

People use these misconceptions to their political benefit. Legislature is building into their budget assumption that universities will be increasing 15% tuition. There were initially very disproportionate cuts in the first draft of the bill.

House Bill 7135 reduces the number of hours from 36 to 30 hours. Second, it creates a set of CORE courses required for all. Five subject areas with five courses each identified as core. Student must take at least one course in each of the five core areas = 15 hours in core courses.

The implementation is at a formative stage. BOG is being careful in its involvement in this and want to do it right. There is a lot of thought into who should serve on this committee to consider this issue. These will be offered at SUS and FCS all institutions.

Action: if you have a suggestion for a faculty to serve at your institution that is knowledgeable, please forward to Dr. Yost. The committee should have multiple faculty looking at different aspects.

Deadline for this effort: 2013-2014.

General Discussion

Student Perception of Instruction . D. Harrison and Ida Cook

Ida Cook handed out penciled version of responses to set of questions about SPol. She discussed return rate percentages. She distributed a handout with more details. Discussion ensued.

Action: Please provide information to Drs. Cook and Harrison on Best Practices and remaining data for response rates.

Reduction in State ORP . T. Breslin

Tom Breslin (FIU): The Faculty Senate at FIU deplored the reduction in State ORP contribution and sent a letter to the Governor. He introduced a draft resolution related to the reductions to the ORP that had been passed by the Faculty Senate at FIU. Motion made to modify the draft FIU resolution to read as following:

The Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS) expresses its deep concern over the dramatic reduction in the State of Florida's contribution to the Florida University System's Optional Retirement Program (ORP) and similar reductions in the FRS investment plan. In the period 2010-2013 it is estimated that this reduction exceeds 50% of the State's original contribution to ORP, which had been set at a level deemed to offset the higher market risks assumed by the participants. This reduction will impact negatively the lives of many ordinary families throughout Florida. More importantly, it will damage the ability of the State of Florida to retain and attract nationally competitive faculty and administrative staff. In the process, it will erode the quality of higher education in and the economic competitiveness of the State of Florida.

Approved unanimously.

Role of Faculty in Strengthening FL higher education vision and leadership - Teague

Dr. Teague asked - Is it possible for us to have impact if we can come together at ACFS to have common impact through local meetings, discussions with BOT, legislators?



The complete annual report is available online at:

<http://www.fgcu.edu/FacultySenate/>

2. Budget and Planning: In March 2012, the provost initiated a campus-wide conversation on how the university will deal with the related challenges of budget cutbacks, space constraints in light of PECO reductions, and projections for continued enrollment growth.
3. Tuition: the BOT meeting in April included preliminary discussion of administration proposal to raise tuition by 15%. Indications from that meeting suggest awareness among the majority of the BOT for the need for the maximum allowable rate; discussion also suggests some efforts to propose a lesser amount of increase. Administration projections indicate that less than 15% will likely lead to layoffs.
4. Facilities and land use:
 - The legislature and governor approved \$4.9 million in PECO funds toward the university Innovation Hub, a public-private venture devoted to studying sustainable energy.
 - At its April meeting, the BOT approved revisions to the campus master plan. In February, the University officially named its most recently built academic building, AB 8 (health sciences), in honor of Elaine Marieb, whose \$5 million gift funds various scholarships and faculty development opportunities.
5. Faculty Senate leadership has begun preliminary planning discussions with the Provost's office regarding the university's response to the Proctor Bill's various provisions.
6. A new QEP has been selected focusing on Writing, Literacy, and Critical Thinking.
7. The Faculty Senate reelected all officers from 2011-12 for the 2012-13 academic year:
 - President: Douglas Harrison
 - Vice President: Howard Smith
 - Secretary: Madelyn Isaacs
 - Parliamentarian: Howard Smith

Submitted: Douglas Harrison, FGCU Faculty Senate President

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FIU Report – Tom Breslin

17% of SCH. This shift may call into question the administration's plan to grow enrollment to 60,000 as students taking on-line courses are mostly already matriculated students.

Faculty turnover remains high. The Spanish-language urban ambiance and the unusually heavy workload are factors contributing to the turnover. The recent cut in faculty income in the form of cuts to the retirement package also has contributed to low morale. The Senate has protested this cut in ORP benefits and asks the ACFS to do likewise. University-wide, the student-faculty ratio is 28:1, second highest in the SUS. In some departments there are over 65 majors per faculty member. The number of contract and grant proposals submitted to outside agencies is falling.

The University continues to seek to acquire the lease to 85 acres of parkland adjoining its main campus to accommodate the needs of its expanding student body. FIU now is at or near the top of the space utilization category in the SUS calculations. Expanded leased space on downtown Brickell Avenue may provide some relief at the graduate level.

The fruit of efforts to recruit a class of 120 for the fourth class entering the College of Medicine will be known in late May. The College interviewed over 500 applicants for fall 2012 admission. The College has submitted the documentation for full accreditation. The adequacy of physical facilities continues to be a concern.

