

President's Report to the Faculty Senate – December 4, 2013

Thank you to all Senators for participating in the special Faculty Senate meeting held on November 20.

1. **Special “thank you” to David Pettigrew and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee** for composing the Faculty Senate statement on the ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives draft. Bravo!
2. **Message received from UCF Chair Elizabeth Keenan.** “On behalf of the UCF Steering Committee and the entire UCF membership, I want to extend a huge thank you to you and all of the Senators for scheduling a special Senate meeting and for approving our resolution so speedily. I was also happy to hear that there is interest to continue discussing the complex factors affecting decisions regarding course caps in all of our courses.”
3. **UCF Resolution on LEP course caps.** Delivered to Pres. Papazian on November 21, 2013.
4. **Seven (7) of our colleagues were nominated for CSU Professor.** The CSU Professorship Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Troy Paddock, will conduct its deliberations early next semester.
5. **Meeting with Student Government Association on Wednesday, November 20.** Senators Cochenet, Diamantis, Dickens, Dunklee, Hedreen, Petrie, Shea and I met with 5 members of the SGA Executive Board to introduce them to the Faculty Senate and listen to student concerns. We stressed our desire to have an on-going relationship with the SGA. Student comments—“uncut”—included:
 - There is a benefit in small classes. Having small classes is part of who we are.
 - Course cancellations are problematic for students.
 - Scheduling problems delay graduation. Even when students need a course for graduation, the course may be canceled because of low enrollment.
 - Large lectures work for some; many students don't do well in large classes, but are put there because nothing else is available: this means they have no choice.
 - Students accepted to SCSU under principle of “access” are least likely to do well in large classes.
 - Students want one-to-one interaction with instructors.
 - Most important factor is that professors know students by name, check on them, and let them know how they are doing.
 - A lot of classes get pushed to night; students find this frustrating.
 - Equipment breaks down in classrooms; as a result much class time is wasted.
 - The registration system went down; more frustration.
 - There is a problem with online professors who disappear for weeks and don't know technology.
6. **Meeting with Graduate Student Affairs Committee.** I met with GSAC to request an invitation for a visit from a group of Senators next semester. GSAC responded enthusiastically and will inform us of a date. Please let me know if you are interested in being part of the delegation. GSAC meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.
7. **Outreach to Coaches.** I am initiating a meeting with coaches and will seek FS participation.
8. **Academic impact: Items on the horizon, pending motion or request to discuss in the Senate.**
 - Graduate Program Prioritization: Senate role (CBA Articles 5.18 and 5.20)
 - Proposal to move School of Health and Human Services to an off-campus location
 - Re-assessment of the practice of team teaching Honors College courses
 - The constellation of course instruction issues, including enrollment caps*, course cancellations, independent studies, team teaching, overload reconciliation (*being addressed by APC)

9. **Letter to Pres. Papazian.** Signatory to Faculty Leadership Council letter urging President to incorporate faculty recommendations into ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives being composed by CSU presidents.

10. **Semester Recap.**

- Composed two resolutions on updating FS documents that were approved by the President.
- Attended State-of-University address as a group.
- Critically reviewed draft “ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives 2013-16”.
- Produced Faculty Senate Statement on ConnSCU Strategic Initiatives.
- Reviewed and approved a UCF resolution on LEP class size.
- Commenced outreach to students (SGA and GASC) and Coaches.

11. **Work currently assigned to Faculty Senate committees.**

Committee	Assigned Tasks
Academic Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of grade appeal policy • Development of resolution on academic impact of class size, cancelations, related matters
Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct emergency elections for all-University committees • Development of procedure to identify all-U comm. chairs and track committees’ activities
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of travel funds • Preparation of annual Senate recommendation of Travel Authorization dollars
Personnel Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of FS evaluation documents (P&T, renewal, professional assessment, sabbatical)
Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of proposal for streamlining all-University committees • Review of Faculty Senate Bylaws • Review of Faculty Senate Chairperson document
Student Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore campus safety issues
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory role to campus community on IT issues

Status of Recent Faculty Senate Resolutions					
Number	Date	Resolution on...	For	Disposition	Comments (abbrev.)
F-13-03	11-20-13	UCF resolution on LEP course caps	Approval		
F-13-02	10-25-13	Bring P&T Doc. in Line with CBA Regarding Role of Univ. President in DEC Hardship	Approval	Approved	
F-13-01	10-25-13	Change Language Regarding BOT	Approval	Approved	
S-13-12	5-29-13	The Revised Faculty Senate Constitution	Approval	Approved	
S-13-13	5-6-13	The University Strategic Plan and the Graduate Programs Prioritization Process	Approval	Disapproved	Delaying process unnec.; not in best interest of University
S-13-12	5-1-13	The Revised Faculty Senate Constitution	Approval	Noted	Comparative lang. requested
S-13-11	5-1-13	Create an Informational Bulletin to Improve TA Processing	Inform.	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain INFO vs APPROVAL • Inapprop: attempts to estab procedure for Off of Provost • FS encouraged to “suggest”
S-13-10	5-1-13	The Proposal to Reform the TA Process	Inform.	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain INFO vs APPROVAL • Inapprop: attempts to estab procedure for Off of Provost • FS encouraged to “suggest”
S-13-09	5-1-13	The Restoration of Faculty Creative Activity Research Grant Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	The fund is supporting the grants
S-13-08	5-1-13	The Incremental Increase of Faculty Creative Activity Grant Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	No room in budget for increase to this fund
S-13-07	5-1-13	Faculty Creative Activity Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Noted	Further disc
S-13-06	5-1-13	AAUP Travel Funds, 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	Inconsistent with CBA
S-13-05	5-1-13	Travel Funds 2013-2014	Approval	Disapproved	Not FS responsibility