

Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Thursday, December 10, 2009
Central Campus, 17/425-426
02:30 PM

Senators in attendance (as signed in): Teresa Hodge, Jim Lansing, Maria Bernal-Dobek, Sandra Stone, Oluyinka Tella, Blaine Browne, Rosa Gaskins, Alan Applebaum, Catherine Leisek, Neil Linger, Xiao Wang, Angela Michaels, Dianne Ruggiero, Joy Stewart, Michael Tenenbaum, Robert Wiltgen

Guests in attendance (as printed): Audrey Hunter, Joyce Walsh-Portillo, Colleen Quinn, Suzette Spence, Hank Martel, Donna Henderson, Eileen Garcia, John O---?, Kevin Keating, Peter Battaglia, Scott Miller, Russ Adkins, Lois Bolton, Bill Pennell, Pat Senior, Steve Roig-Watnik, David Moore, Avis Proctor, Willie Alexander

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- 01. CALL TO ORDER:** President Jim Lansing called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm.
- 02. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The agenda was amended to move Open Issues item D. Class Transfer Requests Forms to next month's agenda and to add Co-Governance as a New Business item. A motion was made by Rosa Gaskins to approve the agenda as amended, with a second by Dianne Ruggiero. The motion carried.
- 03. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** A motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2009 meeting was made by Xiao Wang, seconded by Sandra Stone. The motion carried.

04. OPEN ISSUES

A. *President's Report – Jim Lansing gave a report to the Senate on the following items:*

- From the FACC Convention
 - Jim has been appointed to the state board commission
 - BOT member Sean Alveshire was appointed to the BOT commission
- From the Cabinet meeting
 - United Way campaign is underway;
 - Bill Pennell gave a report on the College's budget;
 - Looking at minority inclusiveness for procurement for the College;
 - LEAP/Safety plan is still in progress;
 - There are newly formed Learning Councils at the College – Technology, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs & Assessment
 - Catherine Leisek made a motion that the Senate president request information about faculty representation on these councils and the official composition of these new councils. Dianne Ruggiero seconded the motion, and it carried.
 - VP Adkins said he would be discussing this issue later, as it is a New Business item.

B. *Library – Barbara Pippin*

First, Barbara introduced Jessica Babapour, the Competitive Edge student currently shadowing her. Then, she gave a brief history about the relationship between the College and Broward County with respect to the libraries. Discussions have been ongoing since 2008, and

Barbara commended the Provosts of North and South campuses for stepping up, finding the dollars (for College faculty and staff in the libraries), and working out a solution with the County staff. There was a clear articulation of what the College would do and what the County would do. Barbara commented that all of this was done while facing a \$2.5 million reduction, but that this year is worse. "We haven't hit rock bottom yet." she explained, and that next year could be even worse with libraries closed on Sunday and a reduction of hours on other days. Barbara then announced that she met with the County staff and that they are working with the Provosts (North & South campuses) to find a resolution. No Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the County so the libraries are still closed on Sunday. However, the LRC on North campus is open on Sunday. Barbara let everyone know that the College is looking at this issue real closely. Neil Linger commented that the County had announced 5 furlough days (for the libraries) in addition to being closed on Sunday. VP Russ Adkins then stated that these 5 days are to be placed near Holidays and will occur on a Friday. At the end of this discussion, Barbara handed out her 2008-2009 Government Relations report.

C. *Faculty Senate Constitution Update – Jim Lansing*

There was discussion regarding whether or not there should be a meeting of the Senate in the month of May. Catherine and Dianne suggested that Faculty Senators be paid to attend Senate meetings held in the summer, perhaps a supplement. VP Adkins commented that since the College has become a 12-month institution, there should be continuity during the summer. Catherine added that there has to be an understanding of the philosophy on what the Senate is and that UFF will intrinsically be a part of the academic issues, as the Faculty Senate is a part of the UFF contract. The Senate made no decision about its May meeting so this issue will go back to the subcommittee for consideration.

D. *Class Transfer Request Forms – Damon Davis*

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

E. *Faculty Access to Software – Gregg Brickman*

Gregg reported that the computer administrative rights form has been completed. Along with the hardware and software request forms, the new form is available online at <http://www.broward.edu/informationtechnology/General/HardwareandSoftware/page2169.html>. She reminded faculty that software must first be checked for compatibility before being updated or downloaded. She then stated that the requests would go through the campus technology representatives: Clyde Arnold and Casey Gilson (North), Dave Peters and Terri Justice (South, Pines Center, Weston Center), and Lauren Cleaver (DTC). Catherine commented about an article in the Wall Street Journal regarding the fallacy of granting employees computer administrative rights and that the article was based on a business model. She also stated that there is a need for discussion on the impact of this on academic freedom of faculty. Alan Applebaum made a motion that the committee creates a waiver for faculty who don't want any technology support at all, except for ghosting the computer on as an open/unlocked image. The motion, which was seconded by Catherine Leisek, carried. Gregg said she would take it back to the committee.

F. *UFF Report – Alan Applebaum*

Alan stated that nothing with negotiations has changed over the past 3 years. The Board continues to remove language from the contract and we will continue to fight to keep it in. He

reminded the faculty that they should check their emails for bargaining updates from Daniel Rieger, UFF Chief Negotiator.

