



The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1480

FACULTY SENATE, 1480
Phone: (850) 644-7497
FAX: (850) 644-3375
www.fsu.edu/~fasenate

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2004
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
3:35 P.M.

I. Regular Session

The regular session of the 2003-04 Faculty Senate was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2004. Faculty Senate President Valliere Richard Auzenne presided.

II. The following members attended the Senate meeting:

M. Allen, A. Archbold, V. R-Auzenne, T. Baker, M. Baldwin, C. Beeler, S. Blumsack, G. Boggs, A. Boutin, B. Bower, F. Bunea, J. Clendinning, J. Cobbe, R. Coleman, C. Connerly, W. Cooper, L. Dehaven-Smith, L. Edwards, B. Ellingson, J. Fiorito, S. Fiorito, J. Flannery, J. Geringer, T. Glenn, T. Gomory, C. Greek, D. Gussak, E. Hilinski, A. Imershein, A. Kalbian, B. Kemker, S. Lauterbach, W. Laparulo, S. Lewis, S. Losh, C. Madsen, N. Mazza, D. Moore, J. O'Rourke, A. Payer, C. Pfaff, P. Rawling, P. Rikvold, A. Sang, D. Seaton, S. Southerland, J. Standley, J. Taylor, L. Van Dommelen, E. Walker, C. Ward, J. Wulff, M. Young.

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

D. Abood, R. Atkinson, C. Barrilleaux, G. Bates, F. Berry, M. Bonn, J. Brown, M. Childs, P. Coats, C. Darling, F. Davis, J. Dexter, P. Doan, L. Epstein, L. Flynn, K. Glendenning, J. Grant, V. Hagopian, C.J. Hardiman, K. Harris, T. Hart, H. Hawkins, R. Herrera, D. Houle, I. Jones, D. Kuhn, W. Landing, V. MacDonald, T. Matherly, T. McCaleb, W. Modrow (G. Colvin**), L. Odom, G. Peterson, J. Peterson, K. Pietralunga-Myers, J. Quine, R. Reiser, M Rosal, E. Schroeder, S. Sirmans, J. Sobanjo, S. Sommer, B. Stiftel, R. Turner, B. Warf, K. Yang, (**S. Mitchell**).**

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the November 19 and December 10 meetings were approved as distributed.

IV. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

V. Remarks of the Faculty Senate President

It's wonderful to be back!

I would like to thank you all for your support during a very difficult time personally. I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to the members of the steering committee who have not only lent their individual personal support, but encouraged me to move forward and showed what true collegiality is. I owe a great deal to each of you!

On a special note I would like to add my sincere thanks to Jim Cobbe who stepped in and stood in my place without complaint and who encouraged me during my recovery.

I would also like to extend a special thank s to all of you who have graciously agreed to serve on senate committees, for you are the foundation of our faculty governance and the backbone of our university.

As we begin this new era with individual collective bargaining with the union we must continue our legacy "as the basic legislative body of the university" as stated in the faculty handbook. We shall continue to be the body which "determines and defines university-wide policies on academic matters" we are the body which "formulates measures for the maintenance of a comprehensive educational policy and for the maximum utilization of the intellectual resources of the university." This is our charge and the definition we are judged by. We shall honor this responsibility and uphold the duties which define the strong tradition of faculty governance which we have had the pleasure to be a part of.

As a faculty, we have a responsibility to work together with the administration and the union for the good of Florida State University. For we are not in opposition or competition with either body, but together share the goals and the concerns of FSU.

We must continue our long tradition of dedication to faculty governance and of working together side by side with the union and the administration.

Undoubtedly this will mean serving on more committees, writing and reviewing more policies, however, this is part of our charge as a faculty senate. One which we have enjoyed and honored for many years, one whose duties we have not shirked and will not at this crucial time.

I ask you to be patient and to participate in this process for it is our future that we face, and the future of Florida State University.

I thank you once again for your support and look forward to building our future together!

VI. Report of the Steering Committee, J. Cobbe

The Steering Committee has only met once since the last meeting of the senate. We have made recommendations for faculty members of the committee being appointed by the Dean of Faculties to revise the Faculty Handbook. Concerns about the numbers, status and duties, and representation of non-tenure track faculty, both in Tallahassee and at other campuses, have been brought to our attention, and we will likely appoint an ad hoc committee to look into these and related issues. We have formulated a proposal on the due dates for submission of grades at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters that we will discuss with the Provost. We also made recommendations for faculty representatives on the President's Honorary Degree Committee and the Campus Development and Space Committee. We have formulated a proposal on the process for recognition of University-level honor societies for students that we will make to the administration. Faculty Senate President Vall Richard Auzenne met with Associate Vice-President for OTI on the proposed computer notebook requirement for students, about which we have some concerns, and also attended the Academic Standards Committee and various other meetings.

We continue to be concerned about the relationships between the administration, the Faculty Senate, and the bargaining agent the United Faculty of Florida-FSU. Nothing untoward has occurred as yet, and our relations with both the administration and the Union are good, and we intend to do our best to keep things that way. We strongly believe that the Faculty Senate and the Union have distinct roles and domains of responsibility, and we will continue to work to encourage the administration to maintain appropriate communication and relations with the Faculty Senate on those issues that are within the Faculty Senate's domain.

