1-1-2016

AY 2015/2016 SEC meeting minutes: 09 Mar 16

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USF FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
March 9, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Student Services (SVC) 5012

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda (5 minutes)

2. Approval of Minutes from February 10, 2016 Meeting (2 minutes) (action item)

3. Revisiting Huron Report – Nick Setteducato and Nick Trivunovich (30 minutes)

4. Reports by Officers and Council/Committee Chairs (20 minutes)
   a. Faculty Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight
   b. Recommendations from Honors and Awards Council – Melanie Griffin (action item)
   c. Faculty Council on Student Admissions – Ellis Blanton/Kim Lersch

5. Old Business (10 minutes)
   a. Non-member Presentation Requests
   b. Captioning Policy

6. New Business (15 minutes)
   a. Calendar Committee
   b. Academic Analytics

7. Report from Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox (25 minutes)

8. Report from USF System Faculty Council President Greg Teague (5 minutes)

9. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)

10. Adjourn - Next Scheduled Meeting – April 6, 2016
President Michael Teng called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. He announced that Nick Setteducato informed him there has been no change to the RCM; therefore, there would not be a presentation today but that there would be one at the March Faculty Senate meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept the Minutes from the February 10, 2016 meeting as amended.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Faculty Senate Nominations – Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight reviewed the list of nominations received as of today’s meeting. He pointed out that there were several vacancies yet to be filled. Appointment letters will go out by the end of the week to those nominees who submitted their forms on time. Officer nomination forms will be included with those letters with a submission deadline of March 21st.

Past President Teague asked for clarification on how long nominations would be accepted. Discussion was held, and it was agreed that the solicitation for nominations should be extended until Monday, March 21st. A solicitation notice with the new deadline will be disseminated before Spring Break.

b. Recommendations from Honors and Awards Council – Melanie Griffin

On behalf of the Honors and Awards Council (HAC), Chair Griffin presented documentation for candidates in support of the council’s recommendations as follows:

Kosove Distinguished Graduate Teaching and Service Award: Elizabeth Bird
Honorary Degree: Dr. Loretta Ford (Doctor of Nursing)
Mr. James E. Martinez (Doctor of Pharmacy)
Mr. Jamie Merisotis (Doctor of Education)
Dr. Samuel George Philander (Doctor of Marine Science)
Mr. John B. Ramil (Doctor of Engineering)
Dr. Jean-Francois Rossignol (Doctor of Medicine)
The recommendations came to the SEC from the HAC with a motion to approve. There was no discussion. A vote en masse was taken and unanimously passed. The recommendations will be presented to the Faculty Senate at its March meeting.

Chair Griffin reported that there were no nominations received for the Kosove Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Service Award. She pointed out that this was the second year in a row that no nominations were received for this award and encouraged the SEC members to nominate colleagues. In addition, although there was one nomination received for the Theodore and Venette Askounes-Ashford Distinguished Scholar Award, no nomination packet was received.

c. Update on Faculty Council on Student Admissions (FCSA) – Ellis Blanton/Kim Lersch

COC Chair Blanton reported that during the last few months the council has been populated with most of the seats being filled. The FCSA met on February 29th during which Dr. Kim Lersch volunteered to chair the council. Chair Lersch and David Henry, Director of Admissions, were recognized by COC Chair Blanton for encouraging the council to be strong. The council is scheduled to meet on April 7th during which Mr. Henry will review the admissions process. Work on the charge will also begin. Chair Lersch will provide updates on the council’s work.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Non-Member Presentation Requests – Michael Teng, et.al.

At the February SEC meeting, an ad hoc committee was created to work on Senate guidelines to handle presentation requests from non-members. Senator Permuth reported the responses he gathered from contacting 8 of the other SUS Faculty Senate presidents. Parliamentarian Drew Smith read a draft of what could be incorporated into the Bylaws addressing the issue. CEPI Chair Judith Ponticell read comments from the aspirational universities. Updates will be provided as the work progresses.

b. Captioning Policy – Dwayne Smith

Senior Vice Provost Smith reported that an ad hoc committee, consisting of representation from CTIR, CEPI and 1 administrator with knowledge of disabilities policy, met the previous week for the purpose of vetting the revised captioning policy. Once it is put into a workable policy, it will either be re-run through the promulgation process or moved forward; a decision to be made by the Office of the General Counsel.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Calendar Committee

This is a committee created by Vice Provost Paul Dosal of Enrollment Planning and Management. As a member of the committee, Senator Scott Rimbey reported one of the
concerns being addressed is when to have reading days in the Fall because Veteran’s Day falls on a Friday, as well as the need to cancel the Friday before Thanksgiving. One proposal is to move the reading days to a Wednesday/Thursday sequence. Another (future) concern is to look at solutions to not holding examinations on Saturdays, as well as early start dates. Vice President James Garey volunteered to serve on the committee.

