Dr. Arlen Chase, Faculty Senate Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. The roll was circulated for signatures. The minutes of November 21, 2003 were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Dr. Mullens presented an update from the Board of Trustees meeting he attended. He is now a member of the Board. He shared that Dan Holsenbeck presented updates from Tallahassee to the Trustees. The following were also discussed: distribution of funds (Dr. Huff-Corzine will comment on this at the next meeting), SUS budget, tuition increase, no capping on tuition (Florida is $1400 below the national average). Board of Trustees will set tuition at their discretion and Governor’s budget but negotiations are in order. Question: Will this impact the student? This will not be an impact on students.

Board of Trustees officially approved the UFF as the collective bargaining agent for UCF. Sixty-five to seventy percent of faculty signed cards of support. Drs. Mullens and Chase thanked the senators for their support.

Dr. Huff-Corzine announced that the date for nominations of trustee chairs has been changed to March 3, 2003. Emails have been sent out regarding nominations. Dr. Mullens shared the data reported to the BOT that one area of concern identified is a need for more academic advising. Thirty percent of students were not satisfied. Seventy-four percent rated teaching good to excellent which has been increasing over time. Dr. Mullens asked for comparisons on national average and stated the best undergraduate education in the state of Florida is the goal.

Dr. Wink reported on the progress of the provost search. There are 50 to 54 applications. The search is down to 18 candidates. The committee has reviewed CV’s and other materials with applicant’s resumes. The search committee plans to meet again next Thursday in the Student Union. The committee plans to invite candidates to meet at the airport for initial interviews. Decision will be made at that time as to which candidates (about three) will be invited to come to the university for additional interviews. There is a wide range of candidates from across the country. There is one internal candidate Dean Kathryn Seidel.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Committee presented resolution
RESOLUTION 2002-2003-2 Increase of RIA’s (Research Incentives Award’s)

Whereas, UCF’s mission is to be a leading metropolitan research university; and
Whereas, incentives should be mission consistent; and
Whereas, morale and retention issues are often tied to incentives; and
Whereas, few mechanisms exist to give incentive for outstanding performance;

Be it resolved that the number of RIA’s increase.

Dr. Vanryckeghem read the resolution to the Senate. There were questions about how many RIA awards there are. Dr. Chase commented that there are other research awards available for researchers. Dr. Vanryckeghem replied that the Personnel Committee has looked at other ways to increase faculty salaries but they are not tied to this resolution. Research is a key factor at achieving current goals for UCF. Question: Is RIA one time award or added to base? It is added to base and can be applied for every five years. Question regarding budget implications: Where would the funding come from? Dr. Huff-Corzine answered that we do not know where it would come from at this time. Dr. Cook commented that we are looking at greater salary equity. Our administration has clearly supported the TIP and RIA awards. Additional RIA should not be done at the expense of the TIP program. The committee agreed and this is why TIP will not be mentioned in the resolution. Motion to add the following line to the resolution.

Be it resolved that the increase in RIA’s not be at the expense of the number of TIP awards.

Friendly amendment from Dr. Cook, seconded by Dr. Chase. Dr. Koons called question on amendment, seconded. Vote to approve resolution as amended by Dr. Cook. All but one in favor.

Be it resolved that the number of RIA's increase without decreasing the number of TIP's.

Resolution amended. No discussion. All in favor, consensus passed.

Standing Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee - Dr. Vanryckeghem reported the committee has been working on three other issues through three subcommittees: Salary equity, travel issues (met with the Budget and Administrative Committee), and traffic and parking. The committee plans to meet again on January 24, 2003. Plan to have more resolutions before the end of the Senate year.

Budget and Administrative – Dr. Arlen Chase reported for Dr. Cunningham. The committee has been discussing the same issues as the Personnel Committee. Had a meeting in the travel office to discuss problems. Also discussed People Soft and proactive budgeting.
**Undergraduate Policy and Procedures Committee** - Bob Pennington reported the committee had met in December and again on January 14, 2003. UPCC has been charged by the Steering Committee to discuss further the request of establishing American Sign Language within the foreign language proficiency requirement. This has been a repeated request since 1987. A subcommittee has been recognized to examine this request. Further issues discussed are readmission policy and academic forgiveness. Four proposals were also reviewed and approved.

**Graduate Council** – Dr. Stephen Goodman reported the Course Review Committee approved four new masters tracks and a certificate program. The Policy and Procedures subcommittee has not met. The Graduate Appeals subcommittee has not met because there are no appeals to date. The Graduate Council will review graduate teaching award applications.

Dr. Modani reminded the Standing committee chairs that any resolutions must go to the Steering Committee before it’s meeting on March 13, 2003. Last date to be discussed/approved or defeated will be at the last meeting of the Senate year, March 27, 2003. Please move forward with resolutions as soon as possible. Resolutions will not be accepted after the Steering meeting of March 13.

Dr. Ida Cook, Chair of the Constitution Revisions Committee reported that the committee was still in the process of cleaning up a few errors and making changes because of the new governance. The Honors College will move out of the Senate Constitution. The final draft of the revised Constitution will be distributed to the Steering Committee at the February meeting. Please review the Constitution on the website and forward any recommended changes to Dr. Ida Cook, at cook@mail.ucf.edu.

**OTHER**

Dr. Mullens introduced Ms. Latrecia Rice as the new Administrative Assistant for the Faculty Senate. Ms. Rice comes to the Senate from the Department of Human Resources, Payroll Office. She has been working with Kathy Wohlbold for the past two weeks. Kathy is retiring after 7 ½ years with the Senate and approximately 18 years with the university. Many thanks, hugs and congratulations were abundant.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.