

Advisory Council of Faculty Senates

May 8, 2009
1605 Turlington Building
Tallahassee, FL

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Chair Judy Solano at 8:42 AM

Attendance: FAMU – Dreamal Worthen, Maurice Holder; FAU – Tim Lenz, plus Eric Shaw by phone; FGCU – Halcyon St. Hill, Chuck Lindsey; FIU – Tom Breslin; FSU – Eric Walker; NCF – Pat McDonald; UCF – Arlen Chase, Ida Cook, plus Manoj Chopra by phone; UF – Rick Yost; UNF – Judy Solano, Kathy Robinson; UWF – Nick Power; UFF – Tom Auxter; BoG staff – Sundra Kincey; missing – USF, USF St. Petersburg

Action Items: Highlighted below.

ACFS Business

Materials were handed out, including our agenda and campus reports.

Approval of Minutes of January 2009 Meeting – Approved

ACFS Website

Sundra Kincey from the BOG office has had a new website created for the ACFS on the BOG website: <http://www.flbog.org/aboutsus/acfs/>

Election of 2009 – 2010 ACFS Officers

Judy Solano was reelected Chair, and Rick Yost was reelected Vice Chair

Date for Next ACFS Meeting

We discussed options for our next meeting in September. Judy asked that **everyone** respond to a Doodle survey to set the date. There are home games at FSU September 12 and 26. September 18 would miss those game weekends. September 25 would follow the BOG meeting currently scheduled for Tallahassee (in the Turlington Building) on September 23-24.

BoG Staff Reports

1. **Tim Jones** updated us on budget issues. The finale legislative budget has a \$22M (0.7%) increase over last year (after the January 2009 cuts). That is after a \$207M (10%) decrease in state funding, \$159M addition in federal stimulus funding, and \$70M in additional tuition revenues (assuming that all schools increase tuition at the maximum 15% permitted under differential tuition). The federal stimulus funds have been applied for, and should be funded. Any new gaming revenues will have no impact this year.

For tuition differential increases, the BOG office has asked that each BOT report its planned differential tuition increase by May 29, to be approved by the BOG in June. This process will be refined for future years. Students enrolled before July 1, 2007, are exempted from the differential tuition.

2. **Rick Maxey** updated us on legislative issues. One significant concern is the loss in state (general revenue) base funding for the universities this year, and the serious effects when the stimulus funds end after two years. The stimulus funds are intended to be used to save and

create jobs. Thus, universities should be using the funds to pay people; it's not clear about the implications of this given that the stimulus funds will only last two years.

The overall picture is that state revenues are down 25%, but the decrease in general revenue funds to the universities was only 15%. The increased tuition flexibility (differential tuition, and changes to prepaid) has been a major advance.

Rick also went through a summary of the outcomes from the legislative session. We had an extensive discussion of distance learning issues. Rick appreciates all our assistance in dealing with the legislature.

Rick discussed a planned campaign to addresses increased university funding over the next few years. It was agreed that sharing information on that campaign with the ACFS members, and with our faculty senates could increase its effectiveness.

UFF Report

Tom Auxter reported on the success of the talking points he shared with us in January. Focusing on students and the economy has been more successful than focusing on the faculty.

Halcyon discussed the success of having the faculty senates, UFF, and student government work together to convey a message to the legislature. There was strong support for continuing to work more closely with our student governments and university government relations offices before and during the next legislative session.

Arlen Chase reported on the Bologna agreement to align university degrees across the EU. The initial concern is the acceptance into our graduate programs of students with 3-year undergraduate degrees from European universities. Perhaps a more serious issue would be pressure to implement 3-year undergraduate degrees in Florida, with little general education or breadth in the degree curriculum.

11:40 – 12:35 Lunch Break

Campus Reports

Campus Reports appear below. They were summarized and discussed during the meeting.

Emoryette McDonald reported to us on the Chancellor search. As of April 2, there were 8 applicants who have agreed to be considered, plus Senator Jim King. The William Funk search firm has not yet reported on the candidates they have contacted. Nominations are still invited.

Adjourned at 2:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Yost, ACFS Vice Chair

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FAMU Report – Maurice Holder

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FAU Report – Tim Lenz

Collective Bargaining. The Administration went to impasse over three issues: notice of non-reappointment (Do required weeks of notice include summer?); summer teaching (Are faculty entitled to one or more courses before adjuncts are hired?); and salaries (a \$1,000 bonus and 1% salary increase or a 2.5% raise?). A special magistrate recommended the following: the Administration's position on notice as including summer months; the Administration's position on summer teaching as providing faculty with one course before adjuncts are assigned; and UFF's position on raises for 2008-9 (a 2.5% raise). The FAUBOT approved the \$1,000 bonus and 1% raise. UFF may contest the magistrate's recommendation concerning summer teaching because the article was not opened at bargaining.

