

**Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Thursday September 18, 2008
Central Campus 17/425-6**

Faculty Senate Attendance:

Senators: Kate LeGrand, Renee Pleus, Maria Bernal-Dobek, Michael Tenenbaum, Karen Roberts, Jacqueline Henning, Ione Turpin, Angela Michaels, Damon Davis, Steve Roig-Watnik, Joyce Walsh-Portillo, Jim Lansing, Rosa Gaskins, Todd Bernhardt, Angela Russell, Kayla Mathis-Gambe, Joy Stewart, Darena Borgers, Barry Mowell, Neil Linger, Leah Lyons, Xiao Wang, Blaine Browne, Bob Brasco, Karen Modrich, Teresa M. Hodge

Visitors: Audrey Hunter, Alan Applebaum, Mattie Roig-Watnik, Elaine Cohen, Anne Cardozo, Irmgard Bocchino, Michael Fenick, Donna Henderson, BG Thompson, Dianne Ruggiero, Denese Edsall, Hank Martell, Russ Adkins, Chris Roddy, David Moore, Karen Lee Murphy, Trish Joyce, Ed Erazo, Cathleen Horne

01. **Call to Order.** President Catherine Leisek called the meeting to order at 2:36pm.
02. **Approval of the Agenda.** Two items were added to New Business: (Standing Committees requested by Rosa Gaskins and Delayed Reimbursements from Accounting requested by Blaine Brown). The motion was made by Neil Linger and seconded by Rosa Gaskins to approve the agenda with the two additional New Business items. The motion carried.
03. **Approval of the Minutes.** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 2008 meeting by Xiao Wang and seconded by Rosa Gaskins. The motion carried. Note: Catherine will add the names of Senators and Guests before final posting.
04. **Old Business**

Senate President's Report — Catherine Leisek

Calendars: Catherine noted that she had had inquiries from faculty about the 2009-2010 Academic Calendar and asked if the Calendar Committee had been convened. Dr. Judith Sherer responded that a Committee, largely made up of previous committee members plus a few logical others, was in fact meeting tomorrow (September 19) at 9:00am to begin the task of setting the Academic Calendar. Sherer invited anyone interested to attend the meeting and participate.

Jim Lansing asked if all the calendars: instructional, administrative, and academic would be the work of this Committee. Sherer responded that though new to the process here at the College, she assumed that the other calendars would be built upon the Academic Calendar once it was completed.

Damon Davis asked if the meeting might be rescheduled for a later date. Sherer responded that the Committee would probably meet again and anyone wanting to could join the process at that time. Steve Roig-Watnik offered that work on the Instructional Calendar had previously been done by a jointly appointed group of Senators and UFF representatives. He also noted the anomalies in the number of weeks for Monday-Wednesday and Tuesday-Thursday classes in the current calendar.

Catherine asked that more than just one Academic year's calendar be created. This had been the practice in the past and helped faculty and staff plan ahead. She also suggested that issues of duty vs. on-duty days and block scheduling were additional concerns that needed to be considered.

President's Cabinet: Catherine reported that she had no report from the President's Cabinet since the group was in a transitional period, now named the Learning Council.

Senator Appointments: With two vacancies on the Senate roster, Alan Applebaum's name was put forth as 08-09 replacement at Central. Neil Linger made the motion to appoint Alan; Kate LeGrand, seconded. The motion carried.

A vacancy at North Campus remains; Senators at North and Catherine are still working on a replacement candidate.

Committees: Catherine reminded the Senators that three faculty had volunteered to serve on a committee to investigate *Assessment Software* with Russ Adkins: Steve Roig-Watnik, Teresa Diehl, and Behnoush Memari.

Catherine indicated that the *Block Schedule Committee* will reconvene in October to consider the future of block scheduling at the College.

The *Textbook Committee's* charge would be changed to include consideration of the recent legislation. (CH 2009-78, House Bill No. 603) The membership of the committee will rollover from last year's. Alan Applebaum asked that until things are worked out with the legislative guidelines: what are the faculty allowed or not allowed to do? Sherer offered that the law is very generic with the specifics to be determined by the guidelines and local policies. Senators discussed various scenarios vis a vis 'favored' behavior or accepting honoraria for reviewing. Audrey Hunter indicated her willingness to join the Textbook Committee.

Alan Applebaum further inquired about the textbook legislation and guidelines. Sherer indicated the George Masforroll from the Bookstore would be holding conversations on all campuses looking for scenarios to describe faculty concerns and needs. She encouraged faculty to attend these sessions and welcomed email on talking points she will collect and take to the guidelines sessions. Sherer reported that when George testified during the legislation's adoption, he had been a strong advocate for faculty concerns.

Steve Roig-Watnik reminded the group that the former Textbook Committee had concerns about textbook publishing ethics, academic freedom, differences between disciplines, etc and had been on-going for several years. Thus the current Committee might look at the old language prior to this new legislation.

