

**Presidential- Faculty Senate Joint Task Force on
Shared Governance Implementation
Minutes
October 5, 2005
4:00-5:00 P.M.
287 Reitz Union**

All members were present.

Tony Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

The minutes from the September meeting were approved.

The task force engaged in conversation about ideas of what the task force should accomplish.

Dr. Fouke said that she is seeing parts of college governance documents that do not conform to the University Constitution and/or the Florida Rules and Regulations. She is concerned that individuals developing or changing college constitutions seem unaware of potential legal pitfalls. In an effort to avoid legal problems, Dr. Fouke suggested that the task force advise colleges on items that are unconstitutional according to the University Constitution, do not comply with Florida Rules and Regulations, or violate bargaining agreements.

Dr. Larson suggested that when the sub committees speak to their assigned colleges they contact the person responsible for creating the constitution and find out if it was vetted for legality.

There was a brief discussion about the questions prepared by Dr. Larson as a possible starting point for making the inventory of practices in the various colleges. The committee decided to gather information reflecting the practices of each unit rather than use the specific questions.

Dr. Fouke will provide the task force with a list of bargain-able issues for the next meeting and Dr. Wright will present a summary of the University Constitution as it relates to college constitutions.

The committee discussed the implementation of shared governance and what governance has been like in the past. Dean Long was one of several members who shared experiences, and she indicated that putting structures for shared governance in place is not sufficient. She said it requires trust and goodwill and there needs to be a tolerance for mistakes on both sides.

Dr. Fouke suggested that the task force facilitate a workshop to provide examples of how shared governance works on campuses with strong shared governance programs.

The committee agreed that providing case studies of shared governance models would be helpful. The committee would also like to show ineffective examples of shared governance.

The committee agreed that language is very important in shared governance. In order for governance to be shared the faculty and administrators need to work together. For example: as committee members conduct research they will avoid words like 'imposed' and 'control'.

Dr. Brennan said that the goal of meeting with the colleges is to get the salient points on how the college operates in shared governance. Example questions are: Does the college have councils and/or committees?; Are they elected or appointed? How?; What is their purpose?; Are they an advisory committee?; What does that mean?

The meeting adjourned at: