

Faculty Senate Report

April 12, 2019

Gathering: 9:30 a.m.

The Senate was called to order at 9:30 AM. Motion to correct the agenda by Jo Stetcher, seconded by Jennifer Sughrue. Upon clarification, Jamie McDonald moved to approve. Sharon Isern made a motion to amend the minutes to add Sharon to the leadership draft resolution. It was approved.

The agenda from the last meeting was approved at 9:33 AM.

Faculty Senate President's Report – Mike McDonald

The Senate President started the report by highlighting comments from the latest meeting. Kevin Price was appointed liaison for WCGU board. Provost Llorens proposed two new programs: BS degree in Analytics and Informatics and a BA in degree DMD. VP Cordova provided a brief report on metric related to the average cost to student. For 2017-2018, it was \$15,350 a 14.9% relative decrease from the previous amount of \$17,630. We secured maximum points on the metric due to four year graduation rate. Financial funding from Bright Future Scholarships and Summer 2018 offered an improved strategy for different sources of aid. Metric 4 increased by 28.8%, it is still low but impressive over multiple years. We failed in Metric 5 pertaining to freshman and sophomore retention with 2.5 GPA or higher. It was approximately 72.9% which is a 2.9% decrease. Vice President for Student Success Cordova offered potential explanations. We should be able to recover the grounds in the next academic year. Our current retention rate increased from 78.7% to 83.2%. A renovation plan for a plaza near McTarnaghan Hall which would house student registration, financial aid, scholarship. The cost for renovations is \$4.5 million. Trustees expressed interest in this proposal made by Mitch Cordova. Questions were raised due to similar matters handled by University of Central Florida, however assurance was provided by trustees.

President Martin mentioned about current searches for Deans recently. In addition, he approached the subject of his own succession. As a first step, there will be a search for a Provost which would start in July and that we are preparing to actively participate in the search. Due to this proposal, the Faculty Senate is likely to meet during summer. Senators who are available during the summer will be able to respond to a future e-mail on this matter and sign up for the meeting as necessary.

The transition is supposed to go on until the end of the year and President Martin will specify time of his succession which would take a year. During the last senate meeting there was a discussion about HB839 and a resolution/proclamation was proposed. Upon discussing the matter with Faculty Senate Advisory Council, it was decided that the response would not be collective. In any case, there might be backlash in proposing such a resolution.

Since then Senate President met with Union President to arrange a meeting with Representative Rodriguez about his intent in proposing the bill. Many faculty senators have volunteered to be involved in this meeting.

The Professional Development Faculty Grant (PDFG) had 79 applications and 73 offers were made. \$74,319 out of the allotted \$103,625 was offered to faculty averaging at \$1018 per faculty member. For the last year, there were 139 awards totaling \$125,000

The commencement ceremony is on May 04, 2019 and 1700 students will be graduating this academic year.

Comments on President's Report

Jennifer Sughrue: Raised a concern regarding the search for a Provost while President Martin is still in office, how could it be guaranteed that he wouldn't recommend his own choice?

Response by Provost Llorens: It is a valid point. This possibility was discussed and specifically one of an incoming Provost transitioning to the position of President. The idea is to get a strong candidate for Provost's position followed by choice of new president.

Michael Fauerbach: Is it legal to have President Martin to wait for year?

Provost Llorens: It is legal, cited UCF as an example.

Win Everham: Mike McDonald and I along with others in leadership met with President Martin and discussed the potential to have provost as an embryonic President.

Michael Fauerbach (follow-up): Since the BOT has turnover, there is a possibility that the same members will not be in the BOT so how would it affect the Provost search?

Provost Llorens: BOT will not approve the candidate automatically and go along with the search process.

Motion to extend time by 5 minutes, seconded by Joe Kakareka

Michael Fauerbach: If that is the case, it is even worse. It seems like President Martin will be invasive in the process. How do we have our input?

Provost Llorens: President Martin has the right to legally appoint a Provost without the BOT's approval. They don't have to ratify decision but they will be involved in the discussion. President Martin will not take action without input from BOT.

Morgan Paine: Was there any discussion on carry over money? There are faculty and staffing needs, student success should be prioritized instead of spending the money on renovations. We are evolving in a dual interior structure: curricular and co-curricular while having less conversations with one other.

