

University Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
Friday October 2, 2009
Circulated October 29, 2009

1. The UFS meeting was called to order by Tim Lenz at 2:10 p.m. The meeting took place in the BOT Room located on the third floor of the Administration Building, on the Boca Raton Campus, and via video conference at the Treasure Coast Campus, the MacArthur Campus, the SeaTech Campus, the Fort Lauderdale Campus, and the Davie Campus.

Members Present: Edgar An, Bruce Arneklev, Pierre-Philippe Beaujean, Bill Bosshardt, Andrew Brewer, Mary Faraci, Deborah Floyd, James Gray, Stuart Galup, Mike Harris, Fred Hoffman, Sam Hsu, Mehdi Kaighobadi, Ryan Karr, Kevin Lanning, Tim Lenz, Stephen Locke, Bill McDaniel, Tom Monson, William O'Brien, Abhijit Pandya, Gary Parsons, Ed Petuch, Howard Prentice, Marguerite Purnell, Markus Schmidmeier, Dilys Schoorman, Lydia Smiley, Philippe d'Anjou, Julie Honeycutt

Guests Present: Diane Alperin, David Lee, Gary Rope, Morton Levitt, Norm Kaufman, Mike Armstrong

2. The UFS meeting minutes from September 4, 2009 were approved.
3. President's Report: (Tim Lenz)
 - Tim Lenz discussed the criteria for the selection of the President. At the Board of Trustees retreat, the trustees discussed the importance of development and decided not to require a PhD for the position. The Board voted to search immediately rather than wait two or three years as recommended by the Deans.
 - Debra Floyd asked if the search firm had been identified. Tim Lenz said that he didn't think they have identified a search firm yet.
4. UPC Consent Agenda
Approved by general consent
5. UPC Action Items
 - Addition of an Elective to the International Business and Trade Program and the Degree Requirements for the B.B.A. and B.S. Degree Programs
Approved by voice vote
 - Inactivation and Activation of Several College of Education Major Codes
Approved by voice vote
 - Addition of Courses as Requirements for all Biology Degree Programs
Approved by voice vote
6. GPC Consent Agenda

Approved by general consent

7. GPC Action Items

- Proposal for new track in the Master's Program: Advanced Holistic Nursing.
-In response to a question about the fiscal impact, Tim Lenz replied that the new track did not require additional resources.

Approved by voice vote

- New track in Gerontological Nursing

Approved by voice vote

- College of Education Academic Program Termination.
-In response to a question for clarification of the termination, Diane Alperin said that there are several degree programs that have lost faculty and students over the years. FAU has never had the program for the PhD in exceptional education, yet the BoG requires FAU to formally terminate the program. There is still an EdD available.

Approved by voice vote

- Seven Year Rule

Approved by voice vote

8. Collective Bargaining Report

-Fred Hoffman reported that the UFF was asked for available dates to bargain for the full book contract and they are waiting for confirmation of those dates.

9. Business Items

- Academic Reorganization in the College of Engineering and Computer Science (Dean Karl Stevens)
-Karl Stevens explained why the COESC was reorganized.
-Fred Hoffman stated that the new functional structure and departmental reorganization does not conform to the COESC Bylaws. Karl Stevens said that the bylaws are going to be revised.
-Fred Hoffman said that people were sent letters saying they were laid off from functional units that essentially did not yet exist since the bylaws were not changed.
-Marshal DeRosa asked why the re-organization did not come through the Faculty assembly. Karl Stevens said that they had an open meeting about it, that he sent a personal letter to every faculty member, but did not ask for a formal consent from the faculty assembly.
-Mike Harris asked what criteria were used to assign faculty to the functional units. Karl Stevens said that they had basic criteria that they followed and looked at the primary activity of the faculty and met with the department chair and each decision was based on what the faculty was doing the last two years.
-Dilys Schoorman asked how this complicated structure solved the problems the Dean identified. Karl Stevens said that they have faculty from all different departments crossed in each of the units.

- Jerry Haky stated that faculty were concerned that the planning and layoffs of tenured faculty occurred simultaneously. Karl Stevens said that it was just a coincidence.

-Fred Hoffman asked whether the majority of the faculty are assigned to the research functional unit and only tenured faculty were in the undergraduate group. Karl Stevens said that he came to discuss the re-organization not the layoffs of tenured faculty.

-Tim Steigenga asked if faculty were allowed to choose what units they would be in. Karl Stevens replied that they would not, that faculty were assigned to units based heavily on what they had been doing in the last two years. Karl Stevens said this is still under discussion.

-Kevin Lanning asked whether the reorganization meant that faculty would be evaluated by both the department and the functional unit. Karl Stevens said “no” the department heads will still evaluate the faculty.

- Establishing Research Priorities

-Dr. Ramaswamy Narayanan, Assistant Vice-president of Research, Division of Research, reported on the tasks and goals of the new Research Steering Committee. The Division received 49 pre-proposals. There was extensive discussion of the process for making the five awards. Dr. Narayanan said that the committee will be given a month to decide which of the PIs who submitted preproposals (probably around 10) will be invited to submit full proposals. The intention is to start the funding by next year. Information will be given to those that did not have their proposals chosen on how to go about re-submitting or submitting somewhere else

- Visioning in the Colleges (Reports from Senators)

-Hugh Miller reported that CAUPA chairs got together and brought in organization facilitators. They are striving for more community engagement and collaboration. Michelle Hawkins said that one of the things that came out is that while they are all very different, they are all working in the community. They would also like to change the name of the College to more accurately reflect what it represents.

10. Open forum with the Provost

-Provost Pritchett commended Ramaswamy Narayanan and all those involved with the research priorities project. He reported that the internal search for the interim provost is proceeding and faculty and deans will have opportunities for input.

-Jerry Haky asked how long the interim Vice President for Research was planning to serve and when the University will begin the search for a replacement. The Provost indicated that Dr. Mike Moriarty is doing a good job and has agreed to stay with us for a little while, therefore, he does not see a need to act in the next 10 to 12 months.

-Dilys Schoorman indicated that that faculty are happy with the process that the Research Steering Committee is following. The Provost said that the current administration is going to be inclusive and develop priorities from the bottom up rather than top down.

-Lester Embree asked how far the bottom was in the bottom up process. Is the bottom the chairs or faculty? The Provost said that if it affects the faculty then the bottom is the faculty. If it affects students then the bottom is the student.

-Fred Hoffman asked for a clarification on the rights of the faculty senate on matters of curriculum. Lenz explained that the question raised the as yet unresolved matter of the University Faculty Senate Resolution declaring the reorganization of the College of Engineering and Computer Science null and void. The Provost replied that he and the UFS have different positions on the matter of UFS authority over academic reorganizations.

11. Good of the Senate

-Faculty were encouraged to attend the scheduled opportunity to meet with Diane Alperin, candidate for Interim Provost.

There was a discussion of the email announcing a dry run of a policy whereby faculty are fined for non-recorded grades. Tim Lenz explained that the dry run was discussed at Steering as a way to reduce the 2% rate of non-recorded grades, and supported the dry run to get data, but that the Steering Committee did not endorse the fine policy or consider in the first stage of implementation.

12. The meeting was adjourned at 4pm