

**Florida Gulf Coast University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of 4/10/2009
Student Union Chambers**

DATE: April 10, 2009

TIME: 9:00 - 11:00AM

PLACE: SU Chambers

I. Gathering: 9:00 AM

A. Welcome & Introductions - *Halcyon St. Hill*

Attendance:

Alexakis, George; Angeletti, Michelle; Bolduc-Simpson, Sheila; Burkett, Tony; Carlson, Erik; Chesnutt, Rod; Cooke, Rachel; Erdman, Rob; Gogate, Lakshmi; Pavelka, Sandra; Kauanui, Sandra; Kirche, Lee; Lindsey, Chuck; Mock, Karen; Paine, Morgan; Rosenthal, Martha; Sakharuk, Alex; Simpson, Mark; St. Hill, Halcyon; Swalaheen, Mushfiq; Szeci, Tunde; Upham, Dayle; Vazquez-Montilla, Elia; Voytek; Yazici, Julie; Zhao, Fan

Absent with Alternate (Alternate Senators):

Wisnom, Mary (Pamela Seay)

Absent with Proxy:

Hartley, Anne; Kleeger, Jeff

Absent without Alternate or Proxy:

Braddy, Jon; Murray, Beth; Harrison, Doug; Villiers, Claude

Guests:

Breitenstein, Dave; Isaacs, Madelyn; Roman, Isaac; Snyder, Paul

II. Reports

A. University President Report - *President Wilson Bradshaw*

- It's good to be here. Dr. St. Hill and I went over various topics related to the Senate. First, I would like to speak to the Planning and Budget Council. As you know it's a relatively new shared governance body. I am pleased to say under the leadership of Provost Toll and Vice President Shepard, it has brought form and function to its structure. The council is moving ahead and working on various items from strategic planning to the very daunting task of advising the cabinet on balancing the budget for next year. We will keep you updated with this council. The minutes are posted on the Provost's website.
- I have a meeting with other presidents and the interim chancellor to see what the lay of the land is today with the budget as it moves through the legislature. The budget scenario still looks rather bleak. We can anticipate some cuts in our budget. We are not developing a plan for furloughs or layoffs; however everything needs to be on the table as the parameters become clearer to us for the upcoming fiscal year. On the minds of all us is the cost of attending Florida Gulf Coast University and what the tuition and fee structure will look like. The Planning and Budget Council will be working on that with the students regarding fees.
- Last week we had our usual meeting with United Faculty of Florida - FGCU chapter. This is a consultation we do every semester. It was productive.

- We have new buildings going up. We will be breaking ground with the performing arts building this summer, as well as moving ahead with the solar field. The solar field is slightly behind schedule, but should be in operation by late August to early September. Everyone will be invited to attend an update event for the solar field on April 22.
- We are in the advanced stages with the Athletics Director search. The candidates' visits have been scheduled. We encourage you to attend the upcoming public forums. We are still on track to have that position filled by July 1.
- Next year we will be updating our facility master plan. A committee in the Planning and Budget Council will take the lead on this. We want to put our developing plan on the website to give individuals the opportunity to look at what we're doing and provide input as well as have public forums. We are limited for our building space on this campus and have almost filled 2/3 of our allowance.
- A broadly representative core group is working on the Campus Climate Survey with Dr. Williams, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a highly regarded expert in this field. We need to make sure we have a work environment that students, faculty, and staff feel comfortable and one that maximizes their productivity. Survey will be conducted for feedbacks and comments. Please participate as it is very important.

B. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Report – Ron Toll

- We hosted a reception for faculty, staff, and administrators who have been successful in bringing in intramural grants. We invited 72 people who collectively produced 102 proposals, which brought in almost \$14 million in funds. That is approximately 10% of our budget. These funds will allow us to do many things all of you, individually and collectively, want to do that we would be incapable of based on tuition and state funding support alone. Many of these things are related to individual scholarship and improving the teaching and learning environment, as well as our outreach to Southwest Florida. I want to thank you for your contribution. I hope those of you who have been successful continue to mentor others and we will also continue to help grow our sponsored program area. I hope this will be an annual event where we can reward our colleagues for their extraordinary efforts.
- We had our Southern Association of Colleges and Schools visit related to substantive change and post-master level programs. We will be waiting for the final report, which will be months away. I can tell you that it was a very positive visit with many positive things being said by the team related to faculty, students, our programming and the development of the campus. I am hopeful for a good report. I have guarded optimism for the hard work of you and your colleagues.
- I want to indicate as we continue to move with hires of faculty. We had nearly 30 new positions that were open due to retirement. We have failed some searches; however, it's neither a bad thing nor source of shame. I am impressed the search committees have exercised the kind of integrity that is required to ensure the people we bring into these positions are of the highest possible quality. We will again be hiring new first year faculty to enrich and strengthen our returning faculty. We are making essentially a \$7 million investment when hiring new faculty. We want to make that a good investment.
- It's been just over a year I accepted the position at FGCU. One of the significant factors I accepted was the community – the spirit, quality, dedication, and continued potential of this community to do fantastic things. This has been a long year for all of us; a definite learning curve. I find all the things I have believed to be true about the community are absolutely true. I have learned about it and appreciated it more being a member of this community. I would like to end my remarks expressing my appreciation for your efforts. We are looking forward to that moment where we see a group of men and women we have contributed to in a very substantial way, walk across that stage and receive

a diploma that says Florida Gulf Coast University. I want to thank Halcyon St. Hill for her representation of this body and Maddy Isaacs for her leadership team in UFF.

C. SGA Report - Isaac Roman

- New SG Senate President – Caroline Decaire.
- We have a brand new structure for the senate. We are working on a lot of changes and have a few new chair positions.
- We have new director openings for Student Government. These positions are open to the entire student body. They must fill out an application and go through an interview process. These all have professional staff liaisons. All director positions are paid positions.
- We are waiting for “flight school” to start. It used to be referred to as boot camp. It’s to make sure all student government know the procedures of Student Government
- Formal was this past week. It attracted about 700 students.
- Summer will be a long planning period for Student Government.

D. UFF Report - Maddy Isaacs

- FGCU Chapter has close to 130 members, which puts us at about 40% of our faculty. If we have 35 more members, we will be a majority union like FIU.
- The UFF questionnaire, we have had about 50% of faculty complete the questionnaire so far. Please complete the questionnaire and encourage your colleagues. The focus is on working conditions, as well as salary and benefits at FGCU. Next week will be the final week to voice your opinion.
- Next week we will be having an informal lunch on April 15. This does not have a formal agenda.
- We still need to focus on advocacy issues. Nothing in the legislature is finished. Your phone calls, emails, etc. will still have an impact. If you don’t feel like calling, send an email, paper letter, etc. The things we really want to focus on are even if we get the waiver for stimulus money, they are planning to spend all that money this year. They are creating a cliff that will we will fall off next year. They will shorten the budget and won’t do anything to increase revenue.
- Something else we feel is very important you address in advocacy and become aware of is there is tentative revisal language is the higher education funding bill that effects two key issues:
 - Higher Ed funding with state funding in Florida may not engage in stem cell research
 - May not visit terrorist nations, including Cuba.
- This is very important you make your voice heard! Get that proviso language out of the budget bill.

E. Program Review Team - Tom Bevins (Attachment 1) – Maddy Isaacs

- Program review team met roughly every other week during the last two semesters. The meetings were pretty consistent – worked through an agenda, revised and re-drafted a document that will serve as a guideline for the development of an undergraduate programs and program evaluation plan for the ALC. Those of you working on the program know how important the ALCs are with regard to meeting state requirement. Those documents are being sent to Senate Leadership to take a look at. We received feedback in developing these from assessment liaisons as well as meeting with assessment liaisons. Hopefully colleges will use these.
- We have also been developing a procedures document to outline how the PRT will interface with the Office of Planning and Institutional Performance.

F. Senate President’s Report - Halcyon St. Hill (Attachment to follow)

- All of the Senate Teams have been looking at the PRT procedures. I have been working on a handout for the Senate combining all feedback.

