University Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes
Friday, December 7, 2007
Circulated December 17, 2007

1. UFS meeting was called to order by President Eric Shaw at 2:02 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 Fort Lauderdale Campus, and the Davie Campus.


Guests Present: Diane Alperin, Edward Pratt, Jeff Schilit, Jeff Galin, David Lee, Russ Ivy. Wen Shen (for Howard Prentice), Maris Hayashi

2. Announcements
   - The State Budget shortfall has gone up another billion and it is forecast that next year’s budget will be short a billion as well.
   - The Republican Presidential Debate is confirmed for Thursday, January 24th, 2008. We have not received confirmation from the Democrats yet.
   - As a result of faculty interest expressed at the last meeting, Eric Shaw has secured additional faculty debate tickets.
   - Comedy Central’s Indecision 2008 is coming to campus. They will be here January 14th and faculty tickets will be available for anyone that wants to go.
   - The ground breaking for the new fitness and wellness center occurred on December 7, 2007.
   - Transferring from ORP to FRS packets should have been received by participants. Contact the human resources department if you have not received your packets.

3. BOT report
   - President Brogan received a favorable recommendation from the BOT on his annual evaluation and the BOT will hire a consultant to negotiate a new six year contract for the President.

4. UPC Consent Agenda
   - Jerry Haky moved to withdrawal EMS 4804, the person teaching the course resigned. The consent agenda, with the above deletion, was approved.

5. UPC Action Items
   a. Add Criterion 10 for Writing Across Curriculum Program
• Jerry Haky explained that the criterion is a mechanism to achieve more assessments of the program and it is based on the recommendations of the institutional review board.

   **Approved by unanimous consent.**

b. Add Aging Certificate in Social Work
   **Approved by unanimous consent.**

c. Name change for Holocaust and Judaic Studies Degree to Jewish Studies
   **Approved by unanimous consent.**

d. Add Insurance Certificate in Business Administration
   **Approved by unanimous consent.**

6. GPC Consent Agenda
   **Approved by unanimous consent.**

7. GPC Action Items
   a. Add Track in Translation Studies in Department of Languages and Linguistics
      **Approved by unanimous consent.**

b. Change of GMAT requirement in Department of Economics
   Eric Shaw reported that Economics has chosen to withdraw the proposal.
   **Withdrawal approved by unanimous consent**

c. Minor Revision of MS Degree Programs in College of Engineering & Computer Science
   **Approved by unanimous consent**

d. Request for new Ph.D. program in Department of Geosciences
   Russ Ivy (chair of Geosciences), gave a short explanation of the program.
   The program is a professional PhD and Interdisciplinary program from the college of Science. The program will be the only environmental PhD offered at FAU. The majority of the students will start part time.

   Eric Shaw said that the budgetary implications of the program have been reviewed by the Academic Planning and Budget Committee and found to be accurate.

   Gary Perry, Dean of the College of Science explained the program will be financed reallocating funds within the college. The only new cost of the program in the first year will be an increase of $16,000, representing the difference between four PhD student stipends and four master’s student stipends..

   **Approved by unanimous consent**

8. Introduction of Dr. Mike Moriarty
   • The Provost introduced the new Interim Vice President of Research Mike Moriarty.

   • Mike Moriarty invited everyone to contact him via email: email address moriarty@fau.edu

9. Revision to UFS Constitution and Bylaws
   • Eric Shaw read the following changes (red=removal, green=add, blue=move)

   p. 3, Art. IV, Sec B. paragraph after 4.,there will vote in be a run-off between the two candidates...

   p.4, Art VI, Sec A. Part 1, Sub c. Meetings call of the President of the UFS
The UGC shall elect...for a one year term.

Subcommittees of the UGC shall elect...to one year terms. Move up a section from end of c. Meetings to end of b. Membership.

Membership.

Support, 1.25% 50% release time for the President and 25% for the President-Elect/Past-President of the UFS during summer and the academic year and 1 course release during the summer.

• Eric Shaw explained the rules for changing the constitution.
• Fred Hoffman brought up that the changes from the last meeting were postponed to be voted on at this meeting; however, the text was not available, and will be taken up at a subsequent meeting.
• Lydia Smiley moved to delete “or ethical principles” from (Art. VI 4.b). She stated the Academic Freedom and Due Process Committee should address only academic freedom and due process in general and not ethics nor individual cases.
• Fred Hoffman spoke that it was not necessary to deal with individual cases, simply because of the presence of ethical principles.
• Diane Alperin spoke on the concerns of individual cases being the driver in the addition of ethical principles to the committee’s charge.
• David Lee stated that it was better not to consider individual cases because the individual could sue the committee and that the University attorney’s office may not have the responsibility of defending them.

The vote on the amendment to delete “or ethical principles” (Art. VI 4.b.) was in favor: 14, Opposed: 2.

Amendment approved

The vote on the motion to accept the revised bylaws as amended was in favor by a vote exceeding the required three-fourths majority.

Bylaws as amended approved


There were no changes.

11. Open forum with the Provost

• The Provost gave an update on the budget cuts and said that FAU is currently exploring options.
• Deborah Floyd questioned what is happening with the BOG’s accountability pool? The provost responded that it was vetoed by the governor.
• Lydia Smiley asked “where did the credit check on new employees come from?” Diane Alperin responded that background checks have been done on all employees since 2005. For all checks other than background checks, it is suggested that you visit the Human Resources website to see all the forms and procedures. Lydia Smiley spoke on concern of the costs of the credit checks
and the invasion of privacy of new employees. The provost understands the process and will look into credit checks for the faculty.

- Fred Hoffman stated past USF policy dictated enrollment count for SPOT be made at or after the W deadline (mid-point in semester); this fall the policy was not followed, and older numbers were used, causing data to be less reliable and time and trees to be wasted. The Provost was not aware of the specifics and will discuss with Sharron Ronco.

- Jerry Haky inquired about the reliability of the recycling program. The Provost already spoke with Tom Donaudy and the program is functioning just fine.

- Eric Shaw asked that we use the open forum with the Provost for academic issues, and invite other area VP’s if we want specifics in their areas.

- Stephen Locke commented that it may be beneficial to include the scheduled times of their final exams in the copies of students’ schedules given to them when they register. The Provost stated that it is the responsibility of the student to be aware of the final exam, but he will follow up with Mike Armstrong.

- Stephen Locke spoke about enrollment control. The Provost said that he will revisit the issue of automated enrollment control.

- Pierre-Philippe Beaujean asked if budget cuts will influence promotion and tenure. The Provost responded “no”.

- Fred Hoffman commented on CLAST exceptions (e.g., if a student says I am going to try and waive the CLAST by getting a C+ average on two relevant courses, the student can get multiple exemptions to the requirement to take CLAST before being allowed to register, when within 24 credits of a degree.) The Provost asked Ed Pratt to comment. Ed Pratt said that he needs to sit down with Testing and Evaluation. He will revisit the situation and get back to the UFS.

12. Faculty Open Forum
   No Discussion

13. The meeting was adjourned at 3:25pm.