G. *Enrollment Reporting and Attendance – Angelia Millender*

VP Millender opened the discussion by explaining the Federal Audit criticisms the College received during a recent audit. There were three criticisms, the main one being that the College continuously returns Title 4 money late. According to VP Millender, “compliance issues must be addressed for fear of losing our ability to offer financial aid to our students. If the aid is subsidized, the interest is deferred and paid by the government while the student is enrolled. If the aid is unsubsidized, the interest accrues but payment is deferred while the student is enrolled.” She explained the varying levels of financial aid a student can receive. For example, if a student receives Veteran’s aid, their funds are disbursed monthly. However, if a student receives a Pell grant, half of their funds are disbursed up front. After explaining other levels of funding, she explained how the reporting of W grades negatively impacts the student (in their ability to receive aid in the future) and the College (the portion of the \$72 million the College received in Federal funds the must be repaid). It was for these reasons, VP Millender explained, that she sent the email that stopped the practice of giving W grades after November 3rd.

Catherine stated that there is an essential problem with communication at all levels of the College. VP Millender agreed and said she was open to collaborating with the Senate to come up with a resolution, both temporary for this term as well as long term for the future. There was a lot of discussion about the need for faculty to have the ability to give W’s and X’s during the upcoming grade-reporting period, especially if they have already entered into a contract with students. After much discussion and suggestions, VP Millender agreed to accept the student contracts some faculty have already entered into as “documentation for extenuating circumstances.” Both VP Millender and VP Adkins stated they will create and disseminate the form to be used. The Senate, VP Adkins, and VP Millender eventually came up with the following process to handle this semester’s situation with the reporting of W’s:

- Faculty will use the form and attach the documentation for extenuating circumstances.
- The form must be signed by the Associate Dean and the campus Academic/Instructional Dean before being sent to the Registrar.
- The last date of attendance, which cannot be a date before the 60% date of the term, must be written on the form.

VP Adkins stated that a memo with a draft of the form attached would be going out to faculty from his office.

Peter Battaglia suggested that since there is no current policy on how this should be handled, the Senate should look into coming up with one. Teresa M. Hodge commented that there was a subcommittee of the Senate that had looked into attendance reporting and the reporting of W’s a few years ago and suggested that this committee be reconvened. There was consensus to this point so Teresa made a motion that the previous subcommittee be reconvened to look at current issues surrounding attendance verification, the reporting of W’s, and to create language for a policy on the issue. The motion, which was seconded by Dianne Ruggiero, carried. Jim named the current Senators who were a part of the original subcommittee: Steve Roig-Watnik, Angela Michaels, and Teresa. He asked if there was anyone else who would like to volunteer for the subcommittee but there were no others. The Senate then provided the following suggestions for the subcommittee to consider:

- How would faculty know what grades to assign?

- Training and direction should be given to faculty and Associate Deans on the meaning of grades and the “status of registration.”
- Can registrar designators be provided on the class roster so the faculty are aware of students’ status (financial aid, VA, etc.)?
- Can an online tutorial be provided for new faculty?

The committee was asked to consider these issues as well as any other issues as they arise.

David Moore suggested that any response to the audit criticism should include the remedy just achieved, including the meeting minutes, the new form, and the outcomes of the Senate subcommittee.

.05 NEW BUSINESS

A. *W grades after the 60% point of the term – Catherine Leisek*

Given the discussion above, Catherine asked that this item be removed from the agenda. Jim concurred and, with the approval of the Senate, this item was removed.

B. *Faculty Graduation Marshals Needed – Willie Alexander*

Jim announced that two additional graduation marshals were needed for the May graduation. Rosa Gaskins and Alan Applebaum volunteered.

C. *Academic Excellence Steering Council – VP Russ Adkins*

VP Adkins gave an overview of the structure of the new Councils.

- Students (Student Affairs)
- Resource Development Council – Nancy Botero & Bill Pennel, co-chairs
 - Facilities Master Plan
 - Legislative Funding & Interest
 - Revenue Generation & Cost Control
 - Emergency Management
- IE/Data Collection
- Academic Excellence Steering Council
 - College Prep/College Readiness
 - Faculty Development (Full-time & Part-time)
 - Gen Ed Commitment
 - Student Engagement/Graduation Readiness

Under this new structure, stated VP Adkins, all college-wide committees would report to the Councils. Catherine stated that faculty should be involved at every level as required under SACS co-governance. She then restated her motion and asked that a memo be sent to the Faculty Senate President and UFF President requesting names of faculty members who can be added to these Councils.

D. *Co-Governance – Catherine Leisek*

Catherine made a statement for the record: “The situation at the College is dire and all in the room know it. Relationships throughout the College are non-existent. I have 12 things that indicate an obvious violation of SACS co-governance. A letter will be going to SACS for infringement of co-governance by the Board of Trustees. The BOT and David Armstrong are failing to meet the needs of the College. A letter of no confidence will be forthcoming as well.” After this was state for the record, she pulled this item from the agenda and asked that it be placed on next month’s agenda. Steve Roig-Watnik stated that the pre-SACS dog and

pony show was not really participatory co-governance but was really about the appearance of co-governance. He further stated that there is disconnect between what's happening and what happens at bargaining. Alan then requested that there be a meeting of the Senate and President Armstrong. Alan made a motion that the Senate president requests a meeting with President Armstrong. The motion, which was seconded by Steve, carried.

.06 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- BC Holiday Bash @ Signature Grand, Davie on 12/11 from 12-3pm. Unwrapped toy and/or non-perishable food will be collected. Register online on the Professional Development page, keyword "Holiday."
- UFF Holiday Happy Hour on 12/18 from 5-9pm @ Gatsby's in Davie. Unwrapped toys will be collected for Toys for Tots.
- FACC/Legislative Council meeting on 12/15 from 2-4pm @ Tigertail/Metcalf Campus. New officers announced, Holiday Party 4-7pm.

.07 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Teresa M. Hodge for Darena Borgers.

**The next Faculty Senate Meeting is scheduled for
January 21, 2010
on
Central Campus, 17/425/426**