

**Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
January 19, 2016
BOT Conference Room, 2pm – 4pm**

Members Present: Chris Beetle, Ron Nyhan, Morton Levitt, Dilys Schoorman, Mike Harris, Susan Dyess, and Kevin Wagner.

Guests: Beth King, James Hillabrandt, Ed Pratt, Janet Blanks, Theodora Leventouri, Diane Alperin, Russ Ivy, Debra Szabo, Ellen Ryan, Michele Hawkins, Tina Penhollow, Yuan Wang, Mare Cudic, Tito Sempertegui, Mary Ann Gosser, Bob Zoeller, Fred Bloetschen, Des Gallant, Gary Perry, Deborah Floyd, and Susan Fulks

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm by Chair, Dr. Chris Beetle.
2. The UFS Steering minutes from [November 24, 2015](#) were approved as amended by the committee.

3. President's Report:

- a. Dr. Chris Beetle announces the result of the Statewide Learning Management Committee which is that the state will be going with Canvas as its LMS. The SUS is currently working on writing up a contract with Canvas. The contract will be opt-in. This will be considered as part of a broader set of questions in regards to whether FAU will be switching to Canvas.
 - b. Second, Dr. Beetle refers back to the Workday discussion that was had at the last Senate meeting. He has no updates on this.
4. [UPC Consent Agenda](#): no objections from Steering; the consent agenda is **approved by majority vote**.

5. [UPC Action Agenda](#):

a. University-Wide

● *Minor in Military Science*

- Dr. Levitt would like to know if the Navy or Air Force have plans to join this major as well, as the curriculum is primarily Army-centric. He would also like to know because he has concerns about the name being more generic.
- Rep. Major James Hillabrandt responds to Dr. Levitt's question. He can't speak for Air Force or Navy, but he believes the Navy is looking into it. If they decide to join the Navy ROTC will have to contact the university. As of right now, he's been working with Military Affairs on getting a Veterans/Military Center on campus in the near future.
- Dr. Harris asks if this falls under any other program in Undergraduate Studies. Ed Pratt confirms that it does not. It is common throughout the

state to be university-wide as it does not fit into any other department or college.

- Dr. Schoorman brings up concern regarding changes in the curriculum; who would make them and where would they go through? Dean Pratt says it would be posed through Military Science and through discussions with himself and then would go before UUPC.
- Dr. Wagner asks Major Hillbrandt if the names of the courses are specific to FAU or if they are general course names. Major Hillbrandt confirms that the numeric for the courses remain the same, however, every few years the title might change. The curriculum is the same across the SUS.
- Dr. Harris wants to know if this is only for students studying military science. Major Hillbrandt explains that any student can take the courses; the freshmen through sophomore level courses are electives. Once they go towards the minor, this is for students going towards the advanced level; there are only about 10-15 students that go through this program.
- Dr. Schoorman notes that she will be abstaining from the vote due to concerns about inadequate consultation with the educational leadership department.
- Dr. Nyhan motions to send forward to Senate with a **positive recommendation from Steering**. After a majority vote, motion carries.

b. College of Arts and Letters

- *Minor in Dance*

- No discussion or objections on this item. Dr. Schoorman moves to send forward with a **positive recommendation**. Dr. Wagner seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

c. College for Design and Social Inquiry

- *Bachelor of Social Work*

- Dr. Schoorman has questions about taking the courses concurrently. Ellen Ryan and Dr. Wagner address her concern by explaining how the courses work.
- Dr. Wagner moves to send forward with a **positive recommendation**. Dr. Levitt second. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

d. College of Nursing

- *RN to BSN Concentration*

- Dr. Dyess moves to send forward with a **positive recommendation**. Dr. Nyhan seconds.

- Dr. Wagner would like to know why the GPA requirement is being lowered. Dr. King explains that this requirement helps transfer students and students who are already practicing RNs.
- After a majority vote, the motion carries.

e. College of Science

- *Honors Program in Chemistry*

- Dr. Nyhan moves to send forward with a **positive recommendation**. Seconded.
- Dr. Dyess would like to know if we should be discussing the costs associated with creating an honors track. Dr. Mare Cudic explains that the costs will not cost the program significantly more. They are running the program as a compact. They are not introducing new courses, they are adding an additional component to the courses that will be associated with the honor students. Dr. Dyess confirms that the faculty workload will increase but not the costs associated with it.
- After a majority vote, the motion carries.

6. [UGC Consent Agenda](#): no objections from Steering; the consent agenda is **approved by majority vote**.

