



The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-██████

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FACULTY SENATE, ████████

**AGENDA
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
February 21, 2001
3:35 p.m.**

- I. Approval of the minutes January 17, 2001 meeting**
- II. Approval of the agenda, February 21, 2001 meeting**
- III. Report of the Steering Committee, V. Richard Auzenne**
- IV. Informal Discussion: Liberal Studies Task Force Report**

Recommendation #5 - The University should strongly promote the adoption by colleges of a foreign language requirement for graduation.

Recommendation #6 - The Faculty Senate should amend its bylaws to create as a standing committee the "Liberal Studies Coordinating Group." This committee, similar in format to the Enrollment Management Group, would be made up of representatives from all contributors to the mission of the liberal studies program, including the UPC, the Council of Informed Advisors, the Undergraduate Advising Center, the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Curriculum Committee, the Registrar, PIE, and the Office of Graduate Studies, to name a few.

Recommendation #7 - Make the hard decision to commit to a much greater level of support for liberal studies. In the future that we would welcome, there must be a much greater interaction between the faculty and the undergraduate student. Teaching assistants, who are the faculty of the future, should not be asked to assume this role prematurely. Smaller sections and more student-faculty contact require more faculties.

- V. Reports of Standing Committees**
 - a. Elections Committee

Nominations for the Professional Relations & Welfare Committee:

1-Arts & Sciences, 1-Education, 1-Human Sciences, 1-Nursing,
2-Social Sciences, 1-Social Work

Nominations for the Grievance Committee:

1-Arts & Sciences, 1- Education, 1- Human Sciences, 1-Nursing,
2-Social Sciences, 1-Social Work

Nominations for the University Committee on Faculty Sabbaticals (only tenured faculty may nominate tenured faculty)

- VI. Unfinished Business**
- VII. New Business**
 - a. **Amendment to the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate**
Distance Learning Oversight Committee
- VIII. University Welfare**
- IX. Announcements of Deans and administrative officers**
- X. Announcements, Provost Abele**
- XI. Announcements, President D'Alemberte**

**THE NEXT SENATE MEETING WILL BE MARCH 21, 2001
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM**

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**FACULTY SENATE MEETING
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
FEBRUARY 21, 2001
3:35 P.M.**

I. Regular Session

The regular meeting of the 2000-2001 Faculty Senate was held on Wednesday, February 21, 2001. Senate President Karen Laughlin presided.

The following members were absent. Alternates are listed in parentheses: T. Anderson, R. Atkinson, D. Boroto (N. Charness), R. Braswell, E. Chatman (C. Conaway), E. Collins, D. Corbin, P. Davis, L. Dehaven-Smith, J. Elam, J. Elsner (J. Stallins), D. Epley, L. Epstein, G. Fournier, M. Freeman, F. Garcia, J. Grant, N. Jumonville, D. Ketchen, W. Landing, W. Leparulo, B. Licht, C. Madsen, R. Marshall, T. Matherly, T. Mccaleb, M. McElroy, W. Moore, W. Nichols, A. Oosterhof, B. Palmer (I. Jones), G. Papagiannis, M. Ragheb, S. Rickless (P. Dalton), R. Rill, d. Scott-Simmons, F. Simons, A. Simotes, A. Srivastava, J. Standley, B. Stiftel, J. Tull (W. Wise), F. Vickory, Z. Wang.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes for January 17, 2001 were approved as distributed.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

IV. Report of the Steering Committee, V. Richard Auzenne

The Steering Committee has met five times since the last Senate meeting including our regular meeting with President D'Alemberte and Provost Abele. During this meeting the President and the Provost provided an update on several issues including tenure and promotion. The President and Provost reported that they have almost completed their deliberations on the tenure and promotion files.

We also discussed proposed initiatives regarding the education governance structure and the Governors' proposed budget, the

President's position regarding the hiring of the offensive coordinator of the football team and renovation and construction projects on campus.

The Steering Committee met with Associate Dean Bruce Janasiewicz and Ann Delrossi, coordinator of Academic Support Services to discuss a proposed change in the drop policy. This proposal would change the drop date from the fourth to the sixth week of the semester. This proposed change responds to concerns that the present date is before students receive their first grade in a course. This matter has been referred to the Undergraduate Policy Committee.