Jo Stecher: Recalled the renovation of Howard Hall and how CAPS was changed to a cafeteria. Food place came-CAPS changed. Similar comment on McTarnaghan renovation. It seems like the \$4.5 million dollars seem to be splitting off for a different purpose rather than student success.

Provost Llorens: \$4.5 million will not be spent in one year. Wellness building will change to advising, McTarnaghan parking will be renovated and CAPS will be transferred to the new building. There will be a domino effect in the next few years .

Kayley Santiago joined as administrative assistant for the faculty senate.

End of President's Report

Standing Reports

Provost Llorens

Promotion portfolios are halfway done. In addition to what was mentioned earlier, search for Lutgert College of Business Dean, Bower School of Music, Marieb, and Student success are underway. Paul Snyder is chairing search for Lutgert College Dean. For library sciences, Tony Barringer will lead search committee.

We have commencement ceremony speakers who are our founding FGCU faculty chosen to recognize their contribution to FGCU. The speakers are Win Everham, Maria Roca, and Cecil Carter.

Comments on Provost's Report

Sharon Isern: Perhaps, the speakers should get a honorarium :-).

Jennifer Sughrue: Any news on CNN?

Senate president will attend meeting to come up with ideas making progress which will be distributed.

Student Government

Nick DeGuzmann is no longer the President for SGA. Joshua Ballin was elected as President and Kayla Ryder is the new Vice President. Election was held on April 1st. There have been changes in cabinet positions such as Government Relations, University Affairs, Communications and Marketing, and Sustainability.

Joe Kakareka: Who represents to BOT?

Joshua Ballin, SGA President.

Staff Advisory Council

Not much to report. Gina filled in last meeting. Next meeting is today. SAC will meet April 25th to assess election. Elections will be held on May 15th, new officers will be greeted in June. Current SAC President is unsure if she will run again after her remaining one year term.

United Faculty Florida

UFF President suggested that UFF is engaged in the conversation regarding Provost's search. He added that every time a Provost is hired, it is likely that the individual is an embryonic President who had the potential of staying or do damage and leaving, we are looking at the former.

State UFF passed resolution about HB839. Chapter engaged in political lobbying and reached out to Rep. Rodriguez. A phone conference is scheduled to take place soon. A lawyer has suggested that the bill is against administration code and it might become a moot point.

Neither the BOT nor the Union want to lower the standards by simply focusing on the increase of throughput. In a discussion with Cordova, UFF stressed that we should increase student learning not just the throughput.

We might be in another tough bargaining year. UCF's mistake is punishing everyone in the SUS affecting the future of Florida's economy which is dependent on our vibrant university system.

Chapter elections are in progress and leadership is tied to dues paying members only. The poll closes at 5:00 PM today. It is likely that bargaining will proceed into summer not knowing budget situation. Bargaining committee met with L and M and got closure on Compression and Inversion study.

Current president of the Chapter will join the faculty senate at the end of his term this year.

Comments on UFF President's Report

Joseph Kakareka: Our membership is important and so is recruitment and retention. What did we do?

CBA we closed last year was good and we were able to raise those in the bottom to a level of equity. The idea of having a direct line to BOT is a positive. Morgan and Win worked on making executive committee a team and work as such. For the first time, we have state UFF and FEA list completely filled including alternate senators. The executive committee is close to nearly twenty members.

Made positive changes in CBA regarding disciplinary process. Grievance team is in good alignment with Tony's office. The creation of L and M to conduct market, compression and inversion studies, issues pertaining to uncompensated teaching etc. We brought the promotion raises to 13% from assistant to associate as well as associate to full professor. This could motivate our faculty who have stagnated in their ranks. The president recalled that at the beginning, years ago, we had 1-year contracts and now we have 3-year revolving contracts.

Jennifer Sughrue: Welcome to this side of the board.

Anajana Bhatt: What about full professors who have stagnated? Nothing happens in terms of raises once a faculty member becomes a full professor like herself.

Win Everham: We will stay committed to make changes on the issue and do the best we can.

Action Item

Changes made to criteria in excellence awards such as timeline, early portfolio submission, more time to develop the portfolio, apply for teaching award after five years etc.

Win Everham: When Jamie and I proposed idea we suggested a way to improve by increasing base pay. Some senators opposed stating that the recipients may not continue to excel once they receive the award and get an increase in base pay. I say that we keep our best faculty. For now, we get the timeline changed and get other matters done later.

