeting. The recommendation came to the Faculty Senate with a motion to approve. No discussion was held. The motion unanimously passed.

Chair Griffin next presented the following candidates for honorary degrees:

Mr. John B. Ramil for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Engineering  
Dr. Loretta Ford for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Nursing  
Dr. Jean-Francois Rossignol for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine  
Mr. James E. Martinez for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Pharmacy  
Mr. Jamie Merisotis for an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Education  
Dr. Samuel George Philander for an Honorary Degree of Marine Science

Supporting documentation for all candidates was included in today’s meeting materials. The recommendations came to the Faculty Senate with a motion to approve. The floor was opened for questions. Senator Richard Manning asked why the Senate was nominating a local pharmacist. Chair Griffin responded that not only was this the first time that Pharmacy has submitted a candidate for an honorary degree, but Mr. Martinez is instrumental in the mentoring and placement of Pharmacy students. This was the primary reason for the nomination. Senator Manning also questioned awarding Mr. John Ramil with an honorary degree. Chair Griffin’s response was that honorary degrees are not just
awarded for academic achievements. Mr. Ramil’s service to USF is considerable in the field of engineering. There being no further questions, a vote was taken on the slate of candidates as outlined in the materials. The motion unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on RCM – Nick Trivunovich and Nick Setteducato

Rather than giving a formal presentation, the time was used for an informal question and answer session; but before opening the floor to questions, an update was provided. Workgroups have been working on how to put RCM into effect, and updates of each group were given. Model iterations have been created which have generated questions about RCM. The process is being revisited to identify what recommendations should be made to senior management. At this time the floor was opened for questions:

Q: To what extent do you think the Academic Strategic Plan is influencing these workgroups?
A: Each of the agendas of the workgroups has been created around RCM.

Q: Not all of the funds generated by research are returned to the colleges. How will this be different under RCM?
A: Under RCM, per State statute, revenues will be allocated to departments with appropriate funds being used to support the operation. President Genshaft added that there is a certain percent (national norm is 50 percent) with the RCM model that will go back to the college, and the rest will go to support research work and the mission of the university (USF’s general indirect rate is between 17 to 18 percent).

Q: What kind of worth does USF put on things that do not have dollar value, such as the Arts? How do we know that there will be investments in those areas?
A: An example of this would be the library which is not a revenue-generating department. The Governance Workgroup would look at such things as the library’s mission and its costs and would make recommendations to the administration. Mr. John Long added that RCM is now a tool to focus on transparency in order to have some predictability. These are the hallmarks of the process. Provost Wilcox reassured the Senators that there will be faculty voice on the workgroups that direct the process. The Governance Workgroup and administration will be responsible for implementing the recommendations from the Academic Strategic Plan group.

Q: When will it be determined that people will know what they have to deal with?
A: As of July 1, 2016, some aspects of the RCM model will be implemented. Some iterations of the model should be available at that time. The Governance Workgroup will make sure that the model that is put into effect does not have any unintentional consequences. Predictably, the model should be in place within 4 to
5 years. There will be clear, transparent changes by July 1st when RCM is rolled out in phases starting at that time.

Q: What are the fundamental changes of universities that did go through RCM?
A: The model has been changed along the way.

Q: How will we know RCM is a success?
A: We will know based upon the progress made on the strategic plan and strategic goals, as well as feedback from faculty, chairs, and deans based upon direction and the investments made. Deans will be relying upon faculty for help in giving direction.

Q: How often do faculty meet with deans and directors? If faculty are asking all of this of the dean, how much support will they receive? What is your group doing for us?
A: We want to be able to supply data-rich information. It will be up to the deans to cycle that information. Information will be available down to the course load. Provost Wilcox added there is a fundamental shift taking place; that is, a diminishing dependency upon the State and now pushing that responsibility out to the colleges. Decisions will now be made locally, and goals will have to meet the objectives of the strategic plan.

