



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2014
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
3:35 P.M.

I. Regular Session

The regular session of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate was held on Friday, September 19, 2014. Faculty Senate President Gary Tyson presided.

The following members attended the Senate meeting:

T. Adams, S. Aggarwal, E. Aldrovandi, C. Alexander, E. Alvarez, A. Askew, A. Avina, H. Bass, F. Berry, B. Birmingham, M. Blaber, J. Broome, R. Brower, M. Buchler, E. Chicken, M. Cui, A. Cuyler, W. Deng, K. Erndl, J. Fiorito, S. Fiorito, J. Gabriel, J. Geringer, K. Goldsby, T. Graban, M. Gross, K. Harper, E. Hilinski, M. Horner, K. Howard, L. Jakubowski, M. Kapp, T. Keller, A. Kercheval, S. Lewis, S. Losh, C. Madsen, T. Mariano, K. McGinnis, M. Mesterton-Gibbons, U. Meyer-Base, D. Moore, I. Padavic, E. Peters, J. Reynolds, N. Rogers, P. Rutkovsky, S. Rutledge, K. Salata, K. Schmitt, J. Schwenkler, D. Slice, J. Sobanjo, L. Stepina, M. Stewart, J. Telotte, J. Turner, G. Tyson, S. Valisa, E. Walker, S. Webber, W. Weissert, W. Wise.

The following members were absent. Alternates are listed in parenthesis:

J. Adams, J. Ahlquist, M. Akiba, B. Berg, C. Bolaños, K. Brummel-Smith, J. Cogle, R. Dumm, C. Edrington, K. Fishburne (**A. Cuyler**), R. Gainsford, A. Gaiser (**J. Hellweg**), C. Hofacker (**D. Kim**), D. Humphrey, J. Ilich-Ernst, C. Jackson, S. Johnson, J. Kesten, E. Kim, W. Landing, J. Larson, B. Lee, T. Luke, D. Maier-Katkin, J. McNulty, R. Miles (**M. Duncan**), R. Morris, J. Ohlin, O. Okoli, V. Richard Auzenne (**A. Casline**), R. Rodenberg, V. Salters, J. Standley, O. Steinbock, F. Tolson, S. Tripodi (**L. Noel**), O. Vafek, D. Von Glahn (**A. Darrow**), C. Weissert.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the April 23, 2014 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

IV. Special Order: Remarks by the Senate President, G. Tyson

It is common to have the Senate president give remarks on the first meeting in the fall just to greet everyone, but it seems like we've been meeting regularly. I don't feel the need to go

into great detail. Plus things are changing, so what I think I am going to do is give an abbreviated one today in the hopes of getting home sometime and to give a relatively short one in the October meeting where we will likely have the president elect come and join us as well. So my comments will be brief.

This is going to be an extraordinary interesting year for the Faculty Senate. We have a lot of things in play. We have a new president who will be selected next week and approved by the Board of Governors at some point thereafter. They are currently scheduled to have a meeting in November, but they might very well have a phone meeting to do just this one action item before that. I don't know what their plans currently are.

We also have changes that are being looked at. We have a lot of outside influences that are impacting the University. So one of the items that we are going to see in the spring is a report on what to do with the College of Engineering followed by a legislative session that is going to do something—we don't know what. So we'll be reactive to that. This is not unusual; we seem to do this on a regular basis. We did this with liberal studies two sessions ago where they started mandating the liberal studies course that all of the state universities taught. That is a red flag. I think that is an issue we are going to come back to over and over and over again. That is part of making sure all the state university systems are the same. Which I think is step one in the Board of Governors maintaining more control over curriculum, stance learning, virtual campuses, and all this stuff that is going to impact the courses we teach, what students have coming in, what they take from somewhere else. And it could go so far as to impact which universities are responsible for the virtual classes that are then distributed out to all the other universities in the system. So there is a lot of external control that this body, the Faculty Senate, is in many cases the opposing view. We have say of the curriculum, but the legislature kind of has say of the whole system. And I think that's a battle we will have to watch.

