

## Joint meeting of the IFAS Senators and the IFAS Faculty Council

Micanopy Room, Reitz Union

June 14, 2006

**Current Senators present:** Jerry Bartz, Carlene Chase, Don Graetz, Jess Gregory, Marjorie Hoy, Curt Hannah, Bill Lindberg, Gloria Moore, David Mulkey, Sue Percival, Rick Rudd, Jim Selph

**Incoming Senators present:** Judy Butterfield, Pam Brown, Maria Gallo, Ed Jowers, Bob McGovern, Joe Pergola, Craig Stanley

**Current Faculty Council members present:** Martin Adjei, Elizabeth Bolton, John Davis, Lochie Gary, Lisa Guion, Jude Grosser, Bob Hochmuth, Gail Kauwell, Heather McAuslane, Mike Sweat

Sue Percival called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Senators and councilors first enjoyed a luncheon provided by Sr. Vice President Cheek's office and initiated conversations at their tables.

Beginning at noon, Sue Percival facilitated whole-group discussion on the following subjects: 1) roles of UF Senate and IFAS Faculty Council, 2) communication, 3) IFAS representation within the UF Senate, 4) UF Work Plan, and 5) IFAS shared governance.

**Roles of Senate and IFAS Faculty Council.** After discussion, it was agreed that IFAS senators and members of the IFAS Faculty Council have different roles. Senators address issues of importance to the entire University and bring to the university-wide forum diverse viewpoints that may be IFAS-specific or that may be more universal, depending on the experience/situation of the individual senator. IFAS Faculty councilors address issues that are of prime importance to IFAS and that may or may not be relevant or necessarily important to the whole University. However, communication between the IFAS senators and the Faculty Council is vital so that issues brought up in Senate that are important to IFAS can be acted upon by the Faculty Council and issues before the Faculty Council that should be discussed at the university level are known.

**Communication.** Communication between the IFAS senators and the Faculty Council is critical, as is communication to the larger IFAS faculty. Caucusing of the entire membership of the IFAS senators and the Faculty Council was not thought to be necessary, nor was adding a senator in an *ex officio* capacity to the Faculty Council. Any member of the faculty can attend UF Senate meetings and speak for 5 minutes at the end of each meeting. It was deemed unnecessary for a designated Faculty Council member to attend each Senate meeting. However, Faculty Council members may attend Senate meetings that focus on issues of great importance to IFAS.

Designation of these individuals will be done on a case-by-case basis. Several senators and Faculty

Council members currently apprise their individual departments of issues that they consider to be important; however, even if this were to be implemented by all members of the Senate and Faculty Council, there is no uniform representation of all departments, research and education centers, and extension districts within the membership of the Senate and the Faculty Council. We resolved to increase communication between and among the Senate, the Faculty Council, and the IFAS faculty at large by doing the following:

1. Distributing, via the IFAS-ALL listserv, the agendas and minutes of each meeting of the UF Senate and the Faculty Council. This will be handled by the secretary of the Faculty Council and by a member (to be designated) of the IFAS senators. All distributed material will have a link to the web sites of the UF Senate and the IFAS Faculty Council (<http://www.senate.ufl.edu/> and <http://facultyadvisory.ifas.ufl.edu/> respectively).

2. Placing the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of each senator on their web sites. IFAS Faculty councilor information is already listed on their website. Also, an invitation to the faculty will be placed on the distributed agendas and minutes to contact any member with issues/concerns vital to the interests of IFAS as a whole.
3. Making known the availability of the Faculty Council electronic bulletin board ([http://forum.ifas.ufl.edu/forum.asp?FORUM\\_ID=5](http://forum.ifas.ufl.edu/forum.asp?FORUM_ID=5)) and encouraging its use.
4. Lobbying the Senate to invest in a **much** larger television set so that senators who must participate in meetings via PolyCom (most often IFAS faculty) can be seen and heard in the auditorium where Senate meetings are held.

**IFAS Representation within the Senate.** It was agreed that IFAS needs representation on the key Senate committees (of the 30 total). Several senators mentioned that they had served on high-profile committees, such as the Master Plan Steering committee and the Budget committee. Service on these key committees may be very time-consuming given the complex nature of the issues they address and faculty must be very dedicated if they want to be effective.

**UF Work Plan.** Development of the UF Work Plan is a case in point where IFAS representation on key Senate committees and better communication between the IFAS senators and the Faculty Council may have helped IFAS. The call for faculty input into the Work Plan had a very short turnaround that was not conducive to thoughtful suggestions for improvement. Despite this, the IFAS Faculty Council made several carefully reasoned recommendations that were not included in the revised version, despite the fact that other much more extensive college-specific revisions were included. Several senators wished that they had known of the suggestions of the Faculty Council. There still may be a chance to add to/revise the plan once President Machen has shown it to the Board of Trustees. IFAS senators and the Faculty Council will work together to try to ensure that it represents well the strengths and opportunities within IFAS.

**IFAS Shared Governance.** Several senators asked how IFAS will proceed to develop shared governance. Lisa Guion, Chair of the IFAS Faculty Council, relayed that Sr. Vice President Cheek asked the Faculty Council to develop the procedure to write the IFAS by-laws, with Dean Barrick as the administrative liaison. Lisa asked for volunteers among the senators to work with the Faculty Council to craft the by-laws and happily accepted the offers of help from Curt Hannah, Jim Selph, Bill Lindberg, and Elizabeth Bolton.

The senators and councilors thanked Sue Percival for chairing the joint meeting and Sr. Vice President Cheek for providing a luncheon to facilitate our discussions. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather McAuslane  
(Secretary of IFAS Faculty Council)