



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

AGENDA
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022
3:05 P.M.

Regular Session

The regular session of the 2022-23 Faculty Senate was held on Wednesday, November 30, 2022. Faculty Senate President Eric Chicken presided.

The following members attended the Senate meeting:

T. Adams, P. Aluffi, S. Ballas, E. Bangi, A. Barbu, C. Barrilleaux, C. Barry, H. Bass, R. Baumbach, W. Berry, B. Birmingham, D. Bish, M. Blaber, M. Bourassa, D. Broxterman, M. Buchler, U. Bunz, J. Calhoun, J. Chanton, E. Chassignet, E. Chicken, I. Chiorescu, R. Coleman, S. Daniels, L. DeBrunner, A. Dewan, M. Duncan, V. Fleury, J. Geringer, R. Goodman, T. Graban, A. Gunjan, W. Hanley, M. Hanline, E. Hilinski, P. Hoeflich, B. Howren, R. Hughes, K. Ishangi, S. Johnson, A. Khurshid, M. Killian, E. Kim, J. Kimmes, A. Lemmon, E. Loic, G. Martorella, Y. McLane, R. Morris, E. Murphy, J. Ohlin, G. Ostrander, C. Owens, J. Palmer, D. Pifer, M. Porter, J. Proffitt, Q. Rao, A. Rassweiler, R. Roberts, N. Rogers, E. Ryan, H. Schwadron, D. Soper, E. Stewart, B. Stvilia, Y. Tang, G. Tyson, K. Ueno, A. Volya, D. Whalley

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

E. Alvarez, J. Ang, D. Armstrong, C. Ann Baade, A. Boutin, E. Brookshire Madden, R. Brower, M. Bukoski (E. Hinchman), E. Coggeshall, E. Coleman, F. Dupuigrenet, D. Eccles, S. Foo, K. Gallivan, G. Gerard (C. Marzen), M. Gloth, M. Gonzales Backen, W. Guo, D. Gussak, C. Hofacker (J. Fiorito), P. Iatarola, K. Jones, S. Lester, W. Li, P. Maurette, A. McKenna, J. McNulty, C. Moore, T. Owen, E. Peters (R. Marrinan), C. Schmertmann, T. Somasundaram, J. Standley, O. Steinbock, A. Stiegman, R. Stilling, B. Stults, M. Swanbrow Becker, Z. Yu

I. Approval of the agenda, November 30, 2022 meeting

The agenda was approved as distributed.

II. Approval of the minutes, November 16, 2022 meeting

Due to the quick turnaround between meetings, minutes were not completed in time approval at this meeting.

III. Report of the Steering Committee – Bridgett Birmingham, Vice-Chair

- **Bridgett Birmingham** – began that there was little to report since there has been only one meeting since the last Senate meeting.
- Reminded everyone that public comment on the review for the BOG has been extended to December 9. Please participate if you have not had a chance to.
- **President Chicken** – opened the floor for questions, none were posed.

IV. Announcements of the President of the University

- There were no announcements given as the meeting followed the President's State of the University Address.

V. Reports of Special Committees

- No reports from Special Committees.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

- No reports from Standing Committees at this time

VII. Unfinished Business**a. Bylaws changes – Erin Ryan, Steering Committee (addendum 1)**

- **Erin Ryan** – opened with noting these proposed bylaws amendments were discussed at the last meeting and have been circulated for review and comment.
- Section F.3.e – add a new subsection stating that “The Faculty Senate President will only vote on senate proposals in order to break a tie vote.”
 - President Chicken opened the floor for discussion. No discussion. Voting opened. **Motion passed.**
- Section G.17 – add a new subsection, appointing a committee to periodically review the bylaws.
 - President Chicken opened the floor for discussion. No discussion. Voting opened. **Motion passed.**
- Section G.13 – the proposed change is to raise the committee members from 9 members to 12 members to the University Curriculum Committee. This is to help with the workload of the committee.
 - President Chicken opened the floor for discussion. No discussion. Voting opened. **Motion passed.**
- Section G.11 – the proposed change is to add the Director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching to the Teaching Evaluation Committee. This will be a non-voting ex-officio member.
 - President Chicken opened the floor for discussion. No discussion. Voting opened. **Motion passed.**

VIII. New Business**a. Civil Discourse and Academic Freedom Resolution – Bridgett Birmingham, Steering Committee (addendum 2)**

