USF FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 15, 2017
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Chamber Room 4200 Marshall Student Center

1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda (3 minutes)

2. Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2017 Meeting (2 minutes)

3. Report from Faculty Senate President Jim Garey (5 minutes)

4. Report from USF System President Judy Genshaft (10 minutes)

5. Reports by Officers and Council Chairs (20 minutes)
   a. Officer Election – Matthew Knight (action item)
   b. Senate Appointment Process – Drew Smith (informational item)

6. Old Business
   a. Campus Climate Update – Phil Levy (10 minutes)
   b. General Education Enhancement Update – Kyna Betancourt (10 minutes)
   c. Update on USF Strategic Plan – Terry Chisholm, Pritish Mukherjee (5 minutes)

7. New Business
   a. Revisit of Course Assessment – Timothy Boaz (10 minutes)
   b. Presentation on Quality Matters – Dennis Walpole, Christie Nicholas (10 minutes)
   c. USF Tampa Syllabus Bank – Moneer Kheireddine, Arianna Martinez (10 minutes)
   d. Predatory Journals – Jim Garey (2 minutes)

8. Report on USF System Faculty Council Activities – Jim Garey (5 minutes)

9. Report from UFF President Arthur Shapiro (3 minutes)

10. Report from Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox (10 minutes)

11. Other Business from the Floor (5 minutes)

Next meeting: January 31, 2018
President Jim Garey called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The Minutes from the meeting of October 18, 2017 were approved, as amended.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Officer Election - Secretary Matthew Knight

Secretary Knight announced that there were two nominations for the vacant officer positions: Phil van Beynen for Sergeant-at-Arms and Richard Manning for Member-at-Large. Per the By-Laws, a vote was conducted by secret ballot. The candidates were elected with only one “Nay” vote.

REPORT FROM USF SYSTEM PRESIDENT JUDY GENSHAFT

President Genshaft’s report consisted of the following:

- Only 3 universities founded since 1950 have reached a billion-dollar fundraising goal: UC Irvine, UC San Diego, and the University of South Florida. This is an amazing achievement.

- Les and Pam Muma donated another $15 million to USF to be allocated to the Muma College of Business, the Women’s Health Care Center, and Athletics.

- Issues that arose at the national meeting of land-grant universities included Freedom of Speech and the proposed taxation of higher education and graduate students’ waivers which took center stage. The universities represented vowed to combat this legislation as best they can. Higher education needs to speak with one voice.

- November 14th was USF Day in Tallahassee, and the USF contingent was bigger than any other school. They visited legislators and, along with other college representatives, helped fill the capital.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL CHAIRS

a. Senate Apportionment Process - Parliamentarian Drew Smith

On behalf of the By-Laws Revisions Committee, Parliamentarian Smith presented proposed changes to the Faculty Senate By-Laws and Constitution that reflect a new Senate Apportionment process based on a departmental-level rather than a college-level model. This presentation was for discussion purposes only, and a vote on the proposed changes will take place at the January 2018 meeting.
Proposed Changes to the USF Faculty Senate Constitution:

Article II B. Membership

The Faculty Senate shall be composed of sixty elected members apportioned among and representing academic units of the University of South Florida, and such ex officio members as described in the Bylaws. The Faculty Senate, by a two-thirds vote, may amend the number of senators at any time. Academic units, for the purposes of the Constitution, are the individual departments or department-equivalents within Academic Affairs and the individual colleges and schools within USF Health, the individual colleges and a single unit consisting of the USF Tampa Library, the FMHI Research Library, and the Shimberg Health Sciences Library.

Article II C. Apportionment

1. Formulation. Annually prior to election, the membership of the Faculty Senate shall be apportioned according to the following method: Within Academic Affairs, each unit will be apportioned one senator. Within USF Health, each unit will receive an apportionment of senators based on the number of general faculty within that unit. The ratio of senators to general faculty within Academic Affairs and USF Health will be maintained at the same value equitably among academic units, based on the number of members of the general faculty in each unit. A unit’s apportionment is equal to: 100 x (Number of eligible faculty in unit / number of eligible faculty in university). Each unit shall have at least one elected Faculty Senator and no unit shall have more than 25 elected Faculty Senators.

2. Timing. Apportionment will be made only once each year and will be based on the number of members of the general faculty listed on official records of the university on the first day of the spring semester of that year. The Secretary will provide a proposed apportionment to the Faculty Senate, which must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Faculty Senate.

3. Unit allocation. Each of the units within USF Health shall, by majority vote of their general faculty, decide on a system of internal allocation of Faculty Senate representation. Units shall ensure that departments and other sub-units have direct representation rather than allocate all representation to the unit level, where possible. Units shall inform the Secretary of the Faculty Senate of the details of such allocations and any subsequent changes to them.

