

Senate Steering Committee
Minutes
June 28, 2007
12:00-2:00 P.M.
226 Tigert

Attendees

Rick Yost
Frank Bova
Ellis Greiner
Jerry Cutler
Carol Murphy
Chris Snodgrass
Janie Fouke

Rebecca Pauly
Saeed Khan
Amelia Bell
Danaya Wright

Guests:

Carol Kem
John Leavey
Kyle Cavanaugh

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM
The minutes of the May 17, 2007 meeting were approved.

Reports:

▪ **Chair's Report**

Rick Yost, Chair

Dr. Yost discussed the recent approval of the tuition differential bill. Dr. Yost also reviewed several items currently being reviewed by the Senate including the Academic Policy Council's Faculty Authored Course Materials charge and the Honorary Degrees Committee's recommendations on criteria for honorary degrees. Both groups will present reports at the August 9 Steering Committee meeting.

There is interest in the creation of a Faculty Club. The Welfare council will look into best practices for faculty clubs based on peer institution practices. Comments indicated that it would be nice to have a faculty club in order to have a place to bring distinguished guests and bring diverse faculty together, however there are other areas of campus that have inadequate funding including child care and hiring. Kyle Cavanaugh noted that some institutions rent the space for weddings and private parties to raise operation funds.

▪ **Provost's Report**

Janie Fouke, Provost

Dr. Fouke reported that the University of Florida is bringing in a second class of Florida Opportunity Scholars however; the legislature did provide funds for the program again. There will only be raises for those people who were promoted this year. The dinners are going well and deans are recommending names of people to attend. The Provost is gathering useful input as a result of the dinners. The CLAS budget looks on track for this academic year.

Information Items:

▪ **Senate Workday and New Senator Orientation- August 21**

Dr. Yost discussed the Senate workday on August 21. The New Senator orientation will take place during lunch and the councils will meet to set their agendas for the upcoming academic year. Chair training will occur in the morning.

The Senate meeting will be held on August 23rd and will feature the State of the University Address and the State of the Senate Address. This will be a normal Senate meeting without the new senator orientation component.

▪ **Performance Based Funding**

The committee discussed the performance based incentive model. The program would give money to colleges who are efficient at granting baccalaureate degrees. The committee agreed that it is important for the Board of Governors to avoid tying money to enrollment, but to tie money to performance. Dr. Yost will send responses to the Chancellor's office on June 29. The committee also noted that students who transfer in without an AA are not tracked and thus the college receives no credit for graduating those students.

Council Reports

▪ **Academic Policy Council**

Carol Murphy, Chair

The APC is looking into faculty authored course materials. The council will work to determine if Deans are following the current policy. The council will also look into reported abuses of the current policy. As of 2002, faculty members do not have to sign a form annually explicitly stating conflict of interest. Dr. Wright reported that the Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards committee recently voted to recommend a change in the conflict of interest policy requiring faculty to sign a conflict of interest form annually. A suggestion was made to incorporate that into the new effort reporting system.

▪ **Research and Scholarship Council**

Saeed Khan, Chair

The council will look into sabbaticals and how they are handled throughout the university. Dr. Khan requested that the official council name "Research and Scholarship" not be abbreviated for any purpose. Dr. Leavey noted that the term "scholarship" may not cover the fine arts because they engage in production.

▪ **Academic Infrastructure Council**

Jerry Cutler, Chair

- No Report. The council will resume meetings in August.

▪ **Budget Council**

Allen Wysocki, Chair

- No Report. The council will resume meetings in August.

▪ **Welfare Council**

Rebecca Pauly, Chair

Dr. Pauly reported that she participated in the visit for the Sloan Foundation review. The council will continue to work on day care issues and tenure and promotion issues. The welfare council will also look into faculty clubs. The climate survey is expected to be released in August.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.