

**University Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**April 18, 2014**

**Members Present:** see *appendix A* for attendance sheet

Guests Present: See *appendix B* for attendance sheet

1. The UFS meeting was called to order by Dr. Ron Nyhan, President, at 2:05p.m. in the College of Nursing (NU 202) on the Boca Raton Campus and video conferenced to Davie, Fort Lauderdale, Harbor Branch, Sea Tech, and Jupiter.

2. **Without changes**, the Senate approved the minutes of the [March 21, 2014](#) Senate meeting.

3. **President's Report**

- Ron presented a summary of items accomplished in the past year by various committees.
- All members of the Assessment Committee were thanked for their service; special mention was made in regards to the online SPOT and the 35% response rate received thus far.
- Appreciation was expressed to all members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee for their support in the promotion and tenure process.
- Ron thanked William McDaniel and the Academic Planning and Budget Committee for their hard work and for providing both the Academic and UFS calendars for 2014-2015.
- Appreciation was also expressed to Rupert Rhodd and the Retention Committee.
- The Distance Learning Committee and its new chair, Mary Cameron will be working on a year round policy to address the issue of distance learning office hours.
- The Distance Learning Committee will also be working on an Intellectual Property policy in conjunction with the Senate Committee, the Task Force on Distance Learning, and Vicki Brown, Assistant Provost for eLearning.
- All committees were thanked for their service.

4. **UPC Consent Agenda:**

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

5. **UPC Action Items:**

a) **Writing Across Curriculum Committee**

Revision Explanation-Writing Across Curriculum.

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

b) **Dean of Undergraduate Studies**

Policy Changes-Declaration of Major.

- No objections from Senate-**Approved by majority vote with request for language to be added.**

c) **College of Arts and Letters**

Program Changes-Multimedia Studies Major, Multimedia Journalism Concentration.

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

New Certificate-Professional and Technical Writing Certificate Program.

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

Certificate Changes-Religious Studies Certificate Program.

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

New Program-Japanese Minor.

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

**d) College of Business**

Program Change-Hospitality Management.

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

**6. UGC Consent Agenda:**

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

**7. UGC Action Items:**

**e) College of Design and Social Inquiry**

Proposal-Doctor of Social Work (DSW)

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

Proposal-Master of Urban and Regional Planning/Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning

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

**f) College of Engineering and Computer Science**

Proposal-Distance Learning Certificate in Offshore Engineering.

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

**g) College of Science**

Program Change-Doctor of Philosophy in Geosciences.

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

Proposal-Graduate GIS Certificate.

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

**h) College of Business**

Program Change-Executive Masters in Health Administration.

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

## 8. **Business Items:**

### **Announcement of UFS Senate Election Results**

- **UFS President Elect** –  
Chris Beetle.
- **Steering Committee Members** –  
Yolanda Gamboa  
Mike Harris  
Mort Levitt

## 9. **Speaker: Dr. Deborah Floyd, Interim Dean of the Graduate College**

- Dr. Floyd thanked present and past members of the UGC.
- The Graduate College will be approaching admissions from an Enrollment Management standpoint.
- The College is looking to revamp degree completion and also to be parallel with what is being done with Student Success.
- Changes to forms and Plans of Study will be released this summer.
- The College finally has electronic Programs of Study and is ahead of the University in that regard; however, changes to Programs of Study are still on paper.
- The College has revised and updated its Thesis and Dissertation guidelines; the guidelines had not been updated since 2010.
- Both the old and new guidelines are posted on the web.
- This summer, thesis and dissertations will be accepted on either version of the guidelines; as of fall, the College would prefer to accept thesis and dissertations with only the new guidelines only.
- Graduation celebration parties will be held on May 1 and May 2.

## 10. **Open Forum with the Provost**

- FAU hired a President; Provost Perry described President Kelly as an excellent individual for the role.
- Provost Perry thanked Ron for his service as President of the Senate and also for his role in the Presidential search.
- Provost Perry introduced and welcomed Jeffery Hoyt, the new Director of IEA.
- FAU has passed the best salary package in the SUS for its faculty last year with an average increase of approximately 5.41%.
- FAU has had over 130 faculty searches this year.
- To date, 53 new faculty members have been hired.
- 25 advisors will be hired.
- 2 new transfer credit evaluators will be hired as well.
- Enrollment is up; FTIC's are down.
- FAU is down by 600 admits for FTIC's.
- Graduation will be mandatory after 120 credit hours.
- A Bachelor of General Studies degree will be introduced; there is also a demand for this type of degree for adult learners who just need a degree to move forward in their professions.
- There has been an increase of approximately 17% in growth of online courses which accounts for 11% of FTE in online courses.

- Provost Perry congratulated Vicki Brown for her accomplishments over the past year with eLearning programs.

### **11. State of the Senate**

- Ron Nyhan reflected on his past year as President of the Senate.
- Within three weeks of accepting this new role, the President of FAU resigned; within 6 months, a new Provost was hired along with three new Vice Presidents and a new Dean.
- There has been significant change and the Senate played an important role in those challenges.
- The Senate championed the issue of Academic Freedom and Due Process.
- Ron expressed his pride in the Senate and in the AFDP Committee and thanked all for the brave work they did and for the enormous precedent that was set at the University as a result.
- Over the past eight months, much new ground was forged with the Acting President and the Interim Provost in terms of getting more involvement from faculty and a better model toward shared governance.
- To date, there are more functioning committees of the Senate with more involvement of senators and faculty than the University has ever had.
- Ron thanked all faculty and committee members for their work over the year.
- The state of the Senate is strong.
- Budget changes may have a significant impact on what the Senate does.
- President Kelly is expected to make administrative changes.
- Priorities for next year are Distance Learning and Student Success.
- Over the summer, Ron will focus on more outlets for faculty research; he would like the current process to be better streamlined and to make the faculty aware of how many outlets are actually available to them. A full report and presentation will be provided in the fall on those efforts.
- Ron will also ask the Assessment Committee to revisit the SPOT in terms of its relevance and its size and also in line with the potential for adding the computer app that OIT has promised.
- Ron pledged to keep the Senate as informed as possible over the summer about what is going on at the University in hopes that when they return, they will be energized and informed and able to steer the University toward greater things.
- In closing, Ron welcomed President Elect, Chris Beetle.
- Ron bid a fond farewell to William McDaniel and thanked him for all he has done for the Senate and for the University.

### **12. Good of the Senate**

- There were no items for Good of the Senate.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

