



Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
February 13, 2025
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
ZOOM

Members Present: Kim Dunn, William Trapani, Bruce Arneklev, Khaled Sobhan, Chris Beetle, LeaAnne DeRigne and Meredith Mountford

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair, Dr. Kim Dunn.
 2. UFS Steering minutes
 - The UFS Steering minutes from [January 16, 2025](#), were **approved by the committee**.
 3. President's Report
Dr. Dunn's Report Highlights:
 - **University Achievements:**
 - The university has officially been recognized as a Research 1 institution, marking a significant milestone.
 - The Board of Trustees has unanimously selected a new president, with final confirmation by the Board of Governors scheduled for February 20th.
 - **Success Criteria for the New President:**
 - Retain President Volck within the administration to ensure continuity.
 - Keep Provost Ivy as interim until a national search is completed.
 - Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to promote student safety and inclusion.
 - **Spring Elections:**
 - Announced the upcoming spring elections, with colleges to be notified of senate seat allocations.
 - **Committee Meetings Before Departure:**
 - Current committee members and chairs are encouraged to schedule meetings before leaving.
 - With election results announced on April 21st, it is unlikely committees will meet before the end of the term.
 - **Addressing Committee Leadership Delays:**
 - Traditionally, committees elect their chair during the first meeting, but delays can lead to leadership gaps, causing committees to struggle at the start of the academic year.
- Proposed Solutions:**

- **End-of-Semester Meeting:** Encourage committees to meet in the last week of the semester to elect a chair and set fall meeting times. This may be challenging due to scheduling conflicts.
 - **Interim Leadership Role:** Appoint the past chair, past president, or president-elect to temporarily lead committees, ensuring a chair is elected at the first meeting of the new academic year.
 - **Voting Window and Election Results:**
 - The voting window for elections will span two weeks, with ballots opening on Tuesday.
 - Election results will be announced by email, providing committees with ample time to coordinate and select a chair.
 - **Discussion on Inviting the New President**
 - The Senate will ensure Mr. Hasner is aware of his membership status and that meetings are added to his calendar early. The invitation will include the opportunity for an inaugural address, promoting a smooth transition and active engagement with the Senate community.
4. Guest Speakers
- None.
5. Committee Reports
- None.
6. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)
- Motion:** A motion was made to move all other items forward with positive recommendation by steering with the exception of CPO 4409 and FRE 3400. **Motion carries.**

Consent Agenda Items pulled:

- The **CPO 4409** and **FRE 3400** were initially pulled from the **consent agenda** for further review.
 - **CPO 4409 (Course Cancellation) in the College of Arts and Letters:**
 - The Department of Political Science requested the cancellation of CPO 4409 due to the faculty member previously teaching the course no longer being with the university.
 - There were no significant impacts on students as the course is an elective and does not affect degree progress.
 - After some discussion, steering moved to reinstate the course on the consent agenda.
 - **FRE 3400 in the Honors College:**
 - A proposed program change for the Honors College involved the addition of language course prefixes, specifically ASL (American Sign Language) and FOL (Foreign Language).
 - The FOL prefix is to apply to foreign language courses, providing a one-on-one experience for students in those languages.

- There was some confusion about the FOL prefix, but clarification was provided that it is associated with any foreign language offered by the university.
- After some discussion, steering moved to reinstate the course on the consent agenda.

7. [UPC Action Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering.

Motion carries.

8. [UGC Consent Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering.

Motion carries.

Consent Agenda Items pulled:

- EDA 6053 Contemporary Trends in Education
- Education Specialist (EDS) Concentration: School Leaders (K-12)
- Master's (MED) Concentration: School Leaders (K-12)
- Masters in Elementary Education
- M.Ed. in Special Education ABA Concentration

9. [UGC Action Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering with the exception of the items below. **Motion carries.**

Motion: For each of the following a motion was made seeking revisions, corrections or additions to the forms. A motion was made to move forward the following agenda items with no recommendation by steering for:

- EDA 6053 Contemporary Trends in Education
- Education Specialist (EDS) Concentration: School Leaders (K-12)
- Master's (MED) Concentration: School Leaders (K-12)
- Masters in Elementary Education
- M.Ed. in Special Education ABA Concentration

Motion carries.

10. Old Business

None.

11. New Business

- Order for Senate Agenda
 - Moving the Open Forum with the Provost earlier in the meeting was suggested.
 - The Open Forum of the Senate should be moved to the top of the meeting.

12. Open Forum with the Provost

- Provost Ivy reported on the following:

- **BOG Staff Meeting:** The Board of Governors staff met with the Provosts.
 - A textbook review process for anti-Semitic and anti-Israel material was conducted.
 - There was discussion about Senate submissions and a two-week window period to review what other institutions are doing.
 - A list of low-risk programs that they are going to get is going to be on the agenda for the March BOG meeting to get approved so that they'll free up some.
 - There was a conversation on political science wanting to propose a course and decided to use that book.

13. Good of the Steering Committee
None.

14. **Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.**