Florida Gulf Coast University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes of 1/16/09  
Student Union Chambers

Attendance:  
Alexakis, George; Angeletti, Michelle; Bolduc-Simpson, Sheila; Braddy, Jon; Burkett, Tony; Cooke, Rachel; Erdman, Rob; Gogate, Lakshmi; Harrison, Doug; Hartley, Anne; Kauanui, Sandra; Kleeger, Jeff; Lindsey, Chuck; Mock, Karen; Paine, Morgan; Pavelka, Sandra; Rosenthal, Martha; Sakharuk, Alex; Simpson, Mark; St. Hill, Halcyon; Swalaheen, Mushfiq; Szecsi, Tunde; Upham, Dayle; Vazquez-Montilla, Elia; Villiers, Claude; Voytek, Mary; Wisnom, Mary; Yazici, Julie; Zhao, Fan

Alternate Senators:  
None

Absent without Alternate:  
Carlson, Erik; Chesnutt, Rod; Kirche, Lee

Absent with Proxy:  
Murray, Beth

Guests:  
Cathy Duff; Isaacs, Madelyn; Nolan, Anne; Rogers, Hudson; Roman, Isaac; Savarese, Michael; Snyder, Paul; Toll, Ronald

I. Gathering  
President Halcyon St. Hill called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. when quorum was reached.

II. Reports

A. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Report – Ron Toll  
   • In a recent special legislative session, Dr. Toll said FGCU lost one million dollars in funding from the solar project. This was a committed appropriation and he had never seen this done before. Proposed cut at one time was up to 2.1 million. FGCU is attempting to keep the project whole. We are losing 4% or 2.1 million in general revenue from this fiscal year. The good news is that we have good budgetary managers and should be able to endure this fiscal year without additional trauma if no more cuts are delivered. We are very concerned, however, about next fiscal year.  
   • I am attending the BOG meeting later this month for President Bradshaw.  
   • Joe Shepard and I will soon be finalizing the members of the 5 committees of the Planning and Budget Council. The Council will be charged by the President on February 2nd and will begin immediately to work on the challenges of both this year’s and/or next year’s fiscal budgets.  
   • The BOT Meeting will be held next Tuesday, January 20th.  
   • Nine representatives from FGCU, including several faculty members, will be attending the AAC&U Meeting in Seattle, Washington from January 21 – 24th. Met yesterday with several FGCU faculty members. We are looking forward to a great meeting.

B. SGA Report – Isaac Roman  
   • Florida Student Association (FSA) is visiting FGCU today.  
   • The current Eagle News contains information regarding student clubs, organizations, and a list of upcoming meetings and activities.  
   • Nest Fest will be held on Saturday, January 31st and should be an awesome event. Join us for the fun.  
   • This Saturday, Student Government, along with campus environmental groups, is helping to relocate the plants in the preserve where the new solar field will be located.  
   • SG is also participating in Give Kids the World which is a program to take 45 terminally ill children to Disney World in Orlando.
• The dining area in front of Starbucks, known as “The Coop,” now has extended hours until 1:00 a.m. providing a place for students to gather, study, or just hang out.
• Welcome Week is this week and will feature an ice skating rink and a carnival.
• Budget Hearings will be held on the 21st.
• Next year, Student Government plans to add four new director positions.
• Student Government will host an inaugural party on January 20th.

C. The Orange Grove Repository – Jennifer Sparrow

• Jennifer Sparrow, Assistant Director E-Learning, told Senators The Orange Grove is a free on-line educational resource program available to all educators and designed as a way of sharing and re-using educational resources. She showed the Senate a three minute video highlighting the features of the program.
• This program can be found at www.TheOrangeGrove.org and is free to all Florida educators. You can personally request your own individual account for full use of academic resources or my department can request for you. This web source has been peer reviewed by other educators in the State of Florida.
• When accessing a resource, the program will tell you to whom you should attribute the reference.
• Jennifer said that she and David Green from College of Arts and Sciences were both available to assist.

D. General Education Update – Doug Harrison

• Doug Harrison gave a brief update on General Education noting that January 29th is the deadline for critical innovations and grant proposals sponsored by Office of Curriculum and Instruction and the General Education Council.
• You should have already seen these from your representative. You will be receiving reminders early next week with companion document. February 1st is the deadline for proposals to change existing general education course work or to create new general education course work that will count towards proposed diversity requirement. You will be receiving an e-mail from your representative on General Education Council.
• Finally, please keep in mind that revising standards criteria was approved last semester by the Council.
• Trying to create a seamless curriculum review process. If changes are proposed, those documents will be available.

E. UFF Report – Maddy Isaacs

• Attended Board meeting yesterday for local organization.
• USF is looking at how best can support current budget.
• USF is mobilizing action on the tuition proposal.
• Statewide Senate Meeting coming up at the end of the month.
• Elections to be held in March for all positions. Encourage your participation in the process.
• New website coming online in the next couple of weeks and will provide more immediate resources.
• Informal social will be held on February 3rd.