- **Bridgett Birmingham** – began with reading the resolution. She noted that this document has been distributed and was discussed at the previous meeting.
- President Chicken opened the floor for discussion.
- **Robin Goodman, Arts & Sciences** – had concerns about phrasing on a portion of the resolution.
 - **Erin Ryan, Law** – suggested some rephrasing that might remedy the concern of Senator Goodman.
 - Bridgett Birmingham accepted the friendly amendment.
- **Tarez Graban, Arts & Sciences** – expressed that she has the same concerns that she did last time this was discussed. She asked why we must endorse the BOG statement rather than just issuing our own statement. She also expressed concern about the comment at the end stating, “we agree” and if the statement could stand without that final clause, since there are many ways to interpret the items in the BOG Proposal.
 - **Erin Ryan, Law** – we think it is valuable to show that we agree with the BOG and to show that the university was already doing the items discussed in the BOG Proposal.
- Tarez Graban opted not to propose this amendment.
- President Chicken opened the floor for more discussion.
- **Robin Goodman, Arts & Sciences** – would like to propose the amendment that Tarez Graban wanted to change.
 - Amendment was motion, moved and seconded. Floor opened for discussion. No discussion. Voting opened. **Amendment was approved.**
- President Chicken opened the floor for discussion on the amended resolution. No discussion. Voting was opened. **Resolution as amended was approved.**

b. Sustainability Seed Fund Grant – Erin Ryan, Sustainability Committee

- **Erin Ryan** – the committee has worked to improve sustainability across multiple levels and with support from the President we have created the Sustainability and Climate Solutions Grant Program, which will foster interdisciplinary research opportunities to address sustainability and climate change issues. It opens on Dec 5 and will close on Feb 9.

IX. Special Orders

- President Chicken stated there were no special orders at this time.

X. University Welfare

a. Matthew Lata, United Faculty of Florida – Union has been focused on many of the same items discussed at this meeting. Encouraged again everyone to make comments on the BOG website. We are also following closely the situation with HB7.

- **Janet Kistner, VP FDA** – wanted to let everyone know that there is a statement concerning these issues at the top of the FDA website.

b. Marilyn Young, Parliamentarian – wanted to remind everyone of the Holiday Party sponsored by the Association of Retired Faculty. All senators are invited. The announcement will be forwarded to everyone's email.

XI. Announcements of Deans and Other Administrative Officers

- No announcements were presented.

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm



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Add a new subsection:

F.3.e. The Faculty Senate President will only vote on senate proposals in order to break a tie vote.

Add a new subsection:

G.17. An ad hoc committee appointed by the steering committee will periodically review the bylaws to ensure they are timely, accurate, and reflect current senate practices.

G.13

Current:

University Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee shall consider curricular policies and procedures at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Committee shall consist of nine faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for staggered three-year terms. The Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, or their designee, shall be a non-voting ex-officio member.

The Committee shall annually elect its chairperson from the faculty representatives.

Proposed:

University Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee shall consider curricular policies and procedures at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Committee shall consist of **twelve** faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for staggered three-year terms. The Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, or their designee, shall be a non-voting ex-officio member.

The Committee shall annually elect its chairperson from the faculty representatives.

G.11

Current:

Teaching Evaluation Committee

The Teaching Evaluation Committee shall consider University-wide policies and procedures relating to the evaluation of teaching, which includes but is not limited to the use of student surveys. The Committee shall consist of nine faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for staggered three-year terms. The Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, a representative from the Office of Distance Learning and the Assistant Director, Assessment and Testing shall serve as non-voting ex officio members.

The chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee from the faculty representatives. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Steering Committee, which will transmit the recommendations to the Senate for action.

Proposed:

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The Teaching Evaluation Committee shall consider University-wide policies and procedures relating to the evaluation of teaching, which includes but is not limited to the use of student surveys. The Committee shall consist of nine faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for staggered three-year terms. The Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, a representative from the Office of Distance Learning, the Director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching, and the Assistant Director of Assessment and Testing shall serve as non-voting ex officio members.

The chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee from the faculty representatives. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Steering Committee, which will transmit the recommendations to the Senate for action.

Resolution on Civil Discourse and Academic Freedom

The principle of academic freedom ensures that both faculty and students have the space to engage in conversation and exchange views of agreement and difference within the confines of the discipline. Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the academy that ensures that the best knowledge will be created regardless of political or religious favor and is therefore a public good. It ensures that ideas are subject to critical inquiry and civil discourse and that all aspects of knowledge are subject to examination. Academic freedom also ensures that those within the academy are protected from retaliation for unpopular ideas or areas of research as long as those ideas or areas are governed by the ethics and traditions of the field of discipline. In its Statement on Core Principles, the AAUP explains that

“The academic freedom of faculty members includes the freedom to express their views (1) on academic matters in the classroom and in the conduct of research, (2) on matters having to do with their institution and its policies, and (3) on issues of public interest generally, and to do so even if their views are in conflict with one or another received wisdom. In short, faculty must be free to teach, engage in research, and participate in institutional governance without fear of punishment or repercussions because their legitimate academic activities are politically controversial or unpopular.”

The same principles must apply to our students, and all members of our community.

As a top tier research university, Florida State University has long been a proponent and champion of academic freedom. These ideals are enshrined in our history and our present practice. Faculty join Florida State University with the expectation that they will continue this tradition of academic integrity and inquiry. We are glad to see the Board of Governors recognize and affirm these principles in their statement on Civil Discourse. Therefore,

Be it resolved that the Faculty of Florida State University uphold and defend the ideals of academic freedom.

Reference Documents: Board of Governor’s Statement, Provost Academic Freedom Policy and AAUP Core Principles