USF FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
November 29, 2017
3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Marshall Student Center 3700

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda (2 minutes)

2. Approval of Minutes from November 1, 2017 Meeting (2 minutes) (action item)

3. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs

4. Old Business

5. New Business
   a. Predatory Journal Discussion – Todd Chavez (20 minutes)
   b. Proposal for USF to Join Tuition Exchange – Dr. Lee Braver (15 minutes)
   c. External drivers of curricula at USF (15 minutes)

6. Report from Provost Ralph Wilcox (20 minutes)

7. Report from USF System Faculty Council President Jim Garey (5 minutes)

8. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)

9. Adjourn

Next scheduled meeting: January 17, 2018
USF FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
November 29, 2017

Present: Kyna Betancourt, Tim Boaz, Nancy Cunningham, Jim Garey, Barbara Hansen, Matthew Knight, Barbara Lewis, Richard Manning, Jill Roberts, Alicia Rossiter, Oma Singh, Drew Smith, Rick Will

Provost’s Office: Pritish Mukherjee, Dwayne Smith, Ralph Wilcox

Guests: Lee Braver

President Jim Garey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The Minutes were approved as presented from the November 1, 2017 meeting.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. General Education Council – Kyna Betancourt

The form for course proposals is on line and ready for faculty input.

b. Council on Faculty Issues – Barbara Lewis

The council is planning to create a campus climate survey in order to query faculty for feedback on associate professor morale and attrition and retention. The survey would first go to the general faculty and then a focus survey would be conducted. It is anticipated that the survey will be initiated early next year.

c. Technology Fee Committee – Drew Smith and Oma Singh

All faculty were notified by e-mail that the window is open to send in proposals to be funded by the technology fee money.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for today’s meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Predatory Journal Discussion – Jim Garey

With the intent of setting up an ad hoc committee to address this issue, President Garey asked for volunteers from the SEC. Dr. Hansen expressed her interest in serving on the committee.
Discussion was held, and it was agreed that more information is needed. President Garey will put together a multidisciplinary ad hoc committee. It was decided that he should wait until after the results were completed by the group of Librarians currently working on the issue. Their findings could be used as a starting point for the ad hoc committee. President Garey will follow up with Todd Chavez, Dean of the Libraries.

b. Proposal for USF to Join Tuition Exchange – Lee Braver

Professor Braver attended today’s meeting to present a proposal that USF join the Tuition Exchange Consortium because it offers considerable advantages for faculty, administration, and staff recruitment, retention and job satisfaction at little or no cost to the institution. Other benefits include (but are not limited to): flexibility in how each member institution implements and runs the program at their school, such as setting the admission criteria; the number of students (averages between 2.5 and 4 per year) using the program which would keep costs low; getting USF’s name out by being in the company of some of the best colleges and universities in the country; the potential for enhancing geographic diversity of the student body; an additional benefit for faculty and staff; and an increase in revenue. The proposal was discussed, and Provost Wilcox pointed out that since USF is a collectively bargained institution, this proposal would have to be placed on the table for bargaining. Therefore, it was agreed that President Garey reach out to the Office of the General Counsel for advice. He will report back to the SEC when he has more information.

c. External Drivers of Curricula at USF – Provost Wilcox

The Provost commented that, with the focus on undergraduate education, external drivers include affordability costs, access, and accountability. Outcomes and accountability should be kept in the forefront. However, these drivers are facing intrusion from political leaders. The Provost pointed out that faculty need to own the curricula in order to keep elected officials from doing so. He added that, overall, USF needs to do better collectively and do the right and responsible thing. The Provost is very much interested to hear from faculty on this issue.

President Garey added that he would like to have a symposium to bring in people from other states that are going through the same issues to go over how they are dealing with them.

A brief discussion was held about the FUSE Program launched last year. This is a new guaranteed admission program that creates a seamless and timely degree path for students to earn an associate degree before transferring to any of the USF System institutions for a bachelor’s degree. The Provost clarified that the FUSE people are ultimately the only students USF will take as transfers. He will provide a copy to the SEC of a report from the school board on what is being taught and what is being learned.
REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM FACULTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JIM GAREY

The council is working on putting together guidelines for policy #10-055.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

The question was raised about including peer reviews of teaching in a tenure and promotion packet; and, if so, where to place them within the packet. It was agreed that the process varies by department.

Before adjourning, President Garey reminded everyone of President Genshaft’s Holiday Open House today from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Lifsey House. All were wished happy holidays by Provost Wilcox.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.