F. Senate President’s Report – Halcyon St. Hill

• UBOT received the faculty resolution for the PR1.003 discrimination document and rest assured that I will serve as the vector for the faculty message at the meeting on January 20th. All faculty and staff received an e-mail notice for the meeting. UBOT Meeting agenda and documents can be found on the FGCU BOT website and on the FGCU Senate website homepage on the UBOT link.
• Mollie Venglar, CHP, will serve as faculty representative for the upcoming Student Affairs blood drive scheduled for February.
• Has been a glitch on the homepage of the Faculty Senate website; some approved minutes are not yet posted.
• Alice Bruner will represent Student Affairs on the SLOG Task Force as Pam Schreiber is leaving FGCU. The SLOG Task Force met this past Tuesday. Charge given to: (1) define collaborative process between the FGCU faculty and administration for reconsidering undergraduate and graduate students’ learning outcomes and goals, and (2) proceed with the review of the existing university graduate and undergraduate students’ outcomes/goals within an acceptable time frame. Want to keep communication between Task Force members and constituents open. This is going to be a big job but representatives are expected to keep the flow of communication between the task force and those they represent and seek their input. First task is to clarify terminology outcomes versus goals; propose a timeframe and frequency for review; propose a vision for assessment of student learning outcomes and achievements; ensure that goals reflect the vision, mission, and guiding principles of FGCU; and discuss what changes, if any, should be made to the existing FGCU learning goals.
• Requested representatives for Faculty Senate on Planning and Budget Council sub-committees as follows: Budget, 2; Safety & Facilities, 2; Enrollment/Retention, 1; Strategic Planning & Institutional Effectiveness, 2. Senators were asked if interested – more information on the committees are available on the Provost and Senate websites. By the end of the meeting one Senator – Jon Braddy shared his interest in the Budget Committee.

• WINK and FGCU Cares Walk is scheduled for this Saturday, January 17th at Miromar Outlet Mall. Would like to get a group together from the Senate to participate.

• Attended ACFS Meeting in Tallahassee. State Budget – Tim Jones CFA reported 4% cut that was held back, PECO funds dropped about 50% to $140 million. FGCU cut for new solar ray project ($1 million for the project). Hopeful about getting stimulus dollars. Discussed a 10 -15% decrease in revenues on top of current next year; lottery dollars down so no lottery cash distributions made to university – prepare to lose lottery dollars.

We need to start looking at budget and what lobbying can accomplish. At the State level, talked about faculty and student government Rally in Tally-scheduled for March 4th on the capitol building steps. Expect to have three other lobbying efforts between March and April 2009. Will continue to work on with Jennifer Goen. Chancellor noted that while things are very bad budget wise, there is some optimism in the future for a paradigm shift in terms of how tuition is managed. As faculty, we need to think about how best to streamline our curriculum and how to work smarter. We are working collaboratively. Distance Learning task force draft document expected to be ready for the 1/26/09 BOG meeting. The Textbook Task Force will propose guidelines for UBOT’s to develop policies. The FL Digital Repository will provide on demand publications of faculty materials and open access to textbook (Orange Grove).

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2008 meeting; minutes approved.

IV. Old Business

A. Graduate Admissions Policy – Ann Nolan (Pages 3 to 8 on Attachment 1 Graduate Policies Document: Pages 3 to 8 – Action Item)

• One item has been brought to the attention of the committee that is not in the document you have for action today: On Page 5 and then again on Page 6, under:
  b. Graduate Student Status
  The following: “unless granted leave of absence by the program” needs to be added to the end of the first sentence under item b. so that it will read:
  “In order to maintain active status as degree-seeking, a student must be enrolled during at least one (1) semester during each calendar year unless granted leave of absence by the program.”

Dr. St. Hill asked for a motion for the document to be approved as amended above. Motion was made and seconded. Vote taken and motion passed.

V. Bylaws Changes – Martha Rosenthal (Attachment 2 – Action Item)

• Martha told the Senate that this was not for voting on today. She explained that these changes are being proposed because no one has officially delineated the responsibilities of a Senator or the experience needed to become a Secretary or Parliamentarian. The additions in Sections 3.01 and 3.03 address these needs. This is open for discussion. Please take to your units and we will vote on at the next meeting.

B. Faculty Affairs Task Force for SAI – Chuck Lindsey (Attachment 3)

• This Task Force will be charged with reviewing current policies and with creating a policy and procedures for administering. The SAI. Over 1,000 sections are given each semester at FGCU. Need to establish guidelines.

• Paul Snyder commented that the issue here is the preference of the faculty and how faculty members determine the importance of the SAI.

• Chuck Lindsey said that the document regarding policy will come back to the Senate.

• Paul Snyder said he wanted to make clear that the SAI has nothing to do with grades. Don’t confuse with the evaluation currently being done for the QEP. We might want to consider changing the name of the SAI.

• Chuck Lindsey said it would be possible to have something in place by fall of 2009.
Approved January 30, 2009

- Paul Snyder noted that changing the implementation date would involve all kinds of repercussions.
- Time ran out. Chuck Lindsey noted we would vote on next time.


- Dr. St. Hill asked the Senate for any items, policies, or procedures it would like to see included in the handbook. Please e-mail me with your input. We are working on placing approved minutes on the Senate website. Minutes in draft form will be sent to you and not placed on the website as they are not always exactly accurate until approved. All agenda items are being viewed as individual attachments and not one running document. This allows for printing only those desired - helps to keep us lean and green. Robert Erdman suggested reducing the margins to save space. Dr. St. Hill noted that we are better able to establish transparency which will help us as faculty Senate to function more effectively.

D. For the Good of the Order

VI. Announcements

A. Next Senate Leadership Meeting: February 13, 2009
B. Next Senate Meeting: January 30, 2009

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.