Promotion and Tenure. Forty-six portfolios were submitted. Tenure was awarded to 27 candidates. Twenty-seven candidates were promoted to associate professor. Twelve candidates were promoted to full professor. We do not yet have information on how many University Promotion and Tenure Committee recommendations were not followed. There is some evidence of efforts to increase productivity.

Budget Reductions and Reorganization. The University has a two-track plan. One track is to save money this fiscal year. The other track is to "re-engineer" by reviewing programs, campuses, sites, colleges. The University hired a consultant to facilitate the discussion of academic reorganization so that FAU can emerge from this fiscal tight spot a more focused University. The visioning will occur over summer and fall with a report in early 2010. Discussions of "re-engineering" in the College of Engineering have faculty worried about layoffs of tenured or tenure-line faculty. No decisions have been announced.

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FGCU Report – Halcyon St. Hill

**FGCU FACULTY SENATE 5/8/09 FINAL UPDATE
Submitted to: Advisory Council of Faculty Senates**

- **Accreditation** - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools visited FGCU this spring regarding substantive change and post-master level programs- specifically the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) and the Education Specialist (EdS) programs. We are waiting for the final report with great optimism.
- **Academic Programs:** Subsequent to college and faculty senate curricula teams' reviews and approvals, the University Board of Trustees (UBOT) approved Master of Arts in Environmental Studies and the Bachelor of Science in Economics at its April 21, 2009 meeting. Similarly, the Marine Science degree program change from a Bachelor of Arts to Bachelor of Science was also approved.
- **Commencement** - FGCU celebrated its 10,000th graduate at Commencement XXII on May 3, 2009. This occasion marked the first cohort of the Whittaker School of Engineering graduates. This was the largest commencement ceremony in terms of the number of candidates for FGCU degrees in the history of FGCU. There were 1133 eligible candidates.
- **Student enrollments** continue to increase; as of fall 2008 headcount enrollment is 10,238 or 9% above final fall 2007. Undergraduates continue to be 85% of the student population at FGCU.
- **Budget & Personnel** - The Planning and Budget Council (PBC) which went into effect this Spring 2009, will be meeting on May 12, 2009. The PBC is awaiting final word on budget appropriations from the legislature before making any presentations relevant to the budget to the President's Cabinet. The PBC is looking at long-term budget strategies that must include consideration of programs and organizational structure. Senate Vice-President (now incoming president for 2009 -2010) as well as 3 other in-unit faculty

senate appointed members serve on the PBC.

The university is in the midst of preparation for creating a new strategic plan. The Faculty Senate President (H. St. Hill) and one in-unit faculty member appointed by faculty senate serves on the Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee (SPIEC). The SPIEC is concluding the strategic planning process for presentation to the PBC. There are 4 other committees that are also addressing vital areas of institutional planning. All PBC committees are representative of the FGCU community and are fashioned so as to ensure shared governance and faculty senate input.

- Total in-unit (faculty senate eligible) full time faculty 327.18. FGCU had nearly 26 new faculty positions and 26 replacement faculty positions. Since FGCU is a new and growing university, these key positions must be filled.

The Athletic Director's (AD) search is now complete. The AD Search Advisory Committee conducted a national search for the position. Of the 172 applicants, 4 unranked names were forwarded to the President for consideration. President Bradshaw named Ken Kavanaugh as the next AD. Ken Kavanaugh will begin in the FGCU AD position on June 15, 2009.

Jennifer Baker, who replaces Nancy Bolander, will assume the position of Director of Academic Budgets & Management on May 26, 2009. Nancy Bolander is retiring at the end of May 2009.

The Housing Director Search Committee will be hosting Open Forums with three candidates for the position, all faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend these forums which consist of a presentation by the candidate, followed by a question-and-answer session.

The university has a broadly representative group working on the Campus Climate Survey with an external expert in this field. The survey is focused on work environment - students, faculty, and staff will be surveyed with a goal towards environment in which everyone feels comfortable and one that maximizes productivity.

