

College of Journalism and Communications
Faculty Senate Minutes
September 13, 2007

Attending: Johanna Cleary, Julie Dodd, Mary Ann Ferguson, Bridget Grogan, Henri Pensis, Cynthia Morton, Juan-Carlos Molleda, and Marilyn Roberts. Linda Hon (ex officio).

Absent: Dave Carlson.

Minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Pensis and seconded by Roberts.

A suggestion was made to e-mail the minutes to the full faculty. Dodd reminded the Senate that the semester's meