

**FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes**

Date: 02/25/2011

Time: 9:30-11:30 am

Place: SU 213

Name	Att	Name	Att	Name	Att
Scott Anstadt		Joseph P. Kakareka	X	Morgan T. Paine	X
Margaret Banyan	X	Robert Kenny	X	Sandra Pavelka	X
Susan Cooper	X	Carrie Kerekes	X	Monika Renard	
Jeanie Darnell	A	Jeff Kleegeer	X	Maria Roca	X
Win Everham	X	Chuck Lindsey	X	Martha Rosenthal	X
Michael Fauerbach	X	Megan McShane	X	Jo Stecher	A
Patricia Fay	X	Angela Osterman Meyer	X	Mushfiq Swaleheen	X
Shelby Gilbert	X	Karen Mock	X	Amy Towne	X
Dahai Guo	X	Doug Morris	X	Arie van Duijn	X
Julie Hammerling	X	Menaka Navaratna	X	Gail Wright	A
Doug Harrison	X	Kay Oistad	X	Fan Zhao	X
Susan Hibbard	X				

Legend: X = attended; A = absent with alternate; blank = absent without alternate

Attended with Alternate: Jeanie Darnell (Sue Henshon), Joe Stecher (Loureen Downes), Gail Wright (Julie Yazici)

Guests:

1) Gathering: 9:30 am

a) Welcome and Introductions – Chuck Lindsey

- Good Morning! I want to start by thanking Martha for running the meeting in my absence last time.

2) Approval of Minutes of February 11, 2011

- Minutes approved

3) Standing Reports

a) Provost's Report – Provost Toll

- *Tallahassee:* We continue to monitor the situation in Tallahassee. Please know that your university leadership is watching closely and the legislative agenda is now printed and published.
- *Informal Meetings:* The first informal meeting of the semester took place last Friday in my office. We had about 12 to 14 faculty attend. I thank all of those who were there. We will have two more drop-ins over the semester. We will send out reminders prior to the meetings.
- *UFF Consultation:* Last week, we had a consultation with UFF. It was a very positive consultation and continues to grow the spirit of collaboration, collegiality, and interest-based bargaining.

- *Searches*: Searches continue to go well with excellent hires being made. We know our top candidates are top candidates in other institutional searches. We continue to make every effort to streamline the process to ensure there are no bottlenecks.
- I hope you saw the *Letter from the President's Desk*. The President's Lecture is starting again after about three years of hiatus. Former First Lady, Laura Bush will be here on Wednesday, April 6 at Alico Arena. Tickets are complimentary and available at the Alico Box Office.
 - We will have opportunity to talk about the process of the lecture series.

b) SGA Report – Anthony Graziani

- We are going to be working on a new website.
- It was unanimously voted to oppose the firearms legislation that's going through. We will be taking a strong stance on this.
- Rally in Tally is at the end of March. We're putting together our legislative agenda for this. Today is the last day for students to register to attend Rally in Tally. We will be hosting two mandatory lobbying workshops from Jennifer Goen. She will be teaching students some techniques.
- Taxi Services: We're meeting with the Blue Bird Taxi Company next week sometime to develop this program. We're hoping to put together some sort of prepaid service we can give out to students.
- Campus Garden: The bill was submitted to Student Senate. It was for \$106,000.
- Campus nature signs: We will be adding signs around campus to mark our trails and also our wildlife on campus.
- Perch renovations: That bill is for \$150,000. We received four proposals submitted. We're looking for a complete renovation. Hopefully, I will be able to bring you a resolution soon.
- Three other resolutions we're working on are:
 - E-waste: I have a copy of this available for you
 - Smoke-free campus: I also have this available for you now
 - Firearms: I haven't seen this one yet. As soon as we look over it, I will send this your way.
- We're working on our budget for next year.

c) UFF Report – Maddy Isaacs

- We had an informal meeting yesterday from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Sugden. We went over a powerpoint we will be posting on our website.
- IBB has started and faculty are always welcome to observe at these sessions. Even if you don't participate, they can be very informative.
- Inversion and Compression Study – The evaluation team has met. The time frame between the two groups that were still making the decision between is from five weeks to three and a half months. The price varies around \$20,000.
- UFF continues to be grateful to Senate and its teams for trying to advance the evaluations of chairs, associate deans, and deans.
- The Provost is correct, this past consultation was a very positive conversation and several things we recorded are moving forward positively. Some things we discussed had to do with career advancement and promotion in some areas urging forward movement on the supervisor feedback and evaluations, recently change and

responsiveness at the University about policy. We had a discussion about office hours issue that has been brought up in here a few times.

