

**University Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**April 26, 2021**  
**Webex, 1:00PM – 3:00PM**

1. The UFS meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Wagner at 1:00pm. The meeting was held on Webex.

2. **With positive approval**, the Senate approved [March 29, 2021](#) UFS Minutes.

**3. President's Report**

- a. Dr. Kevin Wagner states that Dr. Chris Beetle, Dr. Meredith Mountford, and Dr. Hari Kalva were elected to the Academic Planning and Budget Committee.
- b. Next, Dr. Bill Trapani, Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne, Dr. Bruce Arneklev, Dr. Meredith Mountford, Dr. Frederick Hoffman, Dr. Evangelos Kaisar, and Dr. Richard Gendler were elected to the Policy Committee. The top four voters will receive 2-year terms and the bottom three voters will receive 1-year terms.
- c. Finally, the Honors and Awards Committee and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Bylaws were passed.

**4. Speakers (Committee Reports)**

- a. Kristy Padron – Academic Freedom and Due Process Committee
  - The committee reviewed Guidance on Research and Press Releases and made a recommendation for the Division of Research.
- b. Dr. Charles Dukes and Dr. Dilys Schoorman – Diversity Taskforce Presentation
  - The committee meets weekly and was tasked with bylaws, hiring policy review, faculty retention, and diversity-related comparative data.
  - Deeper inquiries include faculty/student racial/ethnic discrepancies across college and mentoring programs/strategies within and between disciplines, departments, and colleges
  - The Hiring Policy Review includes Provost's memo reviewed and recommendations offered, search committee training, recruitment recommendations/ plan, updated Workday procedures, data-informed practices, final report on whether the search increased diversity, develop recruitment resources on the human resources website, and review past hiring outcomes.
  - The Retention Committee includes circulating information to all faculty to promote participation in programs that support research and writing goals toward tenure and promotion, developing a focus group (and/or series of personal interviews) on matters of retention, and to implement two to three structural changes to enhance mentorship for FAU faculty.

- The committee's next steps include review hiring data from the past 3-5 years to establish a baseline and review the HEDS survey data and make recommendations.
- c. Dr. Kim Dunn – Academic Planning and Budget Committee
- Major Activities include:
    - Established a regular monthly meeting schedule (One week before Steering)
    - Evaluated and provided feedback on
      - University budget – presented by Dorothy Russell, CFO
      - Financial Affairs Budget – presented by Bret Danolowitz, Provost
      - Academic Financial Model – presented by Christa Eitel, Assistant Vice President for Academic Finance and Administration
      - University Calendar – presented by Brian Hodge, Registrar
      - Spring Break 2021 – presented by Brian Hodge, Registrar
      - Most recently, we began developing a streamlined course and curriculum change form/process which is being shared with Senate and Senate Committees for feedback.
    - Programs Reviewed:
      - Master of Science in Business Analytics
      - PhD in Neuroscience
      - Professional Doctor of Philosophy with Major in Computer Science
- d. Dr. Stephen Engle – NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative
- General responsibilities include:
    - NCAA 6.1.3 A member institution shall designate an individual to serve as faculty athletics representative
    - Chair of the Inter-Collegiate Athletics Committee
    - Sub-Committees: 1) Academic Performance, 2) Institutional Control, and 3 Student-Athlete Welfare.
    - In the Fall 2020 Semester: 34 Student-Athletes across 11 teams opted out without losing scholarship.
    - In the Spring 2021 Semester: 9 Student-Athletes across 6 teams opted out without losing scholarship.
    - Academic Performance: Evaluation and Comparison of Academic Metrics, Evaluation of Qualifications of Newly Admitted Student-Athletes, Template for documenting medical absences, and Policy for handling missed appointments.
    - Institutional Control: Ongoing Mandatory Compliance Review, Name, Image, Likeness Protocol, Procedure for Investigating Potential Infractions, Implementation of Items Recommended in Compliance review, and Monitor Transfer Portal and Conduct Varsity Blues Audits.
    - Student-Athlete Welfare: Mental Health Awareness and Resources, Monitor Time Management, Monitor Transfer Portal, and Review and Make Suggestions for Student-Athlete Handbook.
    - Average GPA: Fall 3.0 Spring 3.2 (Men = 2.7, 3.0) (Women = 3.3, 3.5) and 97% achieve a 2.0 or higher.

