

University Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
Friday December 4, 2009
Circulated January 15, 2010

1. The UFS meeting was called to order by Tim Lenz at 2:00 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, Charlotte Barry, Pierre-Philippe Beaujean, William Bosshardt, Philippe D'Anjou, Ernest Andrew Brewer, Valerie Bryan, Eric Chiang, Lester Embree, Mary Faraci, Deborah Floyd, Penelope Fritzer, Joseph Furner, James Gray, Stuart Galup, Peggy Goldstein, Jerry Haky, Mike Harris, Fred Hoffman, Mehdi Kaighobadi, Ryan Karr, Kathryn Keller, James Kumi Diaka, Kevin Lanning, Tim Lenz, Stephen Locke, Bill McDaniel, Tom Monson, William O'Brien, Abhijit Pandya, Gary Parsons, Howard Prentice, Marguerite Purnell, Deborah Raines, Markus Schmidmeier, Dilys Schoorman, Eric Shaw, Lydia Smiley, Jane Strudwick, Julie Honeycutt

Guests Present: David Lee, Ed Scherwin, Mike Armstrong, Norman Kaufman, Marie Mascaro, Larry Glick, Yan Yong

2. The UFS meeting minutes from November 6, 2009 were approved.
3. President's Report: (Tim Lenz)
-(please see attached report)
-Marie Mascaro (Associate Director of Human Resources) the new E-Verify system used by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to determine the eligibility of employees to work in the US.
4. UPC Consent Agenda
Approved by general consent
5. UPC Action Items
 - College of Engineering and Computer Science Pre-Professional Program Proposal
Approved by voice vote
 - New courses and course change from the College of Engineering and Computer Science: EGN 2095, EGN 2095L & EML 4380
-Jerry Haky raised a point of order: this proposal comes from departments that the senate does not acknowledge to exist; President Lenz previously ruled that such curriculum proposals were out of order; to be

consistent he must admit he was wrong to do so, or rule these proposals out of order.

-Tim Lenz ruled in favor of the point of order but entertained an appeal of his ruling. He explained that the effect of the appeal would be to have the entire Senate determine, by majority vote, whether the COECS proposals were properly before the body. There was a motion to appeal the ruling. It was seconded. The appeal was approved by a vote of 19 to 8. The COCS course proposals were discussed.

-Yan Yong from the College of Engineering and Computer Science spoke to the UFS and said that these course changes were for the benefit of the students.

Approved by voice vote

The COECS course proposals that were previously ruled out of order will have to be brought before the Senate for approval.

6. GPC Consent Agenda

Approved by general consent

7. GPC Action Items

- Termination of M.A.T. Department of Visual Arts and Art History

Approved by voice vote

8. Collective Bargaining Report

- Fred Hoffman reported for the UFF that there is active bargaining, and a deadline to either agree or go to impasse by December 16th for summer teaching policy. Two more bargaining meetings are scheduled before this deadline. Many other issues have been tentatively approved. The only salary proposal is from the UFF (it includes pay provisions for the period Fall 2009 to 2012 that include 2.5% across the board raise, 1% merit raise, and 1% for market equity).
- In response to a question about who the UFF was bargaining with now that Diane Alperin is the Provost. Hoffman said that they are bargaining with Mike Mattimore, Larry Glick and Norm Kaufman.
- Norm Kaufman reported for the Administration: bargaining is a very complex topic; there is no agreement on salary increases; the Administration team is diligently acting in the interests of the University which includes the faculty. In response to a question about whether the administration is moving towards a new definition of academic misconduct, Norm Kaufman said “no”.

9. Business Items

-Steering decided to create a Textbook Affordability Task Force rather adding affordability to the Distance Learning Committee’s charge. There will be an announcement for faculty who are interested in serving. The Administration is looking for faculty to serve on a Facilities Committee (changed with planning for parking, for instance) – If anyone is interested please contact Tim Lenz.

10. Guest Speakers

- Michael Moriarty responded to faculty concerns about research priorities prompted by the pre-proposal awards recently announced. He noted that the proposals came from all the colleges and had interdisciplinary collaboration. Several faculty voiced concern that there was a heavy emphasis on the hard sciences while neglecting other research and creative activities traditionally associated with comprehensive universities. There was a discussion of funded research opportunities in the humanities and social sciences.

Moriarty reassured that with his history that he considers that FAU is a university and it is not an institute of technology. And that the comprehensive nature of the university is something that has to be maintained. That means from humanities to the sciences and all points in between. Senator Hoffman stated, and Michael Moriarty acknowledged, that Florida is one of the states that require that sponsored research be funded by sponsored research. Moriarty said that he does not believe that funding equals research. (Please see the attached powerpoint that illustrates the objective selection process).

-Mike Armstrong explained that the Administration was planning to tighten its policies for accepting transfer credit where a course grade was obtained at an institution with very liberal grade forgiveness policy. FAU has been accepting credits earned under any grade forgiveness policy. The proposed policy is to require community college transfer students who have not earned an AA/AS degree to have a 2.5 GPA or the AA degree.

11. Open forum with the Provost

12. Good of the Senate

- There was a discussion of whether changes to the policy of requiring hard copies or digital copies of dissertations has to come to the senate. It is not clear whether the library will require hard copies of the dissertation.
- There was a request for an update on the re-organization of the College of Engineering and Computer Science. President Lenz explained that he met with the COECS policy and development committee, which drafted language addressing concerns about the impact that the new functional units/programs had on tenure, and presented the language to Dean Stevens.
- There was a discussion of the Dean's position, including some speculation that the Dean or the University Administration had rejected the language. But without any definitive knowledge of what happened, further clarification was unlikely until the parties were contacted for updated information. President Lenz explained that the UFS should review college reorganizations that affect academic policy; college autonomy is of secondary importance which is why curriculum proposals and other academic matters that come from departments and colleges are not automatically ratified by the UFS.

- Dilys Schoorman urged all senators to go back to their faculty assemblies and review their bylaws and see if there is language addressing reorganization of academic units, and recommending adding it if it is not already there. She also suggested that they look at how representatives are elected to committees to represent them.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 3:44pm