- The proposed cuts in higher Education are devastating. When the state cuts education funds in K-12 or for the State University System (SUS), also impacting the quality of education that students will receive. We are concerned about funding cuts being proposed for higher education, but as a whole there should be no cuts to education including K-12. Please follow up as advocates for higher education and include the issues Maddy discussed in her report –Stem Cell research and the new language that is indeed relevant to the Travel Ban that we addressed previously.
- I attended the Food Advisory Committee meeting and was asked to share the information about meal plans and Eagle dollars. A block of 50 meal plan is available for faculty and staff. This plan cost \$5 a meal. Also, you can use EAGLE dollars which is placed on your I.D. card. Eagle Dollars can be used in most places on campus including the bookstore. You can go online to at the FGCU website to follow up on accessing information and placing eagle dollars on your ID cars. Contact Ruth Rodrigues' office if you have questions.
- Apparently some have not received Professional Development Grant letters yet. I am not sure why that happened since they were sent from Erika Hart to the Deans offices. The letters were supposed to have been sent to faculty who applied through the administrative assistants or secretaries in each college and the library. If you have any questions about the letters, it would be easier to contact Erika Hart for information.
- I am on the Convocation committee this year. The new Senate President will be on the Convocation committee and will be speaking at the Convocation in August 2009. Information regarding the event will be forthcoming – you will receive information about the August 2009 convocation from me.
- Senate bylaws are on the web. If you see typographical errors, please contact myself or Ashlyn Gibbs.
- Senate team elections should be occurring in colleges soon. I want to remind you to look at the bylaws again. I created a form (table format) for my college to use that includes helpful information that relate to the new bylaws. This table is being revised for all units (colleges and the library). Unit contacts will receive the table so that they can use as a guide and to submit information about the results of their election to the Senate for inclusion in the 2009 - 2010 Senate Roster.
- I have already sent the official changes in numbers of faculty as of April 1, 2009 and the new calculated number of senators per unit to the unit contacts. There were no incredible or significant changes. Senators per unit remained the same.
- We have 947 candidates expected to walk across that stage during this semester's Commencement Ceremony. We will be celebrating our 10,000th graduate. Please sign up to participate if you haven't already.
- I am completing the final report for 2007-2009 Senate. It will be on the website as soon as it is complete. I will be adding team report information and plan to have the Leadership team look at it and add to it as needed.
- I will also be working on the Standard Operating Manual for the Senate – the leadership team is also contributing to this effort.
- The Senate Leadership team meeting was scheduled for Monday, but may be rescheduled. It will include review of PRT documents and proposals from Gen Ed.
- Finally, I thank the faculty for their support in Senate. I want to thank Dr. Ron Toll and Dr. Paul Snyder and the administration as a whole. I am going to stay on until the summer and will be transitioning the position to our newly elected Senate President. I will continue my role as ex-officio on the Leadership team as well as my role with ACFS as needed and will still be on Gen Ed council to complete that term.

III. Approval Minutes - 3/27/09 (e-mail Attachment) – No changes; approved.

IV. Old Business

A. Summer Senate - H. St. Hill (*Summer Senate 2009 Sign-up Sheet - Roster*)

- Summer Senate is still available for sign-up. We have to have at least half the senate. Most of the “meetings” are just through emails.

V. New Business

A. Election of 2009 - 2010 Senate President

- One nomination – Chuck Lindsey
 - CHUCK WON!

B. Nomination & Election of 2009 - 2010 Senate Vice President, Parliamentarian and Secretary:

- One nomination for Vice President - Martha Rosenthal
 - MARTHA WON!
- One nomination for Parliamentarian – Rob Erdman
 - ROB WON!
- Secretary- OPEN

C. For the Good of the Order

- Morgan Paine – Art exhibition April 17, 5pm-7pm. Senior project.

VI. Announcements

A. Next Senate Leadership Meeting Monday 4/13/09 – Stay tune date/time may change!

B. Others

VII. Adjournment 10:20am