**Florida Tech Faculty Senate**

April 17, 2018

**Minutes**

**Senators Present:**

**Senators Absent:**

**Proxies:**

**Other Attendees:**

**Call to Order**

President Baarmand called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

March 27 Minutes

Bill, Marius, unanimous voice

April 3 Minutes

Bill, Darrel, unanimous voice

**Old Business**

*Resolution Regarding the Development and Implementation of a Tenure System at the Florida Institute of Technology*

Traditional

Darrel, Tom

Discussion

Matt: after talking to senators, hesitant to do roll call.

Motion withdrawn by Darrel.

Suspend RR for proxies

Tom, Darrel, unanimous voice

Attendance taken and proxies noted. All 42 ballots distributed and accounted for. Voting tallied by D. Lelekis.

33-YES; 9-NO; no abstention

Forwarded to Provost office and result will be emailed to faculty.

-HAND OVER OF PRESIDENCY-

Marc: Thanked Burke, EC members, especially for details of tenure and making sure everyone is up to speed. Will now hand over to Dr. Winkelmann.

Kurt:

**New Business**

*Senate Membership*

Kurt: Issue of elections and membership brought to attention due to the merger, but also procedural issues not kept up with. Due to merger, current arrangements of membership will remain the same until a reapportionate of senators is determined. Have not worked out how representation will change with the old and new departments. Other committees at university level have not figured it out yet either. Would be nice to have agreement on same procedure. Will be worked out over the summer once things are figured out for combined college. In fall will have new rules for how senators will represent the departments.

Kurt: we are supposed to have elections in march if needed. Senators serve 3-year terms, so not necessarily every year. However, with the colleges combining and redistribution. IN first meeting of fall, academic units will need to have a call for nominations in time for second senate meeting of year, will give enough time for the new units to determine their senators.

Bill: Handbook says based on academic unit. Either we update the handbook or how can we have representation.

Marc: Read from handbook. It’s in by-laws, we would have to change by-laws. We cannot change. Now says members of faculty, voting by academic unit for indivicual members for 3-year term, each unit has 1 member and additional member for every 10 full time faculty. Term academic unit throught section has the following meaning: IN colleges, a department. Program outside department will be attached. 2) Each school within a college. 3) Library.

Bill: But current department is more like program. Should change to programs.

Marc: This was discussed in February,b ut we decided to table until we know more details about the merger, we will return to this in fall.

Bill: We tabled because we had a lot to do, but program representation will change everything. So it is related. 1) we have to figure out the representation in first meeting, but we don’t know the structures.

Kurt: I don’t think it’s clear we need to table yet, the merger still has departments.

Bill: But now has 5-6 previous departments in it. Could lose slots.

Kurt: If the outcome is not good, then we will have to change by-laws. But if do not represent every program. Over the summer we need to figure out. We’ve been through mergers in the past, so there should be some consistency.

Kevin: effects other colleges too.

Bill: Should not elect new people on old system.

Lisa: Reason for tabling is not because too busy, but too vague. If we had a list, we could look at the changes in impact.

Bill: An example, 6 programs into one. Going from 7 representatives into 4. We would have 4 representatives, but 6 programs. We need to look at it. If we have a forum in summer, I suggest we look at it.

Marc; Not just problem of looking over summer, may not have quorum, but if we follow what’s in by-laws. Elections should have been done this summer. These are new ones to start in fall. If we want to change over summer, we have to tell those units to redo elections. Might be difficult to handle.

Bill: In last meeting, Dean Carvalho said was going to be done by existing system.

Marc: Yes. But if we change structure of unit now, those elections will have to be redone since they were done with current definition in old colleges.

Kurt: Once during summer we will figure out how many each new department gets. If we choose to follow the standing definition, then at beginning of year we will have a lection within those new departments. By the 2nd senate meeting to give everyone. If we over the summer find a compelling reason to change by-laws, then we will need to take that up with general faculty, maybe could be taken care of by beginning of classes. We will definitely look at it. Would be helpful to have description of how it should be done, if we provide numbers for each unit, then figure out what the comparisons will be and compare plans.

Bill: Will describe our issue, send it out, and then we can collectively look at it.

Kurt: With everything going on this summer, I may plan to meet with senators, but at very least send updates. If I have full roster, I can look at the numbers under your proposal, or another proposal, etc.

Marc: We can try to do things with email, but if this requires a change in by-laws we need a session to discuss it to agree on the new arrangements. I doubt it is feasible. I think we’ll have to wait.

Bill: Then I recommend we stay with current arrangements.

Marc: That is what we are doing. Dr. Carvalho also agreed with this. We cannot do by email.

Kurt: departments should also have elections if senator is finishing 3rd year. There should be elections. If senators just stay in place, for service obligations, it takes away idea of election. Let department now if you are finishing term so there is an opportunity for a real election. Election should follow guidelines, most importantly faculty elect their own senators.

*Attendance*

Kurt: During past few years very important issues in senate, so attendance is critical. We are going to noting attendance and absences more strongly next year because the constituants of each unit needs to know what’s going on. Good to have firsthand knowledge. At very least, this is a service obligation, if a senator is not attending, they are not fulfilling that obligation. Encourage to attend more often. If you can’t make, let secretary know, but if you’re going to miss the whole semester make a permanent change.

Burke explained attendance update format

*Election of Standing Committee Chairs*

Kurt: Been the practice of the senate, out of ease, for committee chairs to stay until they decide to leave, and then sometimes they’ve informally passed it on to someone else. Not a good way to assign these posts. We are going to have a call for nominations for the standing committee chairs. If you are a chair now, not trying to purge, if you want to continue. Throw hat in ring. And we will have nominations. We have 6 standing committees—read them. We will not have elctions for all 6. We have 3 committees chairs elected this fall, next fall 3 new committee chairs. Some are changing because those senators are no longer going to be senators, so necessary. The EC though should last for 2 years. 3 this fall, 3 the following year.

Kevin: in February meeting. WE discussed.

Marc: This is a change in our by-laws, so need to submit to Provost for the August General Assembly. The memo is prepared to send to Provost. Only question remaining is which 3 should go up first. Dr. Brenner no longer senator, so scholarship chair will need to be filled and will be done in first year. Other 2 will be selected.

Suzy: What’s the reason for staggering?

Marc: We decided that changing all 6 in one year will cause chaos, and they are in EC, to change all 6 in one yaer is too much of a change. Give some continuity. Election of 6 chairs in one time is too much to do.

Suzy: Why not 3 instead of 2?

Marc: In the end 3 every 2 years.

Kurt: Any other comments? I’ll update everyone over summer (by August).

*Ad hoc Committees*

Kurt: We have 2 ad hoc committees. Both, for very different reasons, could be absorbed by the standing committees. We are no longer “exploring” tenure. We are figuring it out. That can be rolled into the Academic Policies committee. And the faculty handbook committee…?

Razvan: Dr. Baloga decided to re-write handbook, and to organize it. There were missing sections in terms of numbers. A lot of provisions like teaching faculty how to teach. There should be links to external matters. WE want to streamline handbook. Started working on it, but website started being update. But it rendered anything in the handbook obsolete. We now have different departemnts and colleges. I will hold on to my committee if help is needed with the new colleges’ guidelines and new organization of university. We also have a tenure topic. There was no point in making changes until all these other changes are done.

Kurt: So we are at a pause until these other issues settled. Better to be part of administrative policies committee. So are 2 ad hoc committees will be absorbed into standing committees.

Motion to adjourn: Marc, Ashley-2nd. 4:23 adjourned.

**Adjournment**

Respectful submitted,

Kevin R. Burke, Faculty Senate Secretary