

**Senate Steering Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**December 8, 2005**  
**3:00 -5:00 P.M.**  
**226 Tigert**

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**Agenda:**

Approval minutes  
Reports  
Open Floor Discussion  
Information Items  
Council Reports  
Action Items

**Attendees:**

Danaya Wright  
Bernie Machen  
Sandra Chance  
Frank Bova  
Rick Yost  
Rick Ragan  
Robert Cousins  
Janie Fouke  
Barbara Wingo  
Scott Nygren

Mike Katovich  
Joan Frosch  
Pradeep Kumar

**Absent:**

Kim Tanzer  
Pierre Ramond

**Guests:**

Steve Pritz

Danaya Wright called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.  
The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

**Chair's Report:**

No chair's report

**President's Report:**

Dr. Machen reported that the University is trying to provide health insurance for graduate students on appointments. The Board of Governors will meet in Gainesville in January and will vote on the proposed Medical Schools in March.

Dr. Fouke thanked the steering committee for the Senate's help in filling committees. The Provost's office is currently reorganizing to become more efficient.

There are currently no collective bargaining updates.

Dr. Fouke reviewed the five-year review plan for administrative evaluations.

Danaya Wright reported that the shared governance task force will report to the President and the Provost in late January and to the senate in February.

Frank Bova discussed the merit pay plan draft letter. The Budget Council drafted a letter requesting that the three vice presidents obtain merit pay plans from each college by March 1<sup>st</sup> and validate that the faculty was engaged in the creation of the plans. The request stemmed from Compensation Committee research noting that most faculty members do not know what their college merit pay plans are. Dr. Fouke will notify deans that merit pay plans are due in March.

### **President's Open Floor Discussion:**

Steering committee members discussed various issues of interest.

### **Information Items:**

#### **Gainesville Regional Airport**

**Rick Crider**, Chief Executive Officer

Rick Crider presented a report to the Steering Committee about improving air service and increasing rider-ship to help the University reach its goal of being a top 10 institution by having access to an accessible regional airport with convenient flights.

Mr. Crider would like to get feed back from faculty members on how improve service. One suggestion was to provide an airport shuttle from campus and create a UF information desk at the airport. The steering committee decided to table this item until the January agenda to have more faculty members present for the presentation.

#### **Curriculum Changes**

**Sheila Dickison**, Chair University Curriculum Committee

Academic Calendars 2007-2008 through 2010-2011

BA Option to existing BS degree in Astronomy

Steve Pritz presented the calendar information and Dr. Dickison presented the Astronomy Degree information. Both items are on the Senate Agenda as an Information item in December.

#### **Constitution Committee items**

**Danaya Wright**, Constitution Committee

FAAC

Faculty Senate Chair Elect Voting Procedures

Steering Committee Membership Language

Policy Council Membership Language

Danaya Wright presented the constitution committee items. The constitution committee will present the following items for approval in January. The included language is for eliminating the Faculty Academic Advisory Council, updating the Chair-Elect election procedures, making the President and Provost Ex-officio members on the Steering Committee, and having the President or President's designee appoint a member on each policy council.

#### **Graduate Student Insurance**

**Joan Frosch**, Chair Academic Policy Council

Joan Frosch updated the committee on Dr. Garhardt's work towards providing graduate student insurance.

## **Minus Grades**

**Joan Frosch**, Chair Academic Policy Council

Dr. Frosch also updated the committee on revisiting the minus grades report that was previously presented to the University Curriculum Committee. The Council will also work with the Dean of Students office regarding Academic Dishonesty and faculty input to the recently revised honor code.

## **Council Reports:**

- **Budgeting Council**

**Frank Bova**, Chair

The Budget council would like to request that the Research Policy Council be expanded to include faculty.

- **Faculty Welfare Council**

**Mike Katovich**, Chair

The council will distribute a survey to review tenure processes across campus. Also, Dr. Katovich will ask Professor Tanzer to report at the senate meeting that questions regarding complaints can be directed to Mike Katovich. The Faculty and Staff benefits committee will create a priority list of benefits for faculty and staff. Some issues the council will bring to the steering committee are: orientation courses for new chairs and refresher courses for old, a Web site with benefits information and information on where to go with problems.

- **Research Council**

**Rick Yost**, Chair

There are no faculty members on the research policy council. He also briefly updated the committee on the 1UF plan to have one system for distribution of IDC across campus.

- **Academic Policy Curriculum and Structure Council**

**Joan Frosch**, Chair

No further updates

- **Academic Infrastructure Council**

**Scott Nygren**, Chair

The Transportation and Parking committee reported to the council. The council is deciding if it should work on Transportation and Parking issues or create a resolution regarding such issues. They are also looking into creating a resolution on the possibility of having Starbucks profits be allocated back to the library. Brian Weber will chair the council for the Spring 2006 term.

## **Action Items**

- **Approval of Agenda for Senate Meeting**

**Danaya Wright**, Chair elect

The November 15, 2005 Senate Agenda was approved.

The committee tabled the electronic voting issue until January after Sandra Chance and Barbara Wingo have researched the legality of the issue.

The meeting adjourned at: 5:30 P.M.