



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Minutes

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

February 12, 2004

3:00 P.M. to 5:28 P.M.

202 Tigert

Chair: Anthony B. Brennan

Members present: Tony Brennan, Bob Cousins, Kim Emery, Gene Hemp, Barbara McDade, Jack Mecholsky, Pierre Ramond, Kim Tanzer

Members absent: Saeed Khan, Jean Larson

Guests: David Colburn, Linda Dixon, Bernie Machen, Ed Poppell

Tony Brennan convened the Faculty Senate Steering Committee at 3:00 p.m. in 202 Tigert Hall.

Minutes: Minutes of the January 29 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report: Tony Brennan announced that the president is seeking four or five faculty members as potential members of the Vice President of Student Affairs search committee. Dr. Brennan asked the Steering Committee to assist in identifying them.

UF will be undertaking a climate survey soon. The chair asks that the Faculty Senate play an active role in the process.

Dr. Brennan met with the Committee on Committees last week. That committee will begin meeting with all committees immediately to assure that each is functioning in a manner consistent with the constitution.

Tony Brennan is currently gathering faculty members to serve on the Tenure Committee.

President's Report: President Machen said he is currently in a 100-day plan to meet as many UF stakeholders as possible. He is traveling the state meeting with newspaper editorial boards and alumni groups.

He has been spending time in Washington, D.C. for the purpose of establishing relationships with the congressional delegation.

Win Phillips has been asked to serve as coordinator for the Scripps project.

UF will consider moving to block tuition. If implemented, this will aid in increasing student credit load.

President Machen spoke about problems that have plagued other schools in the area of athletic recruiting. He feels that Athletic Director Jeremy Foley is on top of the matter at UF.

The president has appointed a group of deans to evaluate the practices at the University of Florida Foundation.

President Machen has met with many campus groups that are concerned about diversity. He wants to address the matter of faculty diversity as a priority.

New Business:

- **Water Institute:** Ramesh Reddy gave an overview of the Water Institute. The institute is designed to enhance the reputation of the University of Florida in water-related academic, research and public outreach programs. The institute will focus on solving water-related issues of importance to the state, the nation and the world.
- **Master Plan:** Ed Poppell gave a report on the UF Master Plan. The plan is being revised for 2005-2015, and he wants to begin with a clean slate. That includes revisiting such topics as transportation, parking and conservation. Mr. Poppell is asking the Senate to be involved in the process and has requested faculty volunteers to serve on the Master Plan steering committee, the transportation and parking study group and the conservation study group. The time commitment is estimated between twelve and eighteen months. Mr. Poppell would like to have nominations within thirty days.
- **Constitution Committee:** Kim Tanzer reported that the Constitution Committee is working to address those sections of the constitution that will be most critical to instituting shared governance. They will present draft language at the February Senate meeting, and the vote will be in April.
- **Faculty Senate forum on faculty representation:** Tony Brennan deferred this item until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.