

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;

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 address 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.

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

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,

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

affirmation of reaccreditation by SACS next fall.)J-20.7006
developed course with a global orientation as part of their lower division
division transfer students

development proposals from faculty teams. More courses will be added
goal is to give 4.8 (the undergraduate curriculum) 6.1 (uma) J21.9

Under the new 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 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

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Degree and nine Master's Degree programs are proposed for closure. Four Master's and two

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

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/>)

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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