- I want to remind faculty as I was reminded in a very strong e-mail yesterday from the FEA President that rallying and striking is broadly defined in Florida statute and regulation. This was directed more towards teachers, but I am reminding us as well, anything that looks like a reduction in work productivity, people congregating – basically anything that looks like that can be considered as a strike or work stoppage can lead to people losing their pensions, license and certifications, and their jobs. The extent we participate in these kinds of things needs to be carefully construed. It needs to be very clearly outside of normal work hours and off of university and state-funded grid.
- What's going on in Florida: There have been bills filed and rumors about the bills coming on to the floor. There have been bills filed with an unnamed amount faculty and state employees would have to pay towards their own retirement funds. They're looking to alter our funding and money available for growth and replacement hiring. They will put through a tuition increase.
- Merit pay and teacher quality legislation has been filed. How does that affect us? There are a lot of elements in terms of testing, continuity, tying instructor and teacher pay to student performance that could easily be growing up beyond K12.
- I have received on behalf of the UFF Leadership over the years (this last one especially) many thanks from members and non-members. We certainly appreciate that. It gives us some breath under our wings as we try to do the work you need us to do. At this point, we can't do this alone. You need to step forward and make phone calls (not e-mails) to your legislators. Be a thoughtful citizen because your future and livelihood could be at risk.
- Next formal meeting is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 16. We will be continuing to update members in between that, finalizing our annual election of officers, and I am not running again. We need to have a new president and vice president to step forward.

d) *Senate President's Report – Chuck Lindsey*

- FGCU legislative agenda: There are brochures from the Governmental Relations Office available here if you want to pick one up. The main issue is funding for enrollment. We're currently not being funded for what we have.
- Spring Commencement: Spring Commencement will be on Sunday, May 1. The Commencement Committee has decided that we will have two ceremonies. We have outgrown Alico Arena and the ability to have one ceremony in Germain Arena. The exact times of the ceremonies are still being tweaked. There will most likely be one in the late morning around 11 a.m. and the next around 3 p.m. We're still not sure which colleges will go with which ceremony. The deadline for people to apply for graduation was a couple weeks ago. The numbers are being sorted out right now. The other factor is there are a few colleges giving out doctoral degrees for the first time and it would be nice to have them given at the same ceremony. I will be sending out an e-mail asking everyone to RSVP their attendance to Eileen Regelski. We have 1365 candidates for graduation. We're not sure how many of those will walk.

4) Old Business

a) *Faculty assessment surveys of chairs and deans*

- I sent the feedback from the last faculty senate meeting to Faculty Affairs. We also sent the draft document out to the chairs and deans to get their perspective. I received a few comments from them and forwarded it to Faculty Affairs. I have not received anything back from Faculty Affairs yet.

5) New Business

a) *Resolution regarding firearms on campus (discussion item)*

- Doug Harrison drafted a resolution for the Senate's consideration in opposition to the Senate's legislation.
- After discussion, the Senate developed the following friendly amendments:
 - Adding to the second to last paragraph: "...and other university recognized academic, research and training programs."
 - Changing the usage of "security officer" to "law enforcement officers and other university recognized academic, research and training personnel."
- Resolution is approved with adoption of friendly amendments.
- We will produce a final text of this and forward it to Faculty Senate and Student Government.

b) *Changes to Faculty Governance Document (Senate Bylaws) (discussion item)*

- These are not officially proposed changes. The officers have discussed the bylaws and have identified several issues that we feel are in need of some change.
 - We have continuity issues on all the standing teams and our governance in general. Things take a long time to get through committees and approved. A large reason is because most of the standing teams have to start over every year. Most of the members are new every year, which wouldn't be so bad if the chair was on the committee the previous year. Many times, these teams do not get organized until the middle or end of the semester. I feel, and I think the other officers strongly agree, that things may flow a lot better if terms on committees were three years instead of two. That means that 1/3 of the members would get elected every year, instead of half. I am proposing this for senate terms as well.
 - Our current process for determining Faculty Senate representation says we will count the number of faculty in each college on April 1. Our bylaws also say we will have elections in April for senators for the upcoming year. It has to be verified through the Leadership team. I do not think there are many new hires between March 1 and April 1. We want to propose to move this process up earlier.
 - We are proposing to move the current cap on the number of alternate senators. Some colleges only have a couple of alternates and if we have a senate meeting at a time when something else is going on, it can be difficult to find an alternate. We would like to consider allowing colleges to have more alternates.
 - Friendly suggestion – to have as many alternates as there are senators
 - We propose having the chair of the teams also a senator to help better coordinate communication.
 - Friendly suggestion – Instead, whenever there is business with a particular committee, request the chair or representative be present at the Faculty Senate meeting.
 - Currently, to be President or Vice President, you have to be associate professor/librarian or full professor/librarian. There is a concern this is excluding

individuals capable and willing to do the job because of their rank. I don't have a specific alternative to propose.

- Friendly suggestion – Serve a particular amount of time as a senator
- Add a new standing team whose main job to deal appointments to university committees and faculty honors and awards (particular the Excellence Awards).
The biggest issue is the appointments of university committees. This committee would also be in charge of revisions to the guidelines.

6) Announcements

None

Next meeting: Friday, March 18, 2011, 9:30AM – 11:30AM