



meeting minutes 11-1-24

Meeting held virtually on zoom

Attendance COE FA Members: Meredith Mountford, Andres Ramirez, Kelly Emelianchik, -Key, Christy Timm Fulkerson, Dilys Schoorman, Victoria Brown, Charles Dukes, Jillian Powers, Steve Silverman, Anne van Zeist, Bridgette Cassidy, Bryan Nichols, Dale Williams, Sharon Darling, David Kumar, Deborah Floyd, Lisa Finnegan, Gwendolyn Carey, Ira Bogotch, Jack Scott, John Hardman, Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon, Joyce Krzemienski, Katie Miller, Maria Vasquez, Melissa Antonelli, Michael Frain, Michael DeDonno, Ann Musgrove, Mary Lieberman, Rick Laliberte, Sabrina Sembiante, Steve Diaz, Sangbeak Ye, Rina Bousalis, Katie Friesen, Todd Walsh, Traci Baxley, Susannah Brown, Yash Bhagwanji, Cristobal Salinas, Carman Gill, Deborah Shepherd, Michael Frain, Robert Shockley, Robyn Klein, Russ Ivy

I. FA president welcome

- President welcomed faculty assembly. Faculty steering was thanked for their hard work in putting together the agenda.

II. Minutes Approval from 9/6/24

- Motion was made by Dr. Schoorman to approve FA minutes from September. Seconded by Dr. Scott. There was a point noted to correct a minor detail in the minutes, which was updated. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Committee Reports

- Dilys then provided updates from the Faculty Senate, including the Presidential search, changes to the General Education curriculum, and issues related to syllabus review. Meredith added that the strategic plan, which expires in 2025, will be reviewed next month. The conversation ended with a discussion about the attestation process for syllabus review, with some faculty members expressing concerns about agreeing to review all materials used in their classes.
- Encouragement to join the Senate Library Committee. We need a COE rep. Reach out to Dr. Mountford.

IV. Guest Speaker – New Director of Communications

- Dr. Fenimore explained what her role is for the COE. She discussed the need for increased press releases and the importance of peer-reviewed research or grants for media relations. There is a ticket system to put in requests. – Comms@education.fau.edu or there is also a link through OIT. This is where you can request for projects.
- Logo on projects need to be approved. Things need to be reviewed and edited. Make sure the new logo in your email is the most up to date.
- Templates, promotional items, and photography. – those will be available to you.
- Photography – FAU photographer is a free service for now. A ticket should be requested. Headshots are done twice annually.
- FAU media relations- Anne should be contacted first. Questions should be asked ahead of time.
- She encouraged everyone to pitch story ideas and thanked the team for their support.

V. **Guest Speaker – Provost- Dr. Russ Ivy**

- The provost, provided an update on the Dean search process. Dr. Ivy mentioned that the search committee had finalized the position profile and ads were out. He also mentioned that the search firm would start looking through applicants in early December and aim to have identified semi-finalists before the holiday break. The firm is actively recruiting. We are not hearing much now. Around the middle of November, they should be getting back to us with candidate lists. The date selected for a soft close on the candidates will be November 25th. In early Dec, applicants will be reviewed by the search committee. Zoom interviews in the early spring semester. The goal is to get the best person committed as early as possible. The search committee ranks the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. There is no ranking. Stakeholders are contacted as well (donors, faculty, community, etc.). Recommendations are sent to the president and stop there (to Dr. Ivy's knowledge). The selection is announced to BOG.

V. **Dean's Talking Points**

- Dr. Silverman has no updates on the search. He only knows what Dr. Ivy has reported. The dean is onboard with helping in any way that he can.
- He discussed the challenges of budget models and the uncertainty surrounding the new budget model proposed by the CFO. He expressed concern about the lack of faculty representation on the committee discussing the new model and the potential impact on departments.
- Faculty lines are being worked on. There were 17 requests. We cannot afford to bring in 17 lines or fund 17 searches. With the budget model being unknown, a definitive answer is not available yet. It is being discussed with the board of trustees. A steering committee member presented an option on combining some faculty lines. There are some priorities.
- Travel funds – all carry forward money has been taken away. There is less flexibility with travel. In January if the budget looks good, there is potential to open it up.
- Library cuts- there is a committee and someone from every college has a representative. The library dean has taken a lot of liberty with cutting and little to no

input from colleges. Library dean has noted that their budget has not increased in numerous years.

- Discussion took place about the challenges faced by the library due to a lack of budget increase over the past 10 years. Dr. Salinas highlighted that the library's budget has remained steady since 2000, and the library has not received any increase from the Provost administration. Dr. Scott praised the IT team, particularly, for their support during a system crash. The Dean suggested that the library's role has evolved and it may not need as many librarians as before. He also proposed meeting with new faculty members to discuss support and potential changes in teaching loads. It was also mentioned that the college has seen an increase in publications and external funding.

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VII. Continuing Business

- Vote 1 – Do we want to expand the voting body?
 - Expand voting passed by majority which led to vote 2.
- Vote 2:
 - **Question 1** - Add full-time instructors in the COE to the FA members/voting body? Expand (28) vs leave as is (15)
 - did not pass to expand to full-time COE instructors
 - 65.12%, as 2/3rds was not reached.
 - **Question 2** - Add Non-tenured Associate/Assistant Deans in the COE to the FA members/voting body?
 - Expand (15) vs leave as is (28)
 - did not pass to expand to non-tenure associate deans
 - 34.88%, as 2/3rds was not reached.
 - Discussion took place about the vote and the importance of looking into the future and the reliance of the college on instructors. We need to start recognizing their importance and be inclusive. Though we cannot push this vote. It remains as is for the year. If next year's senate wants to raise the issue again, they may do so. Robert's rule was discussed the consideration to make sure that senate and faculty assembly are on the same page as to how to count the vote and the 2/3rds rule.
- **Faculty wellness and faculty listening themes**
 - Steering will take charge and come up with a plan for a brown bag lunches and another wellness activity for the college to take part in.
 - All faculty are encouraged to attend to faculty wellness and share research with brown bag lunches. All positions are open in faculty assembly for the 25/26 year. We are encouraging people of the importance of taking part in leadership now.

VIII. Adjournment

12:00pm

- Meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.
- Minutes recorded by COE FA Secretary, Dr. Kelly Emelianchik-Key
- Minutes to be approved 1/24/25