There is continuing concern among faculty in the health related schools and colleges that they might be administratively combined with and subordinated to the College of Medicine and declared out of unit thereby disadvantaging faculty in numerous ways, not the least of which

The Senate decided that it would not webcast its meetings.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the ACFS for their collegiality and support over the past four years.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Breslin

Thomas A. Breslin
Chair, Faculty Senate
FIU

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FSU Report – Sandy Lewis

January – May, 2012

The news that the Governor had vetoed the Preeminence Bill arrived immediately before the first of FSU's three graduation ceremonies and certainly impacted the energy of the administration and faculty participating in this otherwise joyous event. While it appears that, even without the additional tuition that this bill might have allowed, the University will not operate at a deficit this year, there was much disappointment over the loss of what might have been possible htntmentadditional reveupe

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In April, The University of North Florida Student Union building, constructed in 2009, was voted as one of the top 10 buildings in the state in an online poll conducted by the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects. The Student Union building was nominated as one of Florida’s Top 100 buildings in the “Florida Architecture: 100 Years. 100 Places” competition, which was designed to identify and commemorate 100 buildings and places that represent the best of Florida architecture. The UNF building came in first place in the vote of architects and fourth in the online popular vote. Read more at Jacksonville.com:
<http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2012-04-19/story/unf-student-union-and-beaches-church-voted-two-top-buildings-state#ixzz1uTh16W6p>

The new state of the art Biological Sciences building was dedicated in March, and is now operating on the UNF campus. In addition to its many innovative design features, the building contains the only large animal necroscopy lab in the northeastern corner of the state. This lab will allow dissection of large marine animals, and should be a significant factor in the many coastal studies and monitoring projects.

The University of North Florida was named in February was one of the nation’s Top 75 “Best Value” public colleges and universities, according to The Princeton Review. UNF was the only Northeast Florida institution of higher learning to make the list and is among five universities in the state to be featured on the annual list, including the University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Central Florida and the New College of Florida.

The UNF chapter of the UFF continues its negotiations with representatives of university administration. A new contract, however, has not yet been finalized.

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USF System Report

USF is unusual among the SUS universities, in that we are a system. As of July 1, 2012, the system will comprise three separately accredited institutions (Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota-Manatee). There are, therefore, three faculty senates, as well as an overarching body called the USF System Faculty Council (SFC), comprising faculty from all three institutions, focusing on issues of importance to faculty throughout the USF system.

Since the January ACFS meeting:

With the signing of SB 1994 by Gov. Rick Scott, creating the 12th university in the SUS, USF Polytechnic (Lakeland) is scheduled to close June 30th. Current faculty will “teach out” the remaining Polytechnic students over about three years, and most will become members of the USF (Tampa) faculty. The processes for those transfers are currently being developed.

The SFC has recognized that the USF system has an identity issue, because the BOG does not recognize each USF institution separately, but only recognizes them collectively, as if they reflect a single institution. Thus, the SFC has created a sub-committee to discuss the challenges of, as well as opportunities presented by, the system structure.

For 2012-13, Chris Davis (St. Petersburg) has been elected to the position of SFC President, and Greg Teague (Tampa) has been elected to the position of SFC Vice President.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Smith
Vice President: System Faculty Council, USF

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UWF Report – Richie Platt

Several items of consequence occurred during the spring term at UWF. First, an important achievement the faculty, the administration and UWF-UFF concluded negotiations on the reopener for the CBA that started *last spring*. Two important salary items were negotiated. First, the faculty in the bargaining unit (and it was extended by the administration to all faculty) received a 1.7% raise effective with the first payday in April (no, it was not retroactive to the beginning of the academic year). Secondly, the administration agreed to add an additional \$300,000 (plus benefits) into a plan to begin to address salary compression. Both sides agreed to appoint members to a committee working outside of bargaining to come up with a process/formula to define “predicted salary level.” Having served on this committee, I can unequivocally say this was one of the finest groups I have ever worked with and a true example of collegiality and shared governance at work. The committee had less than six weeks to complete its work, and I can proudly say, the report was submitted a week before the contractually imposed May 15th deadline. Anyone wishing to see that document may download from the documents folder on the committee’s google site: [UWF Predicted starting salary committee](#). Once the recommendation is approved by the bargaining teams, UWF faculty will see the \$300,000 allocated to address salary compression. The UWF Business Enterprises, Inc. (BEI), was created last fall by our UWF Board of Trustees as a nonprofit corporation, acting as a direct support organization. The purpose of the BEI is to “build and manage public/private partnerships, create new services and businesses to support the campus community and enhance current auxiliaries and businesses to increase alternate sources of revenue for UWF.” The BEI wasted no time in embracing its mission and has started exploring at least three initiatives, including soliciting bids for construction of some form of a hotel/restaurant/conference center at the entrance to UWF on North Davis Highway. UWF is progressing with its five-year campus master plan update. Onœu12eu12eu12eu TJ60TBTgTJET EM-3(t353 3

from the west. However, th6.41 Tlocal community strenly and vocally objected to the university’s planned extension of an existing neighborhood s

Football is still on the horizon. Pensacola now has a beautiful multi-use stadium build on the downtown waterfront, so can football be far behind. Stay tuned.

Advisory Council of Faculty S