- **Senate Update:** The final report for 2007-2009 Senate and a new Faculty Senate Standard Operating Manual are in progress. Revision of Senate Bylaws, a Senate Election Guide and several Senate documents including the General Graduate Academic Policies, and the Guidelines for syllabus were completed and senate approved. All items are available on the Senate website, see <http://www.fgcu.edu/FacultySenate/resources.html> and important announcements on the faculty Senate homepage at <http://www.fgcu.edu/FacultySenate/index.html>
- **Solar Project:** The 8.5 million solar project was cut by one million dollars. The cut will impact the number of costly solar panels on the roofs – fewer panels are projected. The design of the solar ray will be Y-shaped so as to minimize the impact on wetlands.
- **Senate Elections** were held on 4/10/09, the 2009 - 2010 Senate President is Dr. Charles (Chuck) Lindsey. Chuck will be attending today's ACFS meeting. He served at the Faculty Senate Vice -President during AY 2008 - 2009. Some of you may know Chuck since he was FGCU's first Senate President; he served two terms, i.e. from 1997 -1999, and as the ACFS representative this past year. Of note is that 2009 - 2010 ACFS

representatives remain the same. The incoming 2009 - 2010 Senate Vice-president is Dr. Martha Rosenthal. Martha served as the 2009 - 2010 Senate Parliamentarian and has served as senator for many years. Join me in congratulating Chuck and Martha in their new roles which will begin August 2009.

- **UFF Update:** FGCU Chapter has close to 130 members, which puts us at about 40% of our faculty. The UFF has conducted a FGCU faculty survey that is focused on working conditions, salary and benefit. Additionally, the FGCU UFF Chapter has been very engaged and has collaborated with the FGCU Senate to advocate for recent and ongoing legislative issues, particularly those related to proposed budget cuts in SUS funding and proviso language. They continue to share goals to remove restrictions on stem cell research and travel bans.

*Respectfully submitted: Halcyon St. Hill, Ed.D, FGCU Senate President and
Charles Lindsey, Ph.D., FGCU Senate Vice-President*

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FIU Report – Tom Breslin

FIU Report to ACFS, Spring 2009

The University continues its preparation for reaffirmation of reaccreditation by SACS next fall. The curriculum is being restructured to require first time in college students to take a team-developed course with a global orientation as part of their lower division coursework and one such course as upper division students. Upper division transfer students will have to take one such upper division course. Academic Affairs has chosen to fund this summer six course-development proposals from faculty teams. More courses will be added in the future. The overall goal is to give the undergraduate curriculum a more pronounced international or global dimension in line with the University's name and founding charter.

Further to underline the international mandate in its charter, the University has also established a School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) in its College of Arts & Sciences. The new school absorbs and merges the departments of Criminal Justice and Public Administration and also includes a new Department of Politics and International Relations created by the merger of the departments of International Relations and Political Science; it also includes a Department of Global and Social Studies formed from the merger of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology with the geography faculty taken from International Relations. Internationally focused centers and institutes will report to this school.

Meanwhile, the College of Arts & Sciences is working on paring down the core curriculum offerings.

The University Board of Trustees recently nominated Mark B. Rosenberg, former Chancellor of the State University System and Provost of FIU as its new president to replace Dr. Modesto A. Maidique, a veteran of 23 years in the post. The choice was made after an accelerated process meant to enlarge the pool of potential candidates. Another competitor for the position, the current FIU Provost, Ronald Berkman, withdrew his name from candidacy to become president of Cleveland State University. Dr. Rosenberg's nomination comes before the Board of Governors of the SUS on May 7. It is not known when Dr. Rosenberg would assume the presidency.

The University will open its new College of Medicine in August. The White Coat ceremony will be on August 7. The applicant pool totaled 3,332; the first class will number 43.

As it did last year, the University Administration is responding to the prospects of an anticipated base budget reduction of 15% by proposing the closure of a number of different programs and the merger of other programs. On May 5, the Provost's Office announced that seven Bachelor's

Degree and nine Master's Degree programs are proposed for closure. Four Master's and two doctoral degree programs would be subsumed under a different degree program. The Bachelor's and Master's Degree programs in Religious Studies and the Recreation and Sports Management Master's degree program and the Athletic Training Master's degree program would be the only programs involving the layoff of faculty members. Closure of the Bachelor's degree programs in Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy is housekeeping as, following a national trend, those fields have moved on to doctoral level only programming. To date, there has been some community sentiment in favor of retaining the Religious Studies Department and its two degree programs.

