

**Senate Steering Committee
Minutes
August 11, 2005
3:00 -5:00 P.M.
202 Tigert**

Agenda

Approval of July 7, 2005 minutes
Reports
President's Open Floor Discussion
Information Items
Action Items
Council Reports

Attendees

Robert Cousins
Joe Glover
Mike Katovich
Pradeep Kumar
Bernie Machen
Jack Mecholsky
Scott Nygren
Kim Tanzer
Danaya Wright

Absent:

Frank Bova
Sandra Chance
Saeed Khan
Pierre Ramond
Barbara Wingo

Guest

Brian Beech, special assistant to the President.

Kim Tanzer called to order at 3:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

Kim Tanzer, Chair

The Minutes from the July 7th, 2005 Meeting were unanimously approved.

Chair's Report

Kim Tanzer, Chair

Professor Tanzer reported on the Shared Governance Task Force. Tony Brennan and Jean Larson agreed to co-chair the task force. Danaya Wright, Chair elect, is among the faculty members who have agreed to serve. The Task Force will inventory the best shared governance practices from all colleges, make recommendations about shared governance and create a timetable for implementation.

The Senate Newsletter will be sent to the entire faculty via e-mail as a PDF file. Professor Tanzer described the contents of the newsletter.

Professor Tanzer and Joe Goldberg, student body president, will talk to student groups about improving the University.

The Committee on Committees report revealed two issues that need to be addressed with committees. The first is that Committees are required to make a report to the Senate. The second is a lack of qualified nominees to fill committee seats. These recommendations were combined with a recommendation to disband the Faculty Academic Advisory Council and presented as a motion. The motion passed.

The University is beginning its Strategic Communications Initiative based on recommendations to Dr. Machen from the Board of Trustees. Dr. Machen and Professor Tanzer will write letters to the faculty to explain the process. Professor Tanzer noted that colleges we want to be compared to also use public relations firms.

President's Report

Dr. Machen, President

Dr. Machen introduced Brian Beech and explained his position.

The State of the University address will be given on August 25th, 2005 at the Faculty Senate Orientation. All College Deans and members of the President's Cabinet have been invited.

The budget has gone forward from the Board of Governors to the Governor of Florida.

The Board of Governors changed the concept of rules at the last meeting. The only rules bound by the BOG are those about: tuition, articulation and admissions.

All other rules can be set by the local Board of Trustees. This means the University can set its own process for setting rules. President Machen indicated that he will work with faculty and other stakeholders to establish a process for UF.

The Alcohol Task Forces have made recommendations, including some with academic ramifications. Other issues involve the community and merchants.

The Faculty Survey results will be given out on August 25th, 2005.

President's Open Floor Discussion

Dr. Machen, President

Steering Committee members discussed various topics of interest.

Information Items

Kim Tanzer, Chair

Workday

Professor Tanzer gave an overview of the workday and explained who was invited to the council meetings.

The goals for the meetings are to keep to one hour and use the matrix to keep track of issues.

Policy Council Organization

Professor Tanzer also spoke about the organization of the policy councils and contributing and related committees. All contributing committees should report to their councils by January 20 of each year.

2005-2006 Calendar

Professor Tanzer presented and explained the 2005-2006 Senate calendar and explained the timelines.

Approval of Senate Agenda

Kim Tanzer, Chair

The Senate Agenda was approved.

Council Reports

Faculty Welfare Council

Mike Katovich

The Tenure Committee asked the Council to follow up with new guidelines

Academic Policy Council

Jack Mecholsky

The Council is trying to determine the status of the academic calendar change proposal regarding graduation and exams.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 P.M.