

Florida Gulf Coast University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of 2/13/2009
Student Union Chambers

Attendance:

Alexakis, George; Bolduc-Simpson, Sheila; Braddy, Jon; Burkett, Tony; Carlson, Erik; Chesnutt, Rod; Cooke, Rachel; Erdman, Rob; Gogate, Lakshmi; Hartley, Anne; Kirche, Lee; Kleeger, Jeff; Murray, Beth; Paine, Morgan; Pavelka, Sandra; Rosenthal, Martha; Sakharuk, Alex; Simpson, Mark; St. Hill, Halcyon; Swalaheen, Mushfiq; Szecsi, Tunde; Vazquez-Montilla, Elia; Villiers, Claude; Voytek, Mary; Wisnom, Mary; Yazici, Julie; Zhao, Fan

Absent with Alternate (Alternate Senators):

Harrison, Doug (Ai Ning Loh); Kauanui, Sandra (Darlene Andert); Lindsey, Chuck (Brad Busbee); Upham, Dayle (Mark Paschall)

Absent with Proxy:

None

Absent without Alternate or Proxy:

Angeletti, Michelle; Mock, Karen

Guests:

Duff, Cathy; Isaacs, Madelyn; Laviolette, Marc; McCash, Linda; Landy, Karen; Roman, Isaac; Toll, Ronald

I. Gathering

- President Halcyon St. Hill called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. when quorum was reached.

II. Reports

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

- Federal stimulus package has some good news related to possible funding within the state of Florida, as well as student loan structuring and tax laws related to student loans.
- Dr. Toll has met with some colleges looks forward to the other college meetings. This is an informal way of staying connected to the faculty. He begins the meetings with a brief statement followed by a lengthy question and answer session.
- *Association of American Colleges & Universities – Seattle, Washington:* Dr. Toll traveled with a large FGCU contingent to the conference. Dr. Toll believes that they tied for the largest contingent of any one institution outside the states of Washington and Oregon. All of our colleges were represented by at least one faculty member. Dr. Toll supported those trips as discussed during the fall. He believes those faculty members came back enthused about a variety of issues.
- *Board of Governor s(BOG) meeting – Tallahassee, Florida:* BOG meeting included Council of Academic Vice Presidents gathering where they spoke about how these budget impacts might affect the various campuses.
- *Tallahassee, Florida –* Dr. Toll testified in front of a state legislative Senate Higher Education Appropriation Committee.
- *NSF and NOAA -* This week, Aswani Volety and Dr. Toll returned from visiting the National Science Foundation and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. Dr. Toll feels it's important to attempt to get out into these funding communities. They had meetings with

fifteen different people discussing fundability for programs not just related to sciences specifically, but also related to extending education to elementary and middle schools.

- Dr. Toll mentioned he has been speaking senate leadership on continued efforts to review recent data, specifically the HERI results Paul Snyder has presented in great detail, as well as the NSSE. The results of both surveys are available on the Planning & Institutional Performing website (<http://fgcu.edu/planning/>).
- Towards the end of the meeting, the dedication to Susan Calhoun will be recognized. She has taken senate notes for four years and served the Office of Provost and Vice President of Academic affairs with distinction for that time.

B. Undergraduate Admission Update – Marc Laviolette

- FGCU has just passed its peak for receiving applications. The heavy period for the evaluation process has begun. Currently we have over one thousand applications complete and ready to be evaluated. It takes approximately three to four weeks for completed apps to be evaluated and a decision entered.
- Eagle expo is next Saturday. For the first time, FGCU has surpassed 2,000 registrations. The normal spring registration is about 1,200 people. Marc anticipates about 1500 registered will come out to the event.
- Undergraduate Admissions has drafted regulations in response to the General Counsel's Office request to create an undergraduate admissions regulation for BOT approval. Previously, Undergraduate Admissions depended on the university catalog for our basic contract and policy guide for admitting students.
- Possible future regulation changes are being worked on at the State level and may include: setting a minimum G.P.A. requirement of 2.5 as well as minimum S.A.T. and A.C.T. test score in lieu of the current sliding scale, G.P.A. will be taken from transcript instead of the need to recalculate, minimum test scores for remediation will increase, consider transfer work only from students with 24+ hours from previous institution as long as they have , six hours in each general education area, as opposed to looking at high school GPA and test score as we do now.
- Current project –revamping admissions Scholarship programs.

C. University Health Education & Wellness (U-HEW) – Linda McCash

- The University Health Education & Wellness (U-HEW) committee is an advisory committee made up of multi-disciplinary members including students, housing, student health, faculty and staff. The purpose is to assess student health education needs, recommend programming and assist in evaluating the success of the health education effort at FGCU. Students have been surveyed using two national surveys and findings have been reviewed. The committee added several questions to the National College Health Assessment (NCHA) this year relevant to FGCU student's health needs.
- The committee is requesting faculty participation in completing a faculty survey to assess perceptions and observations of faculty regarding campus culture, specifically around student substance use.