The Senate has distributed the proposals to the affected units and asked for feedback before the Senate Steering Committee meets on May 19. This year, the Senate has also distributed the proposals to the University Core Curriculum Oversight Committee, the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, and the University Curriculum Committee soliciting their reactions. The UCC will meet on May 15 to gather comments on the proposals.

The University Administration proposes to use any additional savings generated by these cutbacks to improve undergraduate advising and instruction, especially mathematics where failure rates are very, very high, and also degree programming in strategic areas.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs has said that summer offerings are relatively stable in number and that the University's extensive use of adjunct faculty in the summer will not cause it to fall below the SACS guideline of having 70% of classes taught by regular faculty.

Although there have been many rumors of faculty departures or at least movement into the academic marketplace, the issue of faculty retention is hard to gauge at this time; information is scattered and anecdotal. I can confirm that the head of the computer science program is leaving to go to one of the North Carolina public universities.

Faculty morale is not good. Retention packages recently offered to the Chief Financial Officer and the now departing Provost further stressed faculty morale, as did spreading awareness of the generous parachute given to the departing president. A recent UFF study on the substantial growth of administrative positions and costs relative to faculty numbers thus came at a sensitive time and has prompted the Provost's Office to conduct its own study. The Board of Trustees may take up the reports at its June meeting when it also will take up program closures. Since the current Board Chair has reached his term limit, we expect a new Chair to be elected at that meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Breslin, Chair,
FIU Faculty Senate
May 6, 2009

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FSU Report – Eric Walker

Florida State University Faculty Senate, AY 2008-09

1. University academic reorganization

During summer 08, the Provost appointed an administrative task force to study the university academic organization and recommend changes, especially at the College level. That report was released just as the fall term began and occasioned not a little anxiety; especially controversial proposals were recommendations to move computer science from Arts & Sciences to Engineering, for example, and to merge the College of Music with several other arts Colleges. The Senate organized faculty response and highlighted problems in the report, which the Provost

announced was a document to prompt discussion only. That discussion was soon overtaken by the system-wide budget crisis; some of the proposals may still find traction, however, when the budget cuts for 09-10 are finally announced in the next few weeks. One recommendation from the task force was implemented, as entirely agreeable to both parties: the College of Communication and the College of Information have now merged.

2. Faculty salary awards funded by the athletic program

Occasional contributions to the library budget from bowl-game payouts have been for a long time the only form of direct support of the academic program by the athletic program. Last fall, for the first time, the steering committee working with the President persuaded the athletic program to sign on to a program whereby funds from the athletic program would regularly support a series of base-salary awards to faculty, based on teaching merit. This proposal has died, however, in collective bargaining; the UFF opposes it.

3. Non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) proposal

Two years ago, the Senate passed a comprehensive report recommending changes to the NTTF system; among the many details, the report included three very important proposals: a three-tier advancement track (instead of the current two-tier system), multi-year contracts, and vesting in governance at the top tier. That report has been moving through administrative action at a semi-glacial pace. After an administrative inventory of all NTTF positions (an admittedly daunting task), the “Teaching” track alone in the proposals has moved to collective bargaining. It has stalled there, however; the UFF objects to the proposed use of the word “professor” in the inflections of the teaching tier. The “research” tier has not yet gone to collective bargaining.

4. Budget crisis

This has been the process at FSU: In November, the President appointed a Budget Crisis Committee, composed of all six Vice-Presidents, two Associate Vice-Presidents, one student member, and three faculty members (the Senate president and senate steering committee vice-chair and a faculty member from Economics). That committee has been meeting weekly to discuss principles and formulate plans; it communicates with the university community via a Blackboard site and monthly updates in senate meetings. All vice-presidents were asked to present plans for possible 10% reductions in E&G funding. In April, the President released to the press a model of possible program reductions and eliminations, which had the desired debate-provoking effect. Soon thereafter, the President held a campus-wide Town Hall meeting to review the dire facts, explain the process, and take questions. Once we get final numbers from the legislature this week, the Budget Crisis committee will continue to meet through May and early June, as advisory to the President. The Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on June 16-18 to take action on the FY 09-10 budget.

5. NCAA appeal

The Senate continues to receive reports from the faculty chair of the Athletics committee about the NCAA sanctions imposed as a result of the self-reported academic dishonesty case in 2006 (lots of athletes, lots of sports). The University accepted all sanctions but one; the university chose to contest a “vacating of wins” sanction, the details of which sanction and appeal make the IRS code read like plain prose. It is safe to say that, considering the budget crisis, most faculty consider this end-game debate to be a questionable use of resources, equivalent to an argument about how many “W’s” can dance on the head of a pin.