Provost Wilcox asked for guidance from the Faculty Senate on how to address the problem of faculty who see fit to hold a final examination outside of final examination week. Students are asking for breathing room between the last week of classes and final examination week. Discussion was held. It was confirmed that a policy exists stating that faculty cannot finish class a week early, but can give an examination the last week of class with a segmented examination during finals week. Provost Wilcox commented that the policy needs to be enforced in compliance with university policy and will ask deans and chairs to hold to the practice of not violating this policy.

b. Academic Analytics

President Teng explained that this is a service subscribed to by USF that provides data about academics and compares it with its sister institutions. He has been contacted by several department chairs regarding inaccurate data provided by the service, as well as inaccurate comparisons. Senior Vice Provost Smith provided context and background for the service. He explained that Academic Analytics has been able to access more data and has become a comparator of information. Due to this, two issues have come up: (1) the quality of the data, and (2) the utilization of data.

Discussion was held during which President Teng pointed out that not all disciplines are included, especially in the Humanities, causing consternation for those people. It appears that the metrics were not chosen well. Provost Wilcox commented that Academic Analytics is only one piece of information USF considers when doing annual evaluations or for tenure and promotion consideration. He added that other avenues of information are utilized. It was pointed out that Academic Analytics is interested strictly in research and not undergraduate programs, and does welcome feedback from institutions to improve its data. President Teng suggested to Michael Wrona, Office of Decision Support Director, that the chairs of the Humanities departments be contacted for feedback as to what they need. He will also respond to the people who sent him concerns to contact Mr. Wrona.

c. March Faculty Senate Meeting – Michael Teng

SEC members were reminded that Nick Setteducato and Nick Trivunovich will be at the meeting to provide an update on the RCM. Jennifer Condon will also be presenting an update on Orbitz for Business. Questions for these individuals should be sent to President Teng to forward to the respective presenter so that they have an idea of what people are interested in hearing.
REPORT FROM PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT RALPH WILCOX

Provost Wilcox’s report consisted of the following items:

• The Legislature will vote on the Appropriations Bill on Friday, March 11. If passed, it will be forwarded to Governor Scott who will have 7 days to respond.
• It is projected that USF will receive 22 million dollars in non-recurring funds for capital projects, plus PECO.
• He reviewed the highlights of the E&G 2016-2017 Executive Summary as of March 8, 2016, particularly the pre-eminent and emerging pre-eminent funding. If it is approved and not vetoed, USF can anticipate 5 million dollars in pre-eminent funding.
• There is a proposal to cap distance learning fees at $30/credit hour. USF charges $50/credit hour. This represents a 5 to 6 million dollar gap in funding across the System for next year, so it would be up to the institutions to find ways to fund distance learning.
• Students need to be educated on the negative consequences when they go beyond 132 credit hours. USF is placing a high priority on hiring professional, appreciative advisors to counsel students in any number of ways.

REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM FACULTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT GREG TEAGUE

President Teague reported the following items:

• At the most recent BOT meeting, along with its attention to performance-based funding and excess hours, there was an event where the student representative tried to use the BOT as a weapon in the struggle among the institutions around Student Government. That was derailed and the BOT did not get involved in that, but there will be efforts to help the students figure out how they will decide who will be their trustee.
• The Faculty Senate will need to have the SFC representatives identified at the April meeting. The SFC Tampa roster consists of 5 elected officers, plus 2 other people. He explained that the SFC president will not be from Tampa next year, because he has already served 2 consecutive terms. That position will be filled by Tricia Hunsader from USFSM who has recommended that the presidency return to Tampa every other year. The vice president needs to be from a different institution than the president, and he recommended USF come up with someone to be vice president. There were no volunteers from the SEC at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

President Teng announced that during today’s meeting he received an e-mail from Jennifer Condon that she will be attending a workshop on March 23rd, therefore, her Orbitz for Business presentation will be at the April Faculty Senate meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.