Catherine suggested it might be a good idea if a Faculty member accompanied George to Tallahassee to address the issues of the guidelines. Alan Applebaum moved that someone from the Broward College Faculty attend the guidelines sessions with George. Neil Linger seconded. Motion carried.

Catherine indicated the Senate would investigate covering the travel expenses; Dr. Sherer indicated assistance with funds as well.

.05 New Business

A. Technological Distractions -- Kate Le Grand

Kate LeGrand talked about the issues faculty face with all the technological distractions available to students. She described her class and its use of the BlackBoard interface which comes with some of its own built-in distractions, i.e. Chat. She emphasized the need to teach the students to respect the learning environment, to focus on their learning, and to respect the educational process. Senators and guests offered various approaches and views on these issues. Kate stated that she was asking that faculty and others begin a conversation on these issues. Catherine suggested that she would schedule further discussion at a future Senate meeting.

B. Assessment Software Vendors -- Russ Adkins

Russ Adkins updated the group on the work of the Committee formed at the 1st Faculty Meeting of the year to review “assessment management software”. The software is to assist the College in tracking the achievement of measurable learning outcomes, a requirement of SACS. Though each course at the College has outcomes, evidence of the achievement of those outcomes needs to be collected; hence the desire to select a software package that will help capture the data needed. Last Friday, September 12, 2008, the Committee narrowed the possible software vendors from three to two. The next step would be to have these two vendors hold demonstrations of their product. These demo sessions will be scheduled on each campus on Thursday afternoons, Friday mornings, and Friday afternoons which should allow most faculty and other interested parties to see the software in action and make a determination as to how it works, what it does, and what we would have to do with it. Russ asked everyone to get involved in the selection.

Senators (Kate LeGrand, Teresa Hodges, Alan Applebaum, Damon Davis, Steve Roig-Watnik, Bary Mowell) had lots of questions and concerns. Catherine stated that it was evident a whole meeting was needed to acquaint us with this initiative and allow for further discussion by the faculty.

Michael Tennebaum asked that a copy of SACS mandate referred to be forwarded to the Senators.

Russ mentioned that St Pete College, Miami Dade College and Florida Community College at Jacksonville are some colleges currently using the software for programs though not college-wide as far as he knew.

C. Multi-Cultural Institute Draft Proposal -- D. Moore and M. Bernal-Dobek

David Moore told the group that Susan Greive-Brown would chair the International Education Committee.

Moore introduced Maria Bernal-Dobek who serves on the Holcombe Institute Advisory Committee to talk about an initiative under development to create a multi-cultural institute as part of the Holcombe Institute offerings. The vision is for a small group of faculty to work together to infuse multicultural issues into their curricula as an on-going effort.

As part of this development, Carolyn Barr and Maria Bernal-Dobek will be attending a conference “Diversity, Learning and Inclusive Excellence” through the Association of American

Colleges and Universities on October 16-18, 2008. They welcome someone from the South campus to join them if possible.

David indicated that he would like to meet with faculty who are interested in infusing diversity into their courses. Moore distributed the flyer about the Study Abroad Information Sessions for November 2009 to be held on all campuses.

D. Remediation Reduction Presentation -- Donna Henderson

Donna Henderson distributed a handout: "Florida Department of Education College Readiness Initiative". Donna informed the Senators about this State program that would use the FCAT tests to identify 11th grade students needing help in math. Next year the program would be extended to English and reading scores. Broward College would offer the 0024 class in the County's high schools; the course would be a ½-credit elective. Classes would be taught by the school's faculty; the College would CPT test the students upon completion of the course. The next step will be to offer 1033 as a dual-enrollment senior course. The goal of the program is to have the students be "college algebra ready" when they graduate from high school and reduce the need for remediation at the College level by 10% a year. The state funded for this program with \$700,000; Broward County got \$70,000 of that.

This program is currently in the organizational phase. More information will be forthcoming.

E. Delayed reimbursement from Accounting – Blaine Browne

Senator Blaine Browne voiced the concern that reimbursement checks for money spent on conferences, etc which previously took 2 weeks was now taking 2 months. Catherine shared that several of her applications for reimbursement had gotten 'lost' 3 times. David Moore noted that perhaps the change in personnel, and then the problem of training and re-organizing had impacted the process. Sherer said she would check into the problem.

F. Standing Committees – Rosa Gaskins

Due to the lengthy previous discussions, this item was tabled until next Senate meeting.

.06 Announcements

There were no announcements.

.06. Adjournment

Kate LeGrand moved for adjournment and the motion was seconded by Teresa Hodge. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:23pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Jacqueline Henning

Senator

The Next Faculty Senate Meeting will be at South Campus on October 23, 2:30 PM, 69/133