MEMORANDUM

TO: All Faculty
FROM: Faculty Senate Office
DATE: February 14, 1996
SUBJECT: Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting of January 25, 1996

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Naval Modani, Chair, at 4:03 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of Senate meeting of November 30, 1995 were approved after some minor corrections. Guests present included Vice Provost Frank Juge, Dean Marty Wanielista, Dean Kathryn Seidel, Dr. Bud Berringer, Dr. John Dietz, and Dr. James Brophy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Juge announced that President Hitt and Provost Whitehouse could not attend the Senate meeting because they were attending a Board of Regents meeting in Tallahassee. He reported "good news" that enrollment estimates are in and on target. UCF's enrollment has increased by 3%. Also that the State's revenues look very solid with the possibility of surplus. Academic Affairs will turn over half of the reserves to the colleges with the rest to be released by the end of the year. There is also major growth in other State universities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Kay Allen reported for Dr. Diane Wink, Chair of the Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee. Dr. Wink could not attend due to a teaching assignment. The following topics were considered by the Committee: a) Catalog Year for Readmitted Undergraduates - postponed action due to the absence of subcommittee members, b) Environmental Studies Minor - it was determined that this subject did not require Library notification since it was only a curriculum change, c) Waiver of the 48 Hour Rule - waiting for more information from the Provost's office on how it impacts other programs, d) Academic Calendar Proposal - the Committee agreed to stay with the 15 weeks of instruction, and e) Response to State Legislature regarding laws impacting curriculum due to Florida Senate Bill 2330. A lengthy discussion followed regarding concerns by faculty members that non-educators are dictating university academic policies. A subcommittee is in the process of working on a resolution to respond to the Legislature. It will be presented to the Committee at the next meeting to be held on February 20, 1996. If approved, it will go to the Steering Committee for their review. A draft was distributed to the Faculty Senate. In regard to the American Sign Language fulfilling Foreign Language Requirement, the wording of the original draft was changed slightly and...
Dr. Wink will forward a formal resolution to the Steering Committee.

Dr. Wendell Lawther, Chair of the Undergraduate Course Review Committee, reported that the Committee held two meetings so far this semester and another meeting is scheduled.

Dr. Richard Tucker, Chair of the Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee, reported that committee approved two Master of Arts program proposals, one in Spanish and the other in Teaching English to speakers of other languages. Dr. Stephen Goodman, Chair of the Graduate Council, reported that the Graduate Council is in the process of reviewing candidates for graduate teaching awards.

Dr. Duane Davis, Chair of the Personnel Committee, announced two meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 20, 1996 from 3 to 4 p.m. Items to be discussed at these meetings include teaching responsibilities for chairs and directors, overload compensation for faculty and administrators, University policy regarding teaching responsibilities for associate deans and other administrators, and the issue of national searches for high administrative positions where persons serving in interim capacity are also candidates.

Dr. Walter Johnson, Chair of the Budget and Administrative Procedures Committee reported that the Committee met in December with Dr. Joyce Clampitt and personnel from Physical Plant. The Committee is looking into the reasonableness of various charges levied by units such as Physical Plant. Dr. Johnson asked members to check their e-mail for more information regarding meetings.

Dr. Modani introduced Dean Wanielista. Dean Wanielista distributed a six page report from the Task Force regarding "Student Perception of Instruction" along with a draft of the proposed form. Last eight questions on the form are required under SUS policy. Dr. Modani and Dean Wanielista expressed their appreciation to the Committee for all their hard work. The Committee reviewed voluminous literature dealing with student perception of instruction. Dean Wanielista outlined the process by which the Committee narrowed the list of questions available to them. The draft form was field tested with over 2000 students and several open meetings were conducted to get feedback from students and faculty. Based on the feedback, some questions were changed. Dean Wanielista reiterated the strong feeling of the Committee that the primary function of the form was to provide feedback to faculty to improve teaching effectiveness and the results from students' responses should be viewed as only one of the several factors in assessing teaching effectiveness of faculty. A resolution to adopt the new form will be presented at the February Faculty Senate meeting. This will allow sufficient time to get the form printed to administer for the current semester.

A detailed discussion followed on the questions as well as how several chairs use the results of such student responses. Several members expressed concern that some chairs look only at the numeric responses on these forms in evaluating faculty teaching. Dr. Cook wanted to know if a content analysis was done. She felt that item #2 needed to be modified and item #7 was awkwardly worded. There is also some overlap in questions and we need to identify how they are different. Some classes are too large to effectively monitor exams to control cheating and teachers should not be held accountable. Item #14, she felt, was a double-barreled question, and many times students cannot get to a teacher after class. Dean Wanielista thanked Dr. Cook for her comments and said that the last eight questions are required by SUS policy and we cannot change them. He invited Dr. Cook to
suggest changes to improve the form. All suggestions will be given serious consideration by the Committee. Further, Dean Wanielista suggested that the new form should be tested for one year and then the Senate can consider additional changes to it.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Glenn Cunningham introduced Resolution 1995-1996-2 dealing with posthumous degrees and provided background information. The resolution was seconded. A motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by adding the word "approximately" before the words "90 percent of course work requirements" and to delete the words "in the GEP and major components." After some discussion, the amendment was adopted. The amended version of the resolution was voted on and adopted unanimously.

Dr. Davis introduced Resolution 1995-1996-3 dealing with the use of part-time faculty. Dr. Juge stated that the SACS visitation team had commented on this issue. He also stated that he has looked at other institutions and national figures regarding the use of part-time faculty members. He feels that the University will have no problem and most departments will be below the 25% target. There was considerable discussion. Members questioned the need for the resolution as the intention of the resolution was already UCF policy. Dr. Modani stated that Senate wants to go on record supporting limited use of part-time faculty and that there is a need to reiterate that full-time faculty be available to participate in curriculum development, policy making, and governance. In response to a question, Dr. Davis stated that the 25% limit is for the university and is based on the number of student credit hours generated. After additional discussion the motion was adopted.

There was some confusion created due to a class scheduled to meet in PH-115 starting at 5:00 p.m. Members asked Dr. Modani to check on scheduling of the room as Senate meetings often last beyond 5:00 p.m. Members agreed to consider the remaining new business at the February meeting and the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.