Florida Gulf Coast University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of 10/31/08
Student Union Chambers
DRAFT

Attendance: Alexakis, George; Angeletti, Michelle; Boldic-Simpson, Sheila; Braddy, Jon; Burkett, Tony; Carlson, Erik; Chesnutt, Rod; Erdman, Rob; Gogate, Lakshmi; Harrison, Doug; Hartley, Anne; Kirche, Lee; Kleegeer, Jeff; Lindsey, Chuck; Mock, Karen; Murray, Beth; Paine, Morgan; Rosenthal, Martha; Simpson, Mark; St. Hill, Haleyon; Swalhaeen, Mushfiq; Upham, Dayle; Vazquez-Montilla, Elia; Villiers, Claude; Voytek, Mary; Yazici, Julie; Zhao, Fan

Alternate Senators: Kay Oistad (for Cooke, Rachel); Darlene Andert (for Kauanui, Sandra); Menaka Navaratna (for Sakharuk, Alex); Mark Paschall (for Szecsi, Tunde)

Absent without Alternate: Jinian, Jeff

Absent with Proxy: Wisnom, Mary

Guests: Bradshaw, Jo Anna; Haring, Debora; Rogers, Hudson; Roman, Isaac; Snyder, Paul; Toll, Ronald

I. Gathering

President Halcyon St. Hill called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. when quorum was reached. Martha Rosenthal reminded the senators of the current attendance policy reiterating that if a Senator misses three or more meetings without an alternate, he/she is considered to have resigned. Sending a proxy (although important) doesn’t count as the only function the proxy serves is to vote in absence of the Senator.

II. Reports

A. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Report – Ron Toll

- Recent conference call held with Academic Affairs Committee of BOG to discuss doctoral programs proposed by sister institutions. BOG is encouraging the governors to be more active.
- Lottery proceeds are predicted to be down this year by 7% and down an additional 1.7% next year.
- At our last meeting, I pledged to fund $10,000 for faculty development. I would like to fund several faculty members to attend the American Association of Colleges and Universities meeting in Seattle in January. This meeting is pertinent to our mission. I would also like to support faculty research and have asked Tom Roberts to contribute $5,000 to that end.
- In response to a question from the last meeting regarding our liability insurance, I can report that our annual premiums to the State Department of Financial Services are $80,360.
- The last two weeks have been both the best of times and the worst of times for FGCU. I hope you all read Dr. Bradshaw’s editorial in the paper last Sunday.
- There have been numerous positive things that have occurred recently. By way of example, in the last two weeks I have participated in the following FGCU events:
  - Two IT consultants from Stratum-Broadband were on campus for two days last week to review our IT structure. While here, they met with the Senate Leadership team. They were very impressed with our infrastructure, staff, and the institution. In approximately two weeks, FGCU will receive their final report.
  - Served ice cream at the Ice Cream Social this week to recognize those who participated in the “Funds of Excellence Campaign.”
  - Attended grand opening of the Lutgert College of Business which was an amazing expression of pride both from the college and the community-at-large. Approximately 200+ community members attended.

Approved November 15, 2008
Met with Sean Terwilliger, president of Student Government. The administration’s relationship with Student Government is very positive.

Attended UFF fall social. The administration is also very appreciative of its existing relationship with UFF.

Just returned from a visit to the Steinway Piano Company in New York City.

Solar field dedication is bringing FGCU both national and international acclaim.

Attended Eagle Family Weekend which was held from October 17 – 19th.

Eagle Expo is being held tomorrow.

Went to reception and opening for new exhibit in the Art Gallery.

The last two years have been difficult for FGCU; nevertheless, positive things are happening and we have a very positive relationship with the community. We look forward to the best of times. “Let’s make the second decade an amazing decade by working together for FGCU.”

Time ran out. Motion made and passed to extend. Dr. Toll said that he would let the Senate know about the process to select the faculty members going to Seattle and receiving research support from the Provost.

B. SGA Report – Isaac Roman

Website is complete. Should be up and running by Tuesday.

Shuttle bill passed so shuttles will be available on November 4th to transport students to and from their voting precinct on Ben Hill Griffin Parkway. Shuttles will be leaving from the student union and from student housing.

Student Government (SG) is going to provide buses to the UF basketball game.

Student Government is gathering information on Bright Futures and writing our position to determine our lobbying stance.

Working on “Hunger Walk.”

Dr. St. Hill noted that the faculty is working with the students to reach a common ground on lobbying and that they will be lobbying together.

C. UFF Report – Maddy Isaacs

Dr. Michelle Angeletti gave the UFF Report.

Chapter meeting on October 16th was very well attended.

The Fall Social was held on October 29th in Student Union 214.

An informal luncheon will be held on November 17th. Please feel free to attend.

Congratulations on the B.O.T. approving the contract.

Inversion/Compression process negotiations have started and the team is headed by Monika Renard.

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

Dr. St. Hill told the Senate that she attended the ground breaking for the solar field on October 28th and the opening of the new Lutgert College of Business on Thursday, October 30th. She emphasized the importance of Senators attending such notable FGCU events.

Dr. St. Hill noted that the Lutgert College of Business was listed in the Princeton Review as one of the top business schools in the country.

Dr. St. Hill also attended the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education Earth-Charter luncheon. She encouraged senators to join the Faculty Associates for the Environmental and Sustainability Center. She indicated that to become a Faculty Associate, the center encouraged faculty to include sustainability as a goal on their Professional Development Plans (PDP). There is also opportunity for Faculty Associates for the Environmental Sustainability Center to apply for grant funding this year through that center. Those interested in becoming Faculty Associates (for the Environmental Sustainability Center) or wanting information on grant funding from the center should contact Sharon Bevins. Highlights of The Earth Charter could be integrated within our curriculum to encourage vision, ethics and action for a sustainable world; would encourage faculty to tie things into our discipline so students can see relevance.

Have had two separate requests for representatives. The first is for someone to serve on the Continuing Education Council. If you know of somebody who is interested to recommend, please
let me know; otherwise, I will designate. The other request is from Anjana Bhatt in the library who wants to remain on the International Council. If the Senate approves, she can stay. Senate did so.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2008 meeting; minutes approved.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. Team FGCU Cares & WINK 1st Annual Feeds Families Hunger Walk – Jo Anna Bradshaw & Debora Haring

- Debora Haring from Graduate Studies addressed the Senate on the great need for food at the Harry Chapin Food Bank. She noted that Mrs. Jo Anna Bradshaw serves on the Harry Chapin Board and that she serves on the Area Hunger Task Force serving the surrounding five county area including approximately 146 food providers. During the recent economic recession, there has been a 30% to 70% increase in the need for food. These are not “street people” but what she termed the “new poor” – individuals and families who have lost their jobs due to economic hardship. “These are our neighbors.” Mrs. Bradshaw told the Senate that the Guadalupe Soup Kitchen ran completely out of food the day prior to the Senate meeting. This is the first time she has seen this occur since she began volunteering there. The Wink Feeds Families Hunger Walk is being planned for January 17th to provide funds for food for the Harry Chapin Food Bank. January will likely be a particularly difficult month for local families. Jo Anna and Debora are both asking for everyone’s support in this event.

B. General Education Update – Doug Harrison

- Dr. Douglas Harrison, chair of the General Education Council, updated the Senate on two initiatives coming out of the Council this semester. The first is the approval of new criteria for general education courses and the second is a diversity requirement proposal. Both initiatives emerge from the Campus Conversation on General Education held in 2006. The new criteria revise and expand existing criteria for new general education courses. The main goal of the new criteria is to create a more coherent general education program across all disciplines that contribute to the gen ed core. If you are proposing new courses, please pay special attention to the new criteria.

- The diversity requirement is attempt to create a core of diversity education in gen ed program. The council is soliciting and responding to feedback and will make a decision on the requirement. Please send any comments or questions to Dr. Harrison or your college's representative to the council.

C. Other Items for the Good of the Order

- Chuck Lindsey presented some insight into the meeting with the IT team from Stratum-Broadband noting the consultants were trying to gather information on faculty perceptions and what worked and did not work. Were primarily concerned with two things: fragmentation of support and budget. As a recommendation, Stratum-Broadband representatives mentioned that they may be a need for a more unified support system. Chuck noted that PECO funds plus matching funds build buildings, but then the challenge is that IT has to support and keep up with updates. Planning for the future is going to be very difficult. FGCU used to have a replacement fund but does not at this time. Dr. Paul Snyder noted that the technology fees approved last year by the legislature will kick in this fall and should help. Suggestion was made to unify all IT on campus under one umbrella.

VI. Announcements

- Senate Leadership Meeting at 11:15 today
- Next Senate Meeting: November 14, 2008

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1010 a.m.

Approved November 15, 2008