So I'll talk about Board of Governors a little more in just a second. We did some stuff last year that has helped us. We have codified a lot of the governance role of the Senate of faculty's control of what curriculum is allowed. We've extended that to degree programs going through the UPC for approval going through the GPC. So I think we've got on paper a pretty solid now recognition of the faculty side of shared governance, but that doesn't mean it's not attacked on a regular basis. We are in good shape going in, but certainly there is a battle going on.

I still think we need to do some work on centralized versus decentralized within the university. We've got these metrics which are metrics for the university, but to satisfy the metrics involves things that have to occur in the units. I think there is a natural tendency for the administration to want to fix things so they are optimal for the university that may not be what we want to see in [inaudible] for each unit. So I think that's another tension we are going to see this coming year.

Distance learning I mentioned. I think distance learning is a big thing coming through. The Board of Governors is very interested in distance learning as a mode of instruction, efficiency, and non-duplication across universities. We are going to talk about them as much as we talk about the legislature. In particular, the legislature in the past year and probably next year is moving from a model where they do appropriations to individual universities into a mode where they give a bulk of funding to the Board of Governors who then does distribution by formula or by magic to the universities. The Board of Governors is becoming

a bigger and bigger participant in how the entire structure is going. And unlike the legislature, they are focused on us. The legislature has many other issues to deal with. Another thing that I think is coming up, and this is more of an internal one, we've had some discussion about honors for students—not honors in major but students graduating with honors. We've had a number of top students who have not be able to do it because they come in with AP credit and we've kind of structured our honors program assuming that students are taking the classes here. I think it's worth looking into. I'm going to talk to Don Latham and some others interested. I think we will probably either have the Honors Committee do it or put together an ad hoc committee to study if there are changes we need to make to make honors to better serve our students. That will be discussed in October.

There is one word that I think we need to consider for this year. It's one that I've already used in the spring semester, and that's "vigilance." We have to pay attention to what is going on not just on campus, not just with the presidential search, not just with the legislature, but with the BOG I think the BOG is the most impactful that we are going to see after the president.

V. **Report of the Steering Committee, S. Fiorito**

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee has met **11 times since** our last regular Faculty Senate meeting on April 23rd. In addition, we met once with Interim President Stokes and once with Interim Provost McRorie. [Meeting dates: May 12, 18, and 27; June 3, 10, and 17; August 22, and 27; and September 3, 10, and 17]

We held **two special FS meetings**, one on June 4th and the other one held on September 10th. The agenda consisted mainly of a discussion of the presidential search. Three resolutions were passed at the June 4th meeting and one resolution was passed at the September 10th meeting.

The **Presidential Search** has occupied our thoughts, discussions and energies since President Barron left Florida State University. There were 39 candidates who applied, 11 were chosen for an initial interviews and four candidates were interviewed this week by the administration, staff, students, deans and faculty.

We want to strongly, unanimously and affectionately **thank Dr. Garnett Stokes** for stepping into the very critical position of Interim President of Florida State University. Dr. Stokes kept us moving in the right direction. There was no one else who could have given us all the secure and steady leadership that was so needed. The FSSC thanks you and your leadership team.

During the 11 times that we met since last April we continually suggested faculty member names as to Gary Tyson to fill Faculty Senate Committees. Thank you to all who serve Florida State University as members of University committees.

We have been asked to begin discussions regarding moving away from **paper course evaluations-student perceptions** of courses. We have asked the Faculty Senate Teaching Evaluation Committee to review this and make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee met with **Mathew Shaftel** to discuss the status of the liberal studies e-series courses and his new role as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Interim President Stokes continues to support the changes in our liberal studies

program that have begun to change and innovation our course selection for liberal studies. Mathew Shaftel reported that 66 courses have been approved leaving approximately 64 that still need to be developed.

We have discussed the **Honors Program** and have suggested a subcommittee to see what can be done to help support and grow that program here at FSU.

The Faculty Steering Committee discussed the new graduate student admissions process, and were concerned about the process getting centralized. Centralization is needed to collect and store graduate student data.

Other topics discussed included:

- The frustration faculty feel about the lack of realistic information that has to be recorded on our FACET forms.
- The possibility of pop-up windows on Blackboard that contain FSU policies such as the attendance, honors code and ADA statements. We will pursue our discussions with Dr. Jennifer Buchanan.
- A study Dr. Gary Tyson is conducting on faculty salaries.
- The number of new faculty hired this year. We have asked for data to see if this number of new hires results in an overall increase in the number of faculty.
- The UFF poll results
- Title IX status

Questions have arisen regarding IT security and identity theft which the University is looking into. Dr. Tyson spoke with Michael Barrett about what can be done until a better security mechanism can be adopted.