- e. Dr. Evangelos Kaisar – Faculty Senate Honors and Awards Committee
  - The committee is responsible for making recommendations on honors and awards given to faculty, students and others, as directed by the UFS: Talon Awards, Emeritus Faculty Awards, Honorary Degrees, Faculty Honors and Awards.
  - This past academic year, the committee reviewed Excellence and Innovation in Teaching and Advising, University Service Award, Distinguished Mentor of the Year, and Presidential Awards for outstanding faculty-led community engagements for service, teaching, and research.
- f. Dr. Shirley Gordon – Library Committee
  - The committee reviewed faculty-informed journal unbundling projects, CARES funding, O’Reilly for Higher Education, JStor Journal Archive, and One Search.
- g. Dr. Meredith Mountford – Policy Committee
  - the committee reviewed policies associated with faculty of distinction, consensual relationships between faculty and students and faculty governance.
- h. Dr. Diane Sherman – Promotion and Tenure Committee
  - The committee reviewed 47 portfolios and or tenure this year.
  - The committee collaborated with the office on revising documents that are under the business items.

## 5. UPC Consent Agenda

- a. Motion to Approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

## 6. UPC Action Items

- a. University-Wide
  - *AA Degree Requirements*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
  - *Undergraduate Research Requirements*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- b. Arts and Letters
  - *Ethnic Studies Certificate (New Title: Africana and Ethnic Studies Minor)*
  - Motion to table until the next Steering meeting. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
  - *BA in History – Africana History Concentration*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
  - *Bachelor of Music Education*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- c. College of Business

- *BBA or BS in Economics/MS in Economics*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *International Business*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

d. College of Engineering and Computer Science

- *BACS in Computer Science*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering/Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *Computer Science Major*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

e. Honors College

- *BA or BS in Biological and Physical Science/MS in Mechanical Engineering*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *BA or BS in Biological and Physical Science/MS in Ocean Engineering*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

f. College of Science

- *BA in Exercise Science and Health Promotion*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *BS/MS in Exercise Science and Health Promotion*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *BA in Health Science/MS in Exercise Science and Health Promotion*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *Bachelor of Science in Geosciences: Climate Change Focus*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- *Mathematics Minor*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

**7. UGC Consent Agenda**

- No objections from the Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

**8. UGC Action Agenda**

a. College of Business

- *PhD in Business Administration*
- Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

- b. College of Engineering and Computer Science
  - *BS in Mechanical Engineering to MS in Artificial Intelligence*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- c. Graduate College
  - *International Admissions Deadline*
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**

## 9. Business Items

- a. [MS in Business Analytics](#)
  - Motion to approve. No objections from Senate. Approved by majority vote.
- b. Promotion and Tenure Updates
  - [Criteria](#)
  - [Principles](#)
  - Motion to table until the next Steering committee meeting. 16 objections from Senate. **Approved by majority vote.**
- c. [Course Change Proposal Form](#)
  - Dr. Chris Beetle presents the Course Change Proposal Form as an informational item.
- d. [Space Policy](#)
  - Provost Bret Danilowicz presents the Space Policy as an informational item. The Space Policy was passed by the Policy Committee.

## 10. New Business

- i. No items.

## 11. Open Forum with the Provost

- Provost Danilowicz states that the Senate and House in Florida have agreed on a budget. The current recommendation is only a reduction at the system level of \$18 million (\$600,000 recurring reduction at FAU).
- Next, the in-person commencement will take this week. 18 faculty can participate per ceremony.
- An email went out to pre-tenure track faculty earlier which gives them the opportunity to have one course reassigned from instruction to research in 2022.

- Finally, the tenure process will be on the Board of Trustees June 8<sup>th</sup> agenda. It aligns our process with four research universities. The President would recommend the slate of candidates to the Board of Trustees.

## **12. Open Forum with the Senate**

- No Items.

## **13. Good of the Senate**

- Dr. Kim Dunn thanks Dr. Kevin Wagner on behalf of all of Faculty Senators.

## **14. Meeting adjourned at 3:14pm.**