I. Welcome to Guests and Introductions
The Chair welcomed all members and introduced the two guest speakers: Mr. Greg Graham, Assistant Vice President, Business & Retail Operations, and Mr. Greg Tsark, Vice President, Facilities Operations and University Architect. Because of new memberships, she asked for another round of member introductions.

II. Review of Academic Year Agenda Items and Structure of QOL
For the benefit of the committee, the Chair reminded them of the four agenda items to cover during this academic year. They are: 1) Internationalization: Community focus and interests, 2) Housing Options, 3) Conference Center, and 4) Quality of Communication at FIT. The Chair also added that instead of breaking up into subcommittees, as was done in the past two years, the committee would examine each item as a whole group.

III. Housing Options (Mr. Greg Tsark and Mr. Greg Graham)
Mr. Graham spoke first on the topic of Housing Options, stating that this year about 450 beds were added that included Mary Star of the Sea Newman Hall (148 beds) and Panther Bay (300 beds).

Mary Star of the Sea is a faith-based residence center that is open to freshmen and upper classmen. According to the brochure, there are three different housing options: a one-bedroom unit, a two-bedroom unit, and a four-bedroom unit. There is a full-time Residence Assistant that lives on-site.

Panther Bay, formerly Pelican Bay off of Palm Bay Road, provides apartment-style living and is occupied mostly by members of fraternities and sororities. In addition, over 100 Turkish pilots reside there. As the designated Greek Village, some ground level apartments will be converted into chapter rooms. The complexed is managed by a Residential Property Manager.

Mr. Graham concluded his discussion by stating the current total bed count is 2013 with only 1645 beds occupied. Wood Hall has been taken offline (i.e. no one lives there), and both Shaw and Campbell Halls are not at 100% capacity.
Mr. Tsark then spoke about housing possibilities and pointed out the need for both apartment-style living and traditional residence hall living. Many of the upperclassmen, graduate students, and married students may prefer apartment-style living, but freshmen and sophomore want to uphold the traditional residential hall experiences, even in halls that include community bathrooms such as Robert’s Hall. Although it is still a desirable place to live, more stalls need to be added.

The Chair opened the discussion to the committee members. The undergraduate and graduate student representatives agreed that traditional residence halls were still popular, especially with freshmen. However, more housing options are needed for married students and graduate students. It was also revealed that many upperclassmen, while they may want to reside on campus, move to off-campus residence because it is considerably cheaper, especially since there is a mandatory meal plan that must be purchased to live in the residence halls. Mr. Graham pointed out that one meal plan option for upperclassmen is the FlexCredit plan that can be used at any dining facility, for vending/food machines, and for groceries. In order to investigate upperclassmen housing/food wants and needs more fully, the Student Government Association will be adding pertinent questions to a student survey already in development.

With no further comments forthcoming from the committee, the Chair thanked both guest speakers for their attendance and adjourned the meeting.

IV. Action Items
There are no action items assigned.

V. Next meeting: Thursday, October 24th, 2013
Topic: Internationalization: Community Focus

Respectfully submitted,

Monica H. Baloga, Chair

October 21, 2013