Meanwhile, the Office of Undergraduate Studies is tracking demands for drops after the fourth week. As part of this effort they will be providing petition forms to students that they might otherwise have counseled not to apply. Ann Delrossi asked that we alert faculty that they will likely be seeing more petition to drop forms from students.

The Steering Committee also met with Ralph Alvarez, Director of Budget and Analysis, Associate Vice President Fred Leysieffer and members of the University Budget Advisory Committee, Joe Beckham and Jim Cobbe, to discuss proposed budget issues of special interest to faculty. These include scholarship funding as well as updates on campus construction and the need to plan for anticipated reductions in education funding in the coming year.

Carolyn Piazza, chairman of the Grievance Committee, met with the Steering Committee to discuss and review proposed Grievance Committee procedures. She will present these procedures in her report at the April Senate meeting.

On January 29th the Steering Committee met with Jane Robbins, Dean of the School of Information Studies and outside consultant Sarah Pritchard. The meeting focused on issues related to the University Director of Libraries search.

The Steering Committee met with Beverly Spencer, Vice President of University Relations and Public Affairs, for her perspective on the Education Governance Reorganization, particularly the proposed FSU Board of Trustees.

The Steering Committee provided names of faculty to serve on the CPD Oversight Board. They include Joe Beckham, Pam Perrew, and John Fenstermaker.

On January 18th, Senate President Karen Laughlin and Senators Cliff Madsen and Valliere Richard Auzenne attended a meeting on

Education Governance Reorganization hosted by the University of South Florida. Attendees included Advisory Council of Faculty Senates representatives, UFF representatives and other university and community college faculty. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss concerns regarding the restructuring of Florida's system of education with Task Force Chairman Phil Handy.

Senate President Karen Laughlin and Senator Tim Matherly attended the February 2nd Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) meeting which was held in Tallahassee. The major topic of discussion was the Education Governance Reorganization. Some of Faculty Senates have voiced strong opposition to this plan. The meeting included discussions with outgoing Chancellor Adam Herbert, Interim Chancellor Judy Hempel and Task Force staff member John Winn.

We received information on the Employee Emergency Loan Fund. This fund is available to faculty and staff, and faculty are invited to make donations to support this program. Brochures are available on the table in the lobby.

The Steering Committee will begin committee appointments for 2001-02 shortly. If any Senator has an interest in serving on a particular committee please notify Karen Laughlin or Janis Sass.

V. **Informal Discussion: Liberal Studies Task Force Report**

The Senate continued its discussion of the final three recommendations from the Liberal Studies Task Force Report.

Recommendation #5 - The University should strongly promote the adoption by colleges of a foreign language requirement for graduation.

UPC Co-Chair, Marilyn Young, began the discussion by pointing out that the recommendation is not for a mandatory language requirement; rather, it urges schools and colleges to consider adoption of such a requirement.

The Department of Modern Languages stated that they will support any area that wishes to add foreign languages and urged anyone who is interested to contact the department. They also acknowledged the practical problems involved in instituting such a requirement. There was also discussion of current placement policies for students who come in with high school foreign language credits.

This recommendation prompted a lengthy discussion. Issues brought to the floor included the following:

- ◆ Task Force members noted that their discussion focused on the importance of understanding language and culture in a multicultural world. The study of a second language is a way to expand students' world view as well as to provide them with useful language skills. The recommendation also follows up on the report of the Commission on the Future.
- ◆ What languages might be counted toward such a requirement? The Department of Communication Disorders requested that consideration be given to including American Sign Language, noting that FSU is the only university in the SUS that does not now do so. Computer languages were also discussed.
- ◆ In response to a question about what our peer institutions are doing, Professor Adolph from Modern Languages reported that our current requirement for the B.A in the College of Arts and Sciences is quite typical but that some institutions such as UNC at Chapel Hill have a university-wide requirement.
- ◆ There was discussion of whether such a requirement would make FSU more or less attractive to students and whether it would be a liability in recruitment.
- ◆ How would this requirement apply to the increasing numbers of students who are already bilingual?
- ◆ How could the University "promote" this requirement? Should it be mandatory rather than just recommended? Task Force members noted that theirs was a conscious decision to urge the colleges to consider this question but leave it up to the colleges to decide. But the recommendation raises the question of how to get the colleges to take up this issue.
- ◆ Practical questions need answering, not just philosophical ones. If all colleges have a language requirement who will teach the courses, faculty or graduate students?

