

**Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
August 25, 2015
BOT Conference Room, 2pm – 4pm**

Members Present: Chris Beetle, Ron Nyhan, Dilys Schoorman, Mike Harris, Morton Levitt, Yolanda Gamboa, Susan Dyess, Kevin Wagner, Diane Alperin (non-voting), and Gary Perry (non-voting)

Guests: Ed Pratt, Deborah Floyd, Paul Peluso, Michele Hawkins, Debra Szabo, Edgar An, Yan Yong

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Chair, Dr. Chris Beetle.
2. The UFS Steering minutes from [April 14, 2015](#) were approved with no objections from the committee.

3. President's Report:

- a. Two speakers will be at the Sept. 4th Senate meeting: 1) Chief Lowe and 2) President John Kelly.
 - b. Dr. Beetle discusses the Formative Review of the President and the anticipated report that will come from the meetings.
 - c. The website is being updated. We are working to get an accurate list of Senators. We will look at the list at the Senate meeting. Dr. Beetle also discusses the addition of the Curriculum Proposal dates.
 - d. Dr. Beetle introduced the Community Engagement Ad Hoc committee and its purpose to help facilitate the Carnegie Classification for the university. The ad hoc committee within the Senate will meet for at least one year to look at some specific questions where faculty input will be most essential. There will be one representative from each college.
4. [UPC Consent Agenda](#): no objections from Steering; the consent agenda is **approved by majority vote**.

5. [UPC Action Agenda](#):

a. College of Arts & Letters

- Jewish Studies
 - Dr. Susan Dyess motions to accept and move forward with a **positive recommendation** from Steering. Seconded by Dr. Levitt. Motion carries

b. College of Engineering and Computer Science

- Civil Engineering
 - The effective date is in the past.
 - There are incompatibilities with the proposal and current University IFP policy.

- Dr. Dyess motions to send proposal back to the Department of Civil Engineering and ask them to bring back a proposal that reflects the IFP University-wide. Dr. Gamboa and Dr. Levitt seconded. Motion carries.
- Geomatics Engineering
 - Dr. Dyess motions to send back to the Department of Civil Engineering and ask them to bring back a proposal that reflects the IFP University-wide. Seconded. Motion carries.
 - Dr. Dyess motions to combine the remaining three Engineering proposals. Dr. Levitt seconded the motion. Motion carries.
 - Dr. Dyess clarifies that the issue is only with the language and not the changes being proposed.
 - Dr. Gamboa moves that the same procedure follows with the remaining Engineering items. Dr. Wagner and Dr. Levitt seconded. Motion carries.
- Mechanical Engineering
 - Agreed by Steering to be sent back to the department of Civil Engineering.
- Ocean Engineering
 - Agreed by Steering to be sent back to the department of Civil Engineering.

c. College of Science

- Biology Elective Expansion
 - Dr. Nyhan motions to accept and move forward with **positive recommendation** from Steering. Seconded. Motion carries.

6. Business Items:

a. [SPE Policy](#)

- This is an informational item only. Provost Gary Perry discusses the policy in further detail. The purpose of this policy is to help faculty move forward in their careers. Dr. Diane Alperin talks about the work put into the document and who contributed.
- The document will go into effect as soon as it's finalized.
- Dr. Schoorman brings up some concerns about the policy and how it will affect Associate Professors. Dr. Perry and Dr. Alperin respond to satisfaction.
- There is discussion on the wording of the document and changes are proposed.
- The work and effort put into the document was commended by the Provost and Steering committee

7. Open Forum with the Provost

- a. The Provost welcomes back the committee and mentions the new Dean of Libraries, Carol Hixson, will introduce herself to the Senate at the next meeting. Dr. Perry then

discusses the budget process. Admissions are up this year. Our admission standards will be raised from 3.3 GPA this year to 3.6 GPA next year. Dr. Perry also discusses raising the Graduate student enrollment rate from 12% to 25%. There is also discussion on the pillars and platforms and the Executive Leadership Team's involvement in that.

8. Good of the Steering Committee

- a. Dr. Schoorman mentions an inconsistency in the Provost's office and the Graduate Dean's office on the policy of external faculty serving on dissertation committees. She mentions that a policy was supposed to have gone out to define this. Dr. Nyhan suggests instead of a new policy, just some clarity on who can serve on the committee. Dr. Beetle will ask Dr. Deb Floyd to attend the next Steering to clarify who can serve.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.