7. [UGC Action Items](#):

a. College of Science

- *Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security*

- Dr. Schoorman moves to send forward with a positive recommendation. Dr. Levitt seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

- *Combined BS/MS Program in Math*

- Dr. Nyhan moves to send forward with a positive recommendation. Dr. Dyess seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

- *MS in Applied Math and Statistics*

- Dr. Dyess moves to send forward with a positive recommendation. Dr. Levitt seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries

- *Professional Science Master in Medical Physics*

- Dr. Dyess moves to send forward with a positive recommendation. Dr. Nyhan seconds. After a majority vote, the motion carries.

8. Open forum with the Provost

- a. Provost Perry welcomes back the Steering committee. He mentions he will only be reporting on two items; the first one is the LMS. Canvas is being adopted by the state. It will be an opt-in system. Vicki Brown has setup an LMS faculty committee that will be reviewing Canvas and looking at the new Blackboard platform, which was unavailable at

the time the state reviewed the various LMS programs. From Feb 15th to March 4th Blackboard and Canvas will be on campus to meet with the committee along with any faculty members that would like to review the product, to let them test it out. Tied into the LMS update is online learning. Dr. Perry served on the task force to develop a strategic plan for the SUS through 2025 in online education. That report is now on the BOG website. The implementation of this plan is tied to the LMS program the state goes with. Dr. Perry is on the Steering Committee for this plan and Vicki Brown is on the Implementation Committee for this plan. They met for the first time last month. There are stiff expectations that over the next decade we increase the amount of online opportunities we offer. The Provost encourages the Steering Committee to review the plan. There is a BOG meeting tomorrow in Tallahassee and Dr. Perry will be reporting back.

Dr. Dyess brings up concern that the Faculty Assembly meetings might not come up before the Canvas and Blackboard folks are on campus. Dr. Perry says he will have Vicki Brown send something out to the faculty alerting them of their arrival and opportunity while they are on campus. Dr. Dyess also asks Dr. Perry if he envisions this implementation online learning to be considered as a performance metric in the future. Dr. Perry mentions that Dr. Lautenbach, Chair of Innovation and Online Education, is exceptionally interested in the online learning and was at every task force meeting. Dr. Perry was told it would be great if FAU could increase their online learning opportunities. Dr. Perry believes this might have been advice, perhaps leading toward a future where this might be considered to be a metric.

Dr. Nyhan asks about the SUS moving to a common catalog for online courses, essentially allowing students no matter where they are enrolled, to take courses out of this common catalog. He adds that this would mean universities not using the statewide LMS would be at a disadvantage for enrollment numbers. Dr. Perry agrees with Dr. Nyhan and mentions that this is something that is being actively discussed. It will be a decision that the university would have to make. No decisions have been made regarding this assumption. It is still a discussion yet to be had.

Dr. Wagner mentions how some universities are offering incentives to faculty members, and also to their departments, who are willing to move to an online teaching platform. Dr. Perry says incentives are incorporated in the Strategic Plan for those who teach online courses.

There is additional discussion about the statewide LMS decision and how the process of potentially selecting a new LMS for the university will be decided.

- b.** Dr. Harris brings up concern with the draft circulating for redefining assignments in F.A.I.R. Dr. Diane Alperin tries to speak to some of his concerns. She will send to Arcadia

to distribute to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee can then send their thoughts or suggestions to Diane. Dr. Nyhan says it's already being looked at by a Senate committee.

- c. Dr. Harris asks if the course schedule can be searchable by topic. Dr. Perry agrees this is a good idea. Dr. Hawkins agrees as well. She will look into it to see if it can be searched by topic.
- d. Dr. Beetle mentions to the Provost there has been a lack of clarity concerning the Outside Activity Form. Dr. Perry explains that Dr. Alperin is revising the form along with the Division of Research. He goes over a few examples of when he expects the form should be filled out and when it's not necessary. After much discussion, it is decided that the Steering committee will review the document and determine which standing committee or ad hoc committee should review and draft this document. Dr. Perry asks that this is done expeditiously. Arcadia will email the draft to the Steering committee.

9. Good of the Steering Committee

- a. Dr. Wagner mentions he's had some faculty members express some dissatisfaction with the Senate meetings not moving to a Monday schedule. Dr. Beetle explains that currently a lot of colleges have moved their faculty assembly meetings to Mondays during the Owl Hour and so that would conflict with moving the Senate meetings to Mondays, plus the Senate meeting is two hours, not one. Dr. Wagner agrees with Dr. Beetle, however, he just wanted to express the concerns of the faculty.
- b. There are no other items

Meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.