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NCF Report – Pat McDonald

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UCF Report – Ida Cook

UCF Faculty Senate Report May 6, 2009

1. Senate Elections Results:

Chair: Ida Cook
Vice Chair: Diane Wink
Secretary: Alain Kassab

2. Resolutions:
 - a. Appointment and Evaluation of School Directors and Department Chairs (Revised)
 - b. Budget Management
 - c. Funding of Library Materials and Subscriptions in Support of Faculty Research
 - d. Endorsement of Student Government Green Fee
3. Special Discussions of Budget Shortfall and Responses
4. Medical School: First Cohort of Students Review/Selection

Respectfully submitted:
Ida Cook, Chair, UCF Faculty Senate

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UF Report – Frank Bova

The University of Florida Faculty Senate has been, once again, trying to carry out academic business while participating in a Shared Governance budget reduction exercise.

In November President Machen met with the Senate Budget Council and outlined a set of rules and guidelines that were to be used as each of the University units, colleges, centers and administrative areas, prepared a ranked list totaling up to a 10% budget reduction from their 2008-2009 E&G budget allocation (<http://www.senate.ufl.edu/BudgetPrinciplesandComment.html>). This was followed by the initiation of Faculty Senate Blog (<http://blog.senate.ufl.edu/>) in which all faculty and staff were able to participate. The President initiated a budget webpage to help keep the University informed (<http://budget.president.ufl.edu/>). The Faculty were reminded of previous Senate Budget resolutions concerning shared governance (http://www.senate.ufl.edu/archives/faculty_senate/2007/March/Budget%20resoulution%20draft%201%20post%20steering%20_2_.pdf). The Provost and President addressed the Senate on the funding situation each month's Senate meeting. On April 30th the proposals that were received from all of the units were assembled and subsequently listed on the President's budget webpage (<http://budget.president.ufl.edu/proposals/>). On May 15th the President is scheduled to address the Senate and detail the final budget reduction plans.

Other topics covered since the last ACSF meeting are:

- 1) Changes to Tenure and Promotion Units at Smathers Libraries
- 2) The Road to Excellence – Associate Provost plan to revamp undergraduate education
- 3) Information Technology Governance Process Proposal
- 4) UPD Use of Force Report
- 5) Use of Force report by UPD Chief
- 6) Creation of a School of Physician Assistant Studies
- 7) Recommendations concerning department and college change procedures
- 8) Resolution regarding the Gainesville charter amendment
- 9) Sustainability Initiatives and Green Team Resolution
- 10) Committee on Committees Conflict of Interest Committee Recommended Language
- 11) Approval of Honorary Degrees Nominees
- 12) Election of a new Chair Elect (Mary Ann Ferguson – College of Journalism and Communications)
- 13) proposed (to be voted on 4/17/09) Doctor of Business Administration
- 14) Creation of a UF Calendar faculty Committee

15) Creation of an Ad hoc Sustainability Survey Committee

Respectively submitted

Frank J Bova
Chair of the University of Florida Faculty Senate (for one more week)

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UNF Report – Kathy Robinson

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USF Report – Laurence Branch

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USF-St. Petersburg Report – Brianne Reck

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UWF Report – Nick Power

UWF Report to the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates
May 8, 2009

The Provost has announced 9% President’s office holdback from Academic Affairs (the other divisions are planning 10% ones).

Fall 09 will see program changes, with low-enrolled tracks and specializations being suspended. Smaller departments are being merged into divisions. No faculty layoffs are planned for as yet, but lines are staying unfilled, and no counter-offers being made, even to the past two winners of Distinguished Teaching Awards, who left for greener pastures in SC and NY. A few staff layoffs occurred in January; some secretaries were cut to half-time positions, so a few departments now have half-time staff.

UFF first declared impasse over salaries, but a federal mediator negotiated a last bargaining session, in which UFF rejected a \$1,000 bonus (which came attached to other changes in the Evaluation Materials Articles).

Fall 09 applications are up, perhaps in part due to President Bense’s “Top Five Scholarship Program” which give a full tuition waiver to any of the top five students (measured by GPA) in any public FL HS. We are aggressively marketing in Tallahassee, Tampa, and points south also.

A new “UWF Strategic Priorities” document for 2008-2012, included “measurable objectives” was hurried to press for UWF’s BOT and gives short shrift to faculty retention.

Sincerely submitted,
Nicholas Power

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