

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 20, 2007, 2:30 p.m.
Central Campus, (17/425-426)

Attendance: As signed in.

.01 CALL TO ORDER. Catherine Leisek 2:40 p.m.

.02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA. Agenda approved as amended.

.03 APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Debbie Nycz made a motion to approve the minutes of August 2007. Neil linger seconded.

.04 OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Senate President's Report: Catherine Leisek (Update on Reporting of Attendance).** Catherine stated that she would like to report on what had been taking place on the President's Cabinet. It would appear that the new administration is having a problem with co-governance. Decisions are being made outside of the standing committees—past practice has had the committees make recommendations. All people who have knowledge of past practice downtown, staff and administrators, may not be there long. Faculty must insist on co-governance.

Debbie Nycz added that she has observed the same things. Changes in policy that affect faculty must be brought before the Faculty Union. The Graduation Committee voted for example that the December graduation be held outdoors, but that decision was overturned. There will be two graduations at the Omni.

Catherine Leisek continued by stating that there was no input on SPD funds—money for student success initiatives will be available. President Armstrong is making the decisions. Student opinion surveys will no doubt have an effect on faculty. We are now preparing the next phase of budget reporting. SPD may be going. I have also heard that adjunct faculty are the wave of the future. We have been promised that academics will not be cut in this time of budget crunch. The board should rule on on policy, not procedures—but they do both. Catherine Leisek ended by saying we must be watchful of budget cuts.

An updated list of faculty senate meeting dates and locations has been distributed. Debbie Nycz reminded everyone to put these dates on their Groupwise calendars and class schedules.

Some positive things downtown include the legislative council and their webpage. This will help us be more involved in legislation. Also, the Total Rewards Strategy by HR does not include faculty, but is of interest to faculty. Friday, Oct 13 (12?) will be a meeting of the Professor Emeritus Committee. The Foundation's latest campaign is underway. Money raised supports students.

- B. **Block Scheduling:** Hank Martel reported that Wendy has been getting data back on the survey, but it is not yet ready to be pilot tested. They will put the survey out as soon as it is ready. He attended a student government meeting and asked if student government could conduct their own surveys—South and North student leaders were present and took this ideas back to their student government groups. These will be done as focus groups with the assistance of three faculty members. Student government will now take on this initiative.

Steve Watnik asked if the faculty advisors would be working with students on the formulation of questions to make sure the questions are usable. Steve asked if the surveys could be seen by the senate before they are used. Joel Nydahl asked if there were any sense that the Board had any opinion on block scheduling. Catherine responded by saying she had not heard anything on that, but she did know that the Board wanted to see classes on Friday.

The faculty survey had a lot of drop-down boxes for comments, not just a yes or no. Debbie Nycz asked if all campuses could get combinations of three-hour classes as well as other alternatives. Hank Martel said, the survey, while focused on block scheduling, will bring forth opinions on various alternatives, such as splitting up the week. Debbie Nycz asked when the survey would be out, so that some of these ideas could be shared with faculty.

Ione Turpin asked if the survey for faculty would be the same questions that students would answer. The faculty survey is web-based. Students will be doing focus groups, not the laundry list of possibilities. Hank Martel stated that they are not looking for just a yes or no on block scheduling.

Steve Watnik pointed out that the survey questions for both groups should be prefaced with the statement that we want to maximize learning, not personal schedules. This same faculty committee spoke with Wendy, who will also be looking at a data analysis. There are a number of things that we should be looking at with the data analysis. This committee has up until now that we set up the surveys.

Steve Watnik made a motion--and Gloria Schaeffer seconded--that the Senate be given draft copies of the surveys before they are used. Motion passed.

Catherine Leisek asked if the Senate would like another committee to oversee the whole process. Debbie Nycz made the motion and Steve Watnik seconded. Motion passed. Catherine Leisek asked for volunteers: Debbie Nycz, Behnoush Memari, and Angela Michaels volunteered. Ken Ross volunteered as an ex-official member of this committee.