Article II D. Elections

Terms. The term of each Faculty Senate seat shall be three years, beginning the first day of the fall semester following the annual election. Elected senators may complete their three-year terms even in cases where their seat has been eliminated in later years due to reapportionment.
Proposed Changes to the USF Faculty Senate Bylaws:

Article III. Committees and Councils

A. Faculty Senate Committees

2. Committee on Committees. The Committee on Committees is composed of one Faculty Senator from each unit-college or college-equivalent. Members are elected by their unit the Senators from their college or college-equivalent in the spring semester, to serve one-year terms to begin the following fall semester, or as vacancies occur outside of this cycle.

Additional comments from Parliamentarian Smith regarding the new process:

- The apportionment procedures also need to be added to the official documents.
- A Senator will be able to keep his or her seat for the full term even if a department is dissolved.
- Faculty without rank, and those within institutes or centers, will need to be accounted for in the apportionment process.
- It is hoped that this new model will increase participation in the Senate and provide better communication from the Senate back to individual departments.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Campus Climate Update – Phil Levy

Past President Levy reported that an ad hoc committee was formed after the Presidential election last November. This committee was tasked with creating a statement that would demonstrate to USF students that the faculty shared their core values. The committee drafted a “Statement of First Principles,” which Dr. Levy then presented to the Faculty Senate. This statement represents a distillation and a reflection of what already exists in various USF documentation, but has been condensed to simple, short, and irreducible statements of principle that are at the core of USF’s healthy, diverse, and civil community. This document will be voted on at the next meeting, and then forwarded to Student Government and then to the Provost for final recognition. Discussion was held. Issues were raised about safety, academic freedom, and words like “respect” and “discriminatory.” The committee will reconvene and make alterations for a vote in January.

b. General Education Enhancement – Kyna Betancourt

GEC Chair Betancourt announced that the official call went out on November 8th for course proposals to be considered for inclusion in the new General Education program. December 15th is the deadline for receipt of proposals. Each college can put forward a maximum of three courses per category in the Intellectual and Practical Skills area of the pyramid. CAS can put forward three courses per school. Courses choosing the Human and Cultural Diversity designation must use the Global Citizens Project Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). The proposal system is in Beta-testing mode and should be ready by
late November. ATLE is offering mini sessions to help develop proposals. Course proposals will be reviewed based on a predetermined rubric and can be resubmitted only once for reassessment. Chair Betancourt stressed that the proposal limit only applied to this first round of applications; fewer proposals will ensure a more efficient review by the GenEd council and that courses get on the books in time. The Provost added that deans must ensure that a consistent, high-quality program based on the principles of rigor, USF’s strategic plan, broad participation, student needs, relevance, and SLOs be offered. He also praised Dr. Betancourt for her work as Chair of the council.

c. Strategic Planning Update – Terry Chisholm and Pritish Mukherjee

The 2019-2024 USF Strategic plan aims to address the “Whys of USF.” USF has transitioned from a state-to-national-to-global institution and undergone many changes that are not reflected in the strategic plan—such as student success. The planning group wants to deliver the “Why?”—such as mission, values and vision. But, also the “What?”—i.e. goals and deliverables—and the “How?”—logistics and evaluation of outcomes. Why is USF unique? What are its values? How can we excel? What is world class? These questions are being addressed in the initial draft statement of institutional purpose.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Quality Matters – Dennis Walpole and Christie Brown

USF Innovative Education (InEd) has established four workgroups to help ensure that USF offers high-quality, online courses. InEd is poised to adopt Quality Matters coding structure for online offerings. This will: 1. provide a standard rubric for all Florida universities; 2. provide coding that highlights whether a course is of a “quality” standard; and, 3. offer awards for courses with highest quality. Quality Matters will be implemented in Spring 2018, replacing InEd’s existing rubric. USFSP and USFSM have been using Quality Matters for 5 years. This is a BOG-approved initiative.

b. USF Tampa Syllabus Bank – Moneer Kheireddine and Arianna Martinez

It was proposed that USF faculty create an online syllabus bank that would be beneficial to faculty and students. These syllabi would necessarily be out-of-date but still valuable to demonstrate the scope and general direction of courses. Above all, students would be able to make more informed choices. Concerns were raised about unintended consequences of presenting this information online—data mining, etc. Due to time constraints, the issue was tabled.

REPORT FROM PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT RALPH WILCOX

Provost Wilcox acknowledged the short time remaining in the meeting but stressed the importance of a curricular review and a redesign of the undergraduate curriculum at USF. This process should follow the same guiding principles as the General Education redesign. Deans
need to assist with a comprehensive review of the curriculum. The Undergraduate Council will consider these changes as the process develops.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was no business from the floor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.