

**Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
September 1, 2016
BOT Conference Room, 2pm – 4pm**

Members Present: Chris Beetle, Meredith Mountford, Paul Peluso, Susan Dyess, and Kevin Wagner, Morton Levitt, Kim Dunn, Dilys Schoorman.

Guests: Ed Pratt, Michele Hawkins, Russ Ivy, Evonne Rezler, Debra Szabo, Susan Fulks, Deb Floyd, Gary Perry, Donna Chamely-Wiik, Ron Nyhan.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:01pm by Chair, Dr. Chris Beetle.
2. The UFS Steering minutes from [April 19th, 2016](#) were approved by the committee.

3. President's Report:

- a. Dr. Chris Beetle talks about the Bylaws update first. To date, he has received no nominations for an ad hoc committee. Dr. Beetle will have a draft revision ready for the next Steering meeting. Dr. Dyess suggests announcing another call at the Senate meeting. Dr. Beetle agrees.
- b. Next, Dr. Beetle updates the committee on the Sustained Performance Evaluation policy. Dr. Perry has agreed to meet with the SPE committee one more time before the policy is circulated to the faculty as a whole. Dr. Beetle concludes his report.

4. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

- a. Dr. Dyess has questions regarding undergraduate research DIR form. Dr. Chamely-Wiik answers Dr. Dyess' questions to satisfaction.
- b. Dr. Dunn mentions there is a correction needed under the Human Morphology courses. Currently they show the "Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD)" which should be changed to "Student Accessibility Services". Arcadia will reach out to the Honors College for the correction
- c. Dr. Peluso asks for clarification on the 0-3 credits courses for DIR. Dr. Chamely-Wiik explains the reasoning to satisfaction.
- d. There are no objections. The consent agenda stands **approved**.

5. [UPC Action Agenda:](#)

a. College of Science

• *Advanced Certificate in Geographic Information Systems*

- Dr. Dyess has question about the amount of credits for certificate. Dr. Russ Ivy explains how the certificate works. It is an additional certificate to be completed after initial certificate.
- Dr. Dyess motions to send forward with a **positive recommendation from Steering**. Dr. Wagner seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

6. UGC Consent Agenda:

- a. There is no agenda this month.

7. UGC Action Items:

- a. There is no agenda this month.

8. Business Items

a. UFS Meeting Schedule

- Dr. Beetle explains the current scheduling conflict for the Senate meetings on Mondays. EE 106 is available for Fall semester, however time slot is 1pm-3:50pm, which varies slightly from original 2pm-4pm time slot. Dr. Beetle would like to bring to Senate as business item for a decision. There is brief discussion about how this might be a conflict for other meetings in the Colleges. Dr. Beetle presents a few options to the committee to review.
- Dr. Peluso motions to send forward to the Senate for further discussion. Dr. Dyess seconds, after a majority vote, the motion carries.

b. [Three-Minute Thesis Competition](#)

- Dean Floyd gives brief presentation explaining the Three-minute thesis competition to the committee.
- Dr. Mountford motions to add 3MT to the Senate agenda. The motion is seconded. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

c. Community Engagement Update Report

- Dr. Ron Nyhan gives a brief update on the Community Engagement initiative. Dr. Nyhan discusses the initiative and why it's important to the university and how faculty can participate.
- Dr. Dyess motions to add presentation to the Senate agenda. The motion is seconded. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

d. Student Success Update Report

- Dr. Beetle gives a report to the committee on student success metrics and student data. He gives a very detailed presentation on the graduation rates of the FTIC cohorts and how they've improved. Lastly, Dr. Beetle presents ways that faculty can improve these numbers and promote retention and student success.
- The Steering committee would like information as to why students are leaving. Dr. Beetle will bring some data to the next meeting to share with the group.
- Dr. Beetle plans to make this a topic at every senate meeting.
- Dr. Dyess motions to add to Senate agenda. The motion is seconded. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

9. Open forum with the Provost

- a. The Provost begins by welcoming back the committee. Dr. Perry congratulates Dr. Beetle on his presentation. He speaks a little bit about the SWAT teams in the colleges working to improve the metrics. Dr. Perry mentions our work with Civitas and the intent to use predictive models to interpret student data.

Dr. Perry goes over the freshmen class that just came in. the average GPA is 4.1 and the average ACT score is 24.

Dr. Perry mentions the cap cost for online education is \$30, ours is \$37, which cost FAU 1.2 million in the budget. There is talk that that may drop even lower. We are working now to prove that there is a cost to online learning.

Next, Dr. Perry updates the committee on the Dean searches. The Honors College has a new Dean, Dr. Ellen Goldey. Also, the College of Science just acquired their new Dean, Dr. Ata Sarajedini from the University of Florida. Dean Ilyas will be stepping down, so a search will begin soon for the College of Engineering Dean, along with the College for Design and Social inquiry dean search, as well.

Finally, this weekend is the Deans' challenge at the football game. This concludes Dr. Perry's update. Dr. Perry answers any questions from Steering to satisfaction.

10. Good of the Steering Committee

- a. There are no items.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.