Recommendation #6 - The Faculty Senate should amend its bylaws to create as a standing committee the "Liberal Studies Coordinating Group." This committee, similar in format to the Enrollment Management Group, would be made up of representatives from all contributors to the mission of the liberal studies program, including the UPC, the Council of Informed Advisors, the Undergraduate Advising Center, the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Curriculum Committee, the Registrar, PIE, and the Office of Graduate Studies, to name a few.

The Undergraduate Policy Committee expressed its concerns about how this committee would interface with existing Senate committees. It was explained that this group is envisioned as a way to help publicize and provide information about the Liberal

Studies program (in contrast, for example, to the UPC's role in screening and approving Liberal Studies courses). It could serve as think tank on best practices and how to promote Liberal Studies. It could oversee progress on other recommendations in the Task Force report. There were questions over the proposed make-up of the committee and comments that, similar to the Enrollment Management Committee, the group would bring together those presently involved in implementing the program. It was suggested that the group also include people interested in reforming or enhancing the program. The group needs clear guidelines regarding its powers and responsibilities.

Recommendation #7 - Make the hard decision to commit to a much greater level of support for liberal studies. In the future that we would welcome, there must be a much greater interaction between the faculty and the undergraduate student. Teaching assistants, who are the faculty of the future, should not be asked to assume this role prematurely. Smaller sections and more student-faculty contact require more faculty.

UPC discussion of this recommendation asked about how to slice the pie. What might it mean in terms of the distribution of the University's financial resources and student-faculty interaction? The University must show that it values Liberal Studies by allocating funds to support it.

Related issues include class size and enhanced involvement of faculty in Liberal Studies teaching. The University has taken some steps, for example in allocating tuition increase money and other resources to colleges where the burden of staffing Liberal Studies courses falls most heavily. The Senate applauds the steps taken so far, but in order to fully address the issue, the faculty-student ratio must be improved over our current 22:1.

VII. Report of Standing Committee

a. Election Committee, D. Moore

Senator Moore opened the floor for additional nominations for elections to the Professional Relations and Welfare and Grievance Committees. None were made.

Senator Moore also solicited additional nominations for election to the University Committee on Faculty Sabbaticals. None were made.

VIII. Unfinished Business

There were no items of unfinished business for today's meeting.

IX. New Business

The Steering Committee presented the following amendment to the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate to create a standing committee, the Distance Learning Oversight Committee:

14. Distance Learning Oversight Committee

The Distance Learning Oversight Committee shall provide policy development, oversight, and academic advice specific to the design and implementation of Distance Learning courses and degree programs. In particular, the committee will have the following responsibilities: (1) To propose to the Senate procedures and standards for authorization to offer courses and programs by delivery methods other than standard classroom delivery, and for ensuring quality control of such course and program offerings. (2) To monitor the effectiveness with which the procedures and standards adopted are being implemented. (3) To propose to the Senate modifications to existing standards and procedures as appropriate. This committee will supplement, not supplant, the functions of other existing policy committees.

Handwritten signature

The Committee shall consist of the following members: the Chairs of the Undergraduate Policy, Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committees; three additional faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for staggered three-year terms. The Dean of the Faculties, or his or her designee, shall be an ex-officio member. The Director of the Office of Distributed and Distance Learning and the ~~Dean of Graduate Studies~~ shall be ex-officio, ~~non-voting~~ members. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee shall appoint its chairperson annually from the faculty representatives. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Steering Committee, which will transmit the recommendations to the Senate for action.

VP for AA as his then Representative

The Senate will vote on this amendment at the March meeting.

X. Announcements of Deans and administrative officers

There were no announcements today.

XI. Announcements, Provost Abele

The Provost could not give a complete legislative budget report at this time as budget proposals are just coming out. He will report on the budget as the Legislative session continues. With regard to governance developments, he noted that Transition Task Force plans call for universities to become corporate entities ("bodies corporate") once the Board of Regents is abolished. This structure

will be different from the political subdivision status of the community colleges, but it will mean that universities will no longer be subject to the rules governing state agencies. This change, and the establishment of our own Board of Trustees, should give us greater flexibility.

XII. Announcements, President D'Alemberte

President D'Alemberte was not available for today's meeting.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Janis D. Sass
Secretary to the Faculty