

University of Florida Joint Task Force on Shared Governance Implementation
September 14, 2005
Minutes
287 Reitz Union

Members Present:

Tony Brennan
Jean Larson
Vivian Correa
Mary Ann Ferguson
Will Harrison
Kathleen Long
Robert Thomas
Danaya Wright

Members Absent:

Jimmy Cheek
Janie Fouke
Greg Schultz

Guest:

Kim Tanzer

Tony Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:06 P.M.

Dr. Brennan explained the charge of the committee and the timeline that was created to help the committee complete necessary tasks.

The purpose of the committee is to provide the framework to create policy in a collegial manner by working together and communicating.

The committee will ensure that there is an integrated system to help academic units, departments and centers by providing the framework and guidance to assist in the formulation of practicing shared governance.

This is a long-term process where everyone will evaluate each other to determine the effectiveness of the shared governance plan.

Dr. Larson said that the diverse membership on the task force will help the group function. Each member has had a wide range of different experiences and the group has a broad view of the university which will help formulate principals and guidelines that are workable.

Professor Tanzer said the task force members must realize that there is a great deal of unevenness in communication from deans to faculty members and from faculty members to deans throughout the colleges. The task force should help faculty give and receive input with the goal of everyone moving forward.

The committee will work with the Provost's office to bring in a guest speaker from a university with a strong shared governance program. This speaker will help the task force create a workable plan for shared governance at UF.

The task force will look at examples of shared governance structure and practices from peer institutions. The committee will compile best practices for use in implementation at UF. The second part of this task is to determine to what extent the structures were actually implemented.

Dr. Larson is creating a list of questions to ask colleges to bring structure to the research process.

The goal is to have a draft report by December.

The committee should review the following items prior to the next meeting:

The 2003 Report from the first Shared Governance Task Force
The AAUP Statements on Effective Shared Governance
Professor Larson's Survey
Review the UF Constitution and By laws

The committee should also make recommendations for the academic units survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.