D. SGA Report – Isaac Roman

- Rally in Tally – Focusing on tuition increases, sustainable funding by the state, early voting on campus
- Budget – Need to cut back on club and organization funding
- Bright Futures forum – Forum is next month. They will have Student Government President speak as well as a panel for discussion. Students will be able to voice what they want to see happen with Bright Futures before the Rally in Tally trip. Dr. St. Hill mentioned that she was also asked to speak on the panel at the Bright Futures Forum.
- B.E.E.P survey – union fee to see if students are for or against it
- Elections are coming up in the next two months for the 2009-2010 school year
- Free speech zones – Want to create more areas where students can put up banners, posters, etc.

E. UFF Report – Maddy Isaacs

- New website – Maddy urges senate to visit new website. It is very dynamic, has streaming news, and important information on the faculty movement. There is a member only section. Please sign up for that section using a non-faculty e-mail address.
- Climate survey – Developing a survey is focusing on work load, work life, recruitment, and retention issues.
- Advocacy opportunities – Maddy tells senate to take responsibility as a member of higher education in the state of Florida to advocate for higher education. Contact legislators, make an appointment, call them, e-mail them (not using your faculty e-mail account), etc. and persist that you support tuition authority on your local campus as well as no more cuts and to locate more stable revenue sources.
- Maddy emphasizes the government needs to realize education institutions cannot keep having budget cuts.
- Visit the websites for advocacy opportunities
- Next meeting is March 11 – voting on bylaw revisions and will also be electing officers
- Bargaining is underway; they are still determining who is opening certain issues

F. Senate President's Report – Halcyon St. Hill

- Dr. St. Hill urged senate to advocate for higher education and participate in Rally in Tally. She urged that it is time for us in higher education to stand up and voice their opinions.
- Dr. St. Hill will be speaking at the Bright Futures forum on 2/24/09. She asked senate to send her any comments, concerns or questions that they would like expressed at the forum.
- The SLOG Task force is hard at work and will give senate a report soon. Dr. St. Hill urges senate to ask their representatives to keep them updated.
- Senate Leadership – The Senate has been working on several items including the Senate Bylaws. There were some inconsistencies - typographical errors that need to be corrected on the approved Bylaws; these will be corrected.

It was also confirmed in the Senate during this report that there was no need for a Senate vote to make the necessary corrections on typographical errors. These include correcting alphabetical lists to reflect correct alphabetical order and consistent use of alphabetical listings where bullets are incorrectly used.

The leadership and the curriculum (Graduate and Undergraduate Curriculum Team and General Education Council) team leaders in particular are working on consistency in the Bylaws; this work is also being done within the teams. The teams are doing great work!

- Standard operating procedures – leadership team we will be discussing an outline for a Senate Handbook. This handbook will include procedures and processes that we follow in the senate

and in teams and will be linked to the Bylaws. The handbook will come to the senate upon completion for approval.

III. Approval of Minutes:

- Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2009 meeting; minutes were approved with minor corrections.

IV. Old Business

A. Syllabus Guidelines – H. St. Hill (Attachment 1- Action Item)

- Dr. St. Hill stated that faculty raised concerns that the syllabus guidelines document, although brought by Peg Gray-Vickery, OCI to the senate, were not approved by the senate. Dr. St. Hill asked the Senate how they wished to proceed. A question was raised as to why faculty had the syllabus document brought back to senate for approval.
- Martha Rosenthal pointed out sections 9 & 10 on the syllabus guidelines document needed to be restructured.
- Dr. St. Hill believes the issue is related to the Student Learning Outcomes listed on syllabi; also, there are no defined processes to see how guidelines are changed.
- Cathy Duff explained learning outcomes come forward to graduate and undergraduate admissions when there is a new course or course revision. They have to send information to the state-wide course system. University curriculum teams are not the group looking at the learning outcomes as they have to be changed or modified. The expectations are that it should be done at the department or college, etc. The description does have to go through the approval process. They want to make sure that it is correct and consistent across the university.
- It was determined that Dr. St. Hill in the 2/13/09 Senate Leadership meeting, the process for and delegation of the review of the syllabus guidelines will be addressed. Upon completion of review, they would be brought back to the Senate for vote this Spring semester.
- Issues surrounding student behavior were raised in several venues. Dr. St. Hill explained that as faculty, we can include relevant statement to address expected classroom behaviors and reference the student handbook. Something could be in the syllabus that makes the student know certain behaviors are not tolerated. It will hold student to behavioral expectations.

B. Grants and Research Team Bylaws Changes – Martha Rosenthal (Attachments 2B Proposed Changes - Action Item; Attachment 2A Current)

- The document's only original line is the very first line. Everything else has been added. It's up for discussion, the senate will vote on it next meeting.

V. New Business

A. For the Good of the Order

- Dr. St Hill presented Susan Calhoun with flowers and a token of appreciation on behalf of the Senate. The Senate thanked Susan very much for all she has done for the senate over the years. Thanks were also expressed in a card signed by all.

VI. Announcements

- Next Senate Leadership Meeting: February 13, 2009
- Next Senate Meeting: February 27, 2009

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.