Q: Has there been a codification of the intended consequences that can be viewed and considered?
A: There are some that can be shared, and there will be articulation available. A website is in progress that will inform where USF is in the process.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Mr. Steve Prevaux, Ombuds

President Teng introduced Steve Prevaux as the new USF System Ombuds Officer. Mr. Prevaux outlined his plans to have all constituent parts of the USF System on board. There has been a need for such a person and that need has been addressed with his recommendation by President Genshaft. Mr. Prevaux is certified as a mediator in all state courts, and his office follows the International Ombudsman Association’s (IOA) Code of Ethics (distributed at today’s meeting). The Ombuds is a stand-alone office, located on the 3rd floor of the Patel Center. His office stresses informality and an active, but neutral, approach. A web site will be up soon. Mr. Prevaux wants to be held accountable for maintaining confidentiality, and stressed that it is an office to be visited on a voluntary basis. His office does not take sides or interfere in collective bargaining or grievance procedures, but wants to balance communication and reduce tensions for faculty, staff, and administration. Senators were encouraged to take information back to their colleagues to share and provide feedback. Mr. Prevaux commented that he is willing to provide updates to interested groups.
President Genshaft’s report consisted of the following items:

- The Legislative Session ended on March 11th. USF did well on capital (PECO) projects: 22.5 million dollars for the downtown medical school and 3 million dollars for the Bellows research vessel.
- USF will meet 9 out of the 12 measures garnering it emerging pre-eminence status. UCF has also attained emerging pre-eminence status by meeting over 6 of its requirements. Each institution will receive 5 million dollars each as a reward for achieving emerging pre-eminence. It was pointed out that the reward for USF Tampa also includes USF Health. Five million dollars will be recurring if all of the metrics are met. The plan is to improve on AAU measures. A 5 year plan is being written for use of the funds.
- In preparation to meet the Ready-Set-Work initiative, the administration is working closely with the departments of psychology and criminology on internship sites.

Provost Wilcox reported the following items:

- A bill has been passed that includes implementing language to cap distance-learning fees at $30 per credit hour for the upcoming academic year. This reflects a 40 million dollar reduction for USF, and concerns have been registered with the Board of Governors (BOG). He explained that it is only in effect for a year because of the dichotomy of the range of fees across the System. If the language is put into Statute, it becomes permanent. The Faculty Senate and Senate Executive Committee will be involved with putting together a plan.
- There is an educational affordability bill that includes textbook affordability. The Textbook Affordability Workgroup plans to meet with Barnes and Noble to understand the facts of the costs of textbooks and decide what is reasonable.
- In order to provide students with feedback before final exams, midterm grades have to be submitted. Senators were asked to take this back to their departments/colleges for conversations at that level.
- There is a university policy regarding final examinations. President Teng was asked to push it out to the Faculty Senate. Senior Vice Provost Dwayne Smith will be asked to share it with faculty.
- There is a state law that requires a background check of people working with minors. Senators were asked to make their colleagues aware of the law.
- USF scored 79 out of 100 points on performance placing it fourth this year with a lost share of 21 million dollars in performance-based funding. The 2 metrics that USF lags in are: (1) freshman retention rate (at 90 percent), and (2) 6 year graduate rate (at 70 percent). By 2018, it is expected that USF will have fully met all 12 metrics.
REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM FACULTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT GREG TEAGUE

The System Faculty Council (SFC) has not met since February, so President Teague did not have a report of activities. However, he did encourage Senators to take part in the SFC by considering running to fill the one vacancy to represent Tampa next year.

REPORT FROM USF UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA SECRETARY GREG MCCOLM

Secretary McColm announced the following union activities:
• Bargaining continues which includes salary negotiations.
• The administration should be informed by the SUS how much funding they will receive.
• Graduate assistant union is bargaining.
• Staff union has gone into impasse.
• April is sick leave month.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

President Teng reminded everyone that Dr. Paul Sanberg (RCM) and Ms. Jennifer Condon (Orbitz for Business) will be at next month’s meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.