A new policy has been approved on the administration of surveys to students, faculty, staff and alumni with faculty and administrators on a committee that will implement this policy. On May 27th we met with Kyle Clark and Kathleen Daily who reported on the legislative session, the past year's budget and a broad overview of next year's fund distribution.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

There were no reports from standing committees.

VII. Special Order: Discussion of the Presidential Search

Be it resolved that we, the members of the Florida State University Faculty Senate, having heard the candidates' public interviews, enthusiastically recommend that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee forward Richard Marchese, Michael Martin, and Michele Wheatly to the Board of Trustees as candidates for President of FSU. Each of these candidates has long, distinguished, and varied national experience in academia, each has a track record of fundraising from both public and private sources, and each expressed a clear vision for how to advance FSU. We believe that they would be extraordinary leaders who would help move FSU forward into the highest national ranks of public universities.

The resolution passed unanimously.

VIII. Old Business

There were no items of old business.

IX. New Business

The roster of the Faculty Senate committees was provided to the senators at the meeting. There are still spots open on several committees. Please let President Tyson know if you are interested in serving.

The motion passed.

X. University Welfare

a. United Faculty of Florida Update, J. Proffitt

The ratification vote for the changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement was held last week, and the vote was 285 “yes” and 3 “no.” Some of the highlights include:

- Continuation of Sustained Performance Increases of 3% for eligible full professors and eminent scholars, and, for the first time, for the top rank of Specialized Faculty working for seven years or more after their promotion to the top rank.
- Promotion Increase MOA continues promotion increases of 12% for the second rank and 15% for the top rank.
- \$1,500 performance-based increases for faculty with an overall annual evaluation of at least “meets FSU’s high expectations” on their 2014 performance evaluations. These increases will appear in the paychecks of Oct. 17. A lump sum distribution to make up the difference between the August 8 start of the academic year and the Sept. 26th implementation will appear in the Dec. 12 paycheck.
- Departmental merit raises of 1.55% to be distributed based on Spring 2014 Merit Evaluations. These increases will appear in paychecks on Nov. 7.
- Deans’ merit of 0.20% of the in-unit salary base to be distributed on Nov. 7.
- Establishment of a Post-Doc Faculty Mentor Award.
- Renewal of the Domestic Partner Stipend Policy.

For more information, see uff-fsu.org.

I also wanted to let you know that the Florida International University Faculty Senate passed a resolution supporting the FSU Faculty Senate resolution passed September 10th. The UFF-FSU chapter also passed a resolution in support of your resolution. I encourage everyone to attend the presidential search meetings scheduled for Monday and Tuesday.

UFF is also working on Getting Out the Vote, so if you are not registered to vote, please do. I will send out additional information about voter registration soon.

XI. Announcements by Deans and Other Administrative Officers

- a. College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance, Dean Peter Weishar

This came about mostly because the College of Visual Arts, Theatre, and Dance is very difficult to remember especially for our patrons and those that we are introducing the college to outside of the University. It is a listing, but not of all eleven different departments within the college. So by listing it, it actually excludes some of the things we do. When we looked to shorten the name of the college, the first thing we did was I met with the deans of the other colleges in the arts—those in Arts and Sciences—and we went through a few different names to make sure we were not encroaching on anyone else’s college and then got approval from them first. We then presented the concept of changing the name of the College of Visual Arts, Theatre, and Dance to the faculty. 73% of the faculty within the college voted to change the name. About 63%, I think, voted for the name the College of Fine Arts. We presented this to the Council of Deans and anonymously they approved the name change to the College of Fine Arts. The next step in the process is to present to the Faculty Senate for the name change.

The motion passed.

XII. Announcements by Interim Provost McRorie

Interim Provost McRorie did not have any announcements.

XIII. Announcements by Interim President Stokes

Interim President Stokes was not in attendance.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.



Melissa Crawford
Faculty Senate Coordinator