

**Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
October 27, 2015
BOT Conference Room, 2pm – 4pm**

Members Present: Chris Beetle, Ron Nyhan, Dilys Schoorman, Mike Harris, Morton Levitt, Susan Dyess, Kevin Wagner, and Meredith Mountford

Guests: Ed Pratt, Deborah Floyd, Susan Fulks, Paul Peluso, Russell Ivy, Debra Szabo, Steven Bourassa, Bill McDaniel, Diane Alperin, Gary Perry, Michael Brady, Ethlyn Williams, Fred Bloetschen, Susan Bulfin, Zhixiao Xie, Kathryn Johnston, Desmond Gallant, and Michele Hawkins

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm by Chair, Dr. Chris Beetle.
2. The UFS Steering minutes from [September 29, 2015](#) were approved with no objections from the committee.
3. **President's Report:**
 - a. Dr. Chris Beetle postpones welcome of Dr. Meredith Mountford to the Steering Committee as the newly elected member.
 - b. Dr. Donna Chamely-Wiik will be speaking at the November 6th Senate meeting. She will be discussing recent developments in undergraduate research. One of the things she might also discuss is the recent initiative to incorporate undergraduate research intensive courses.
 - c. Upon Dr. Mountford's arrival, Dr. Beetle welcomes her to the Steering Committee and thanks her for stepping in.
 - d. Dr. Beetle gives an update on the committees. There are still two vacancies for the Community Engagement Committee; College of Science and College of Medicine. Dr. Beetle will follow up with Mary Cameron regarding the Distance Education Committee; last update, there was one vacancy remaining.
 - e. Dr. Beetle gives update on SPE policy. The committee has met once to begin discussing the policy. There is another meeting in the offing to begin drafting a new version. Dr. Kevin Wagner asks if the meetings are open to the public for faculty to attend and observe the deliberations. Dr. Beetle does not believe they are. He will ask the Provost to take that under advisement.
4. **[UPC Consent Agenda](#):** no objections from Steering; the consent agenda is **approved by majority vote**.
5. **[UPC Action Agenda](#):**
 - a. **College of Business**
 - *Finance Major*
 - Dr. Morton Levitt could not find list referring to the changes. Dr. Beetle pointed out the tables that show the changes.

- Dr. Susan Dyess motions to move forward to Senate with a positive recommendation from Steering. All in favor. **Motion carries.**
 - *Management Major*
 - Dr. Kevin Wagner confirms the changes in red are the only changes. Ethlyn Williams confirms that the changes consolidated two lists into just one.
 - Hearing no objections, Dr. Beetle calls for a vote, all in favor, **motion passes.**
6. **UGC Consent Agenda:** no objections from Steering; the consent agenda is **approved by majority vote.**
7. **UGC Action Items:**
- a. **College of Engineering and Computer Science**
 - *Ph.D. in Ocean Engineering*
 - Hearing no objections, Dr. Beetle calls for a vote. All in favor, **motion carries.**
 - b. **College of Arts & Letters**
 - *Reading for Comprehensive Exams*
 - Dr. Dilys Schoorman is interested in the rationale from going from a 3 credit course to a 1-6 credit course. There is not rep to speak on behalf on the change
 - Arcadia will reach out to the Dept. Chair to make sure a rep is available at the Senate meeting.
 - The motion to send forward with positive recommendation does not pass. Dr. Kevin Wagner moves to send forward to Senate without a recommendation. Dr. Susan Dyess seconds. All in favor, **motion passes.**
 - c. **College of Science**
 - *MA in Geography, MS in Geology*
 - No objections, all in favor to move forward with a positive recommendation from Steering. **Motion carries.**
 - d. **College of Nursing**
 - *Doctor of Nursing Program*
 - Dr. Schoorman asks to clarify whether the GRE can be removed as a requirement. Dr. Susan Bulfin explains that removing the GRE as a requirement would increase applications as other local universities and schools are getting our students because they don't require the GRE. Nursing students tend to be older and farther removed from school.

Students have vocalized the GRE requirement being one of the main reasons they choose to go to other universities.

- Dr. Chris Beetle calls for a vote to send this forward with a positive recommendation from Steering. All in favor, **motion carries**.

e. College of Education

- *M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction*

- Dr. Mike Harris has a question about the email attached to the proposal mentioning two changes. Dr. Schoorman clarifies that the one course didn't need to go through this pathway as it was a departmental change and the courses all pre-existed.
- Dr. Beetle calls for a vote to send forward with a positive recommendation from Steering. All in favor, **motion carries**.

8. Business Items:

a. [Ph.D in Integrative Biology](#)

- Item has been tabled since last April. Dr. Beetle has advised that it will be removed from the agenda and must go through all the steps before getting back to Steering. This will be removed from Senate agenda as well.

b. Steering Lunch

- Dr. Beetle would like to arrange a time when the Steering members can get together to have a lunch in the FAU Club. Dr. Beetle would like for the Steering Committee to set priorities that are proactive about things they'd like to accomplish. It will also be a time when the committee can discuss how to implement and make policies and procedures easier for the faculty. He would like the Senate to start thinking of initiatives. Arcadia will send out a Doodle to schedule a day and time.

9. Open forum with the Provost

- a.** Dr. Gary Perry comments on the SPE committee progress. They received late yesterday a revised document that is pending review.
- b.** Dr. Perry talks about the success of the FAU Expo event that was held last Saturday. The Expo brought in about 2,000 high school students and their families. There was about 501 faculty and staff working the event.
- c.** Dr. Perry informs the committee that the BOG meets next week and that is when we will know if there are adjustments to the performance metrics. Dr. Perry takes questions from the group. Dr. Dyess asks about the changes and if we've received any indication of what they might be. Dr. Perry talks about the possibility of the point scale increasing to 100pts instead of 50pts. He explains that the penalty box will move from 26pts to 51pts. He also mentions that Metric 1, which measures how many of our graduates move on to get a job and how many go to graduate school, would become how many graduates get

a job making a minimum salary of \$25,000. Dr. Perry then goes on to say that they will be introducing tie breakers. Another metric that might be introduced is the measurement of graduation rate of transfer students. There is discussion on the potential metrics and how FAU would fair out in these areas.

- d. Dr. Meredith Mountford brings up an article she read about the metrics system across the country and states starting to back out of it. Dr. Perry believes it is the opposite. Dr. Mountford will look for the article and send.
- e. Dr. Wagner asks the Provost how we are doing with the increased admission requirements so far. Dr. Perry thinks we are at about four thousand applications with an average GPA of 4.2. This doesn't mean we will get those students. Dr. Perry says it's going to be a challenge to make the freshmen class what we want it to be. Dr. Perry is positive about the outlook of the freshmen class.

10. Good of the Steering Committee

- a. None

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.