- C. Professor of the Year: Dianne Ruggiero stated that an electronic copy of the report would be forwarded to the senators. Now that Health Sciences is part of the process, they looked at updating the guidelines. In an effort to streamline, they recommended that the Health Science award be moved into the Central Campus (includes WHC): North 87, South 97 and Central 189 full-time faculty—that is why they recommended moving it to Central. Deans of Academic Affairs would co-chair with the Health Deans on their campuses. Debbie Nycz moved to adopt the changes. Neil Linger seconded. Motion passed.
- D. Review of Textbook Adoption: Ken Ross / Steve Watnik / Catherine Leisek.

Ken Ross said that he read what was sent out. Other than using the recommendations made, Ken Ross suggested that we might want to be little more cautious about how we select texts—that is, cautious with the favors we accept from textbook publishers. Fred Searcy worked on that about three years ago, we need to take it beyond the recommendations, and bolster it a little bit. Catherine Leisek said she would like to see a committee work on this. Teresa Hodge made a motion to convene a committee. Neil Linger seconded. Motion passed. Several people volunteered: Teresa Hodge, Russ Adkins, B. G. Thompson, Catherine Leisek and George Masforroll. Ken Ross also nominated Fred Searcy as ex-officio member. Steve Watnik stated that three math faculty members have agreed on a certain set of protocols for textbook adoption to reach a consensus. Daniel Rieger stated that some of the recommendations are worded quite strongly and would infringe on academic freedom. This document would have to consider the work condition impact and sent to the United Faculty of Florida to review. Catherine stated that if documents are sent to her, she will make sure that Daniel Rieger reviews them.

The Faculty/Staff Development Master Plan & Diversity Goal #1 (postponed). Scott Feaster had stated at the previous senate meeting that parity with the community may create problems, especially in hiring new faculty with the anticipated faculty retirements. Edna Chun will be invited back to continue the discussion on this.

The replacements for senators, who were away, was then discussed. Debbie Nycz nominated Terry Hayes to serve for Kate Le Grand, who is on leave this semester. Motion seconded by Teresa Hodge. Motion passed. Debbie Nycz then nominated Daniel Rieger to serve for Susan Oldfather, who is on leave this semester. Motion seconded by Teresa Hodge. Motion passed. Steve Watnik reminded us that Cynthia Halstead was no longer at the college. Catherine

Leisek stated that the Central Campus will need to find a replacement senator. The ratio is one senator for every fifteen faculty . We request accurate counts of full-time and temporary full-time and adjuncts on each campus from HR for the next meeting.

Update on reporting of student attendances. Ken Ross reported problems with as many as 18 email messages to one faculty member on attendance. Do not send Marcia any more email messages. We are trying to fix those things we did not anticipate. Reports necessitate closing the system to run the data, but the window will be open again. Share with your ear with us, we are doing the best we can. Catherine Leisek asked that faculty not be blamed for not submitting.

Angelia Millender, VP, Student Affairs, stood and introduced herself.

.05 NEW BUSINESS

- A. Changing Room Capacities After Start of the Semester.** North Campus had a problem on the fourth week of classes. Teresa Hodge read a letter on the senate floor.

Debbie Nycz asked the we make a motion to have the president send a letter to the provost. Room assignments were made in the spring. Teresa seconded. Motion passed.

.06 ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Debbie Nycz announced that the official kick-off happened yesterday. Brochures were sent to all of you. Regardless of what is happening downtown or at bargaining, this about helping the foundation and helping our students. Even one dollar per paycheck would help a student take a class. Remember, your contributions are matched dollar for dollar by the State. It is not the amount of money, it is about 100% participation.

Catherine Leisek reminded us that the academic deans on each campus want to meet with campus senators for a part of one of their meetings with their associate deans to hear about faculty senate issues and concerns.

Catherine Leisek announced that Maureen Dinen had just won a Woman of the Year award.

.07 ADJOURNMENT. Debbie Nycz made a motion to adjourn. Neil Linger seconded. The senate meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.