Jennifer Sughrue: Move to adopt all changes. Sharon Isern seconded the motion.

Vote: No discussion/debate; 30-0-2. Motion passes.

Officer Elections

Last call for nominations were made for each position. The sitting parliamentarian gave a recap on the election process and mentioned that the candidates for the office of the President will have two to five minutes to give their speech with a one minute support statement from senators.

Sharon Isern and Jamie MacDonald were nominees for the President. No further nominations. It was moved to proceed with candidate statements in alphabetical order.

Questions to Sharon Isern

Patrick Niner: What would you say to someone who will run for senate?

Rebecca Totaro: Please mention about your theater experience.

Senthil Girimurugan (BeeJay): How would you manage your time with all the impressive things you do?

Anna Koufaku: How would you represent other colleges?

Questions to Jamie MacDonald

Patrick Niner: What would you say to someone who will run for senate?

Jennifer Sughrue: Not sure about the future administrative relations. What if you are put in a position?

Anna Koufaku: How will your represent all colleges?

Student Government (Kayla Ryder): How to utilize plan to use faculty senate for student success?

Vote Recorded at 11:02:35: Jaime MacDonald: 18, Sharon Isern: 12, Abstain:2

Anna Carlin was nominated for Vice President. No other nominations, the position was uncontested and she was elected.

Rebecca Totaro was nominated for Secretary by Sharon Isern. The nomination was seconded by Rob Erdman. The position was uncontested and she was elected.

Rebecca Totaro nominated Maria Colmer for the position of Communications officer. The nomination was seconded by Sharon Isern. The position was uncontested and she was elected.

Rebecca Totaro nominated Senthil Girimurugan (BeeJay) for the position of Parliamentarian at the last meeting, seconded by Patrick Niner. The position was uncontested and he was elected.

Good of The Order

Jo Stecher: Faculty Senate Athletic Scholarship letter has been drafted. The letter is supposed to go out at 3:00 PM today. \$250 donation is open for senators and alternates at this point. A full faculty rollout will happen in late summer/early fall. Tom Roberts, athletic director, has pledged \$250 as of today.

Martha Rosenthal: Professional Cannabis Certification Workshop will take place May 6-10, 2019. Attorneys, bankers, CEOs and other individuals from the industry will be present.

Claude Villiers: Lucas Center will be offering an online workshop on lecture capture and flipped classroom the day after grades are due (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM).

Morgan Paine: Senior project exhibition will take place April 19, 2019 in Rossman Art Gallery at 5:00 PM and reception will go on until 7:00 PM in the recreation room.

Win Everham: Celebration of excellence will take place on April, 19 2019 in the afternoon and the undergraduate natural symposium in addition to research day will take place in Alico Arena in the morning.

Jaffar Ali Shahul-Hameed: Do the needful in voicing concerns about HB839? As a mathematics professor, as an example, it could prevent faculty from voicing the truth that the earth is not flat in Calculus-III. Please do the needful.

Outgoing Senate President Comments:

1. Consistent faculty representation across committee with inclusion and diversification.
2. Sought budgetary autonomy in the development of PDFG.
3. We need to develop some oversight and the senate dedicated its budget in hiring an administrative assistant to work closely with the senate.
4. Senate worked closely with UFF in securing \$1000 in PDEA .
5. Senate worked closely with President's Venture Capital Funds and sought the leftover money from PDEA to be allocated to the venture fund so faculty can use it.
6. \$1 million in faculty development. Senate built partners on other side of the table and continues to value shared governance.
7. Shared governance is difficult to build up and easy to destroy. As a member of the relay race, Mike always worried that the first guy doesn't drop the baton. As he approached the end of the leg to pass the baton he would simply cheer for the team.
8. Advice: Organization to demand time and energy, when you get that call me. Manage volume of e-mails was a challenge. Engage with academic affairs, deans, and faculty who will call on you and call you out. Didn't appreciate the first time being called out but it became a very exciting experience for him. Three years ago, Josep Kajareka asked him to step up and participate in presidential research and run for faculty senate, three years later we are here.
9. Thank you all for the support, trust, and confidence .

Motion to adjourn at 11:38:19 AM. Motion seconded by Jennifer Sughrue.