VII. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Undergraduate Policy Committee, S. Lewis

The Undergraduate Policy Committee met last week. As part of its deliberations, it endorsed the proposal of the Steering Committee to allow faculty at least two working days to submit grades at the end of the semester. It also recommended to the Steering Committee that faculty be required to hold final examinations for a period of time equal to the time students may appeal a grade, which is 60 days. At the end of last year, the UPC voted to require programs to determine the computer skills competencies needed by students studying a particular area of

expertise, rather than to require one set of competencies for all students. During the next month, we will be asking programs to identify the computer competency requirements for their majors and the course or courses in which those requirements are demonstrated.

In other business, the Undergraduate Policy Committee endorsed a proposal to change the deadline to drop a course without a dean's permission from the end of the 4th week to the end of the 7th week.

Finally, with regard to course approvals, the UPC approved DAN 3192, African American Dance in America, for liberal studies, Gordon Rule and multicultural (y) credit. On behalf of the UPC, the motion is made to accept DAN 3192 for liberal studies credit.

This motion was deferred to the February meeting so that Senators may have an opportunity to see the syllabus for this course.

b. University Curriculum Committee, S. Fiorito

The new curriculum forms are now available on the Faculty Senate website located at <http://www.fsu.edu/~fasenate/>. There are only 2 forms that need to be submitted for curriculum changes or for submission of a new course. These are in Word and PDF format. The detailed memo that was sent to Deans and Chairs is also available. All the instructions for the forms as well as the Form 2 for Distance Learning courses are also posted.

VIII. Unfinished Business

There were no items of unfinished business.

IX. New Business

There were no items of new business.

X. University Welfare

a. Updates on Bargaining and Related Matters, J. Fiorito
Senator and UFF-FSU Chapter President

In response to our request for voluntary recognition after collecting over 1100 signatures, President Wetherell wrote: "We are committed to respecting the rights of faculty to vote in an open election ... We made this commitment to our faculty and intend to honor it ... We intend to work closely with the faculty ... to assure that the rights of faculty are protected" (Letter from T.K. Wetherell to J. Fiorito, Jan. 24, 2003).

By a 22:1 margin, FSU faculty voted for UFF representation in October. UFF was legally certified as the exclusive bargaining agent for salaries, benefits, and other terms of employment on October 24th.

At its October meeting, the Faculty Senate unanimously passed a resolution stating that the Senate reaffirms that "collective bargaining issues are rightfully, legally, and appropriately the domain of the UFF, and; urges the Board of Trustees to engage [the Senate and UFF] on those issues appropriate to [each's] jurisdiction." (Minutes of October 2003 Senate)

In his address to the General Faculty Meeting in December, President Wetherell, by most accounts, referred to salary matters negotiated with the Faculty Senate. This may have been a simple misstatement, but in the context of other developments, causes some concern.

Negotiations between the UFF faculty bargaining team and the Administration team have begun. Our first meeting was held December 17th, and our next session is scheduled for Monday, January 26th.

Various reports indicate that the Administration is pushing ahead with distribution of discretionary salary increases referenced in Wetherell's December speech, with departmental allocations and guidelines decided unilaterally. There has been no proposal from the Administration to the UFF team about this. There has been as yet no response from the Administration to a letter of concern from UFF about these developments. The letter read in part: "I urge you to inform FSU administrators immediately that salary and other compensation matters involving faculty in the UFF-represented unit must be bargained between the Administration/BOT team and the UFF team. Please inform them further that any plans or actions involving distribution of these funds prior to agreement between our teams ... are almost certainly unlawful and inconsistent with good faith bargaining" (E-mail from J. Fiorito to T.K. Wetherell, Jan. 15, 2004).

Other than that (and that's an extremely important qualification!), things seem to be going as well as could be expected. The initial bargaining session was cordial and a cooperative tone was expressed by both sides. There have been difficulties initially in scheduling. Given the holidays and the schedules of team members, this is not surprising. Progress on scheduling has been made. The teams discussed a UFF proposal for an overall approach to bargaining a contract for FSU at our initial session, and a response is expected at our next meeting this coming Monday.

The UFF continues to solicit and collect input on bargaining. Various meetings with faculty from Panama City to Bellamy and points in between have been held, as noted previously. More such efforts, including a bargaining survey of all faculty, are in the works. Our web site (www.uff-fsu.org) has been updated to provide bargaining information on an ongoing basis. Next week the Collective

Bargaining Advisory Council is hosting an open forum on faculty salaries. All Senators, and all faculty are welcome. Lunch will be provided (Wednesday, January 28th, 12:30pm in Room 312 Oglesby Union).

Last, I'd like to point out that our bargaining team is led by Senator Ted Baker, and we will be happy to respond to any questions to the extent that the nature of negotiation allows.

XI. Announcements by Deans and other administrative officers

Dean of the Faculties, Anne Rowe introduced Dr. Jennifer Buchanan as the new Associate Dean of the Faculties.

XII. Announcements, Provost Abele

The Provost was unable to attend.

XIII. Announcements, President Wetherell

The President was unable to attend.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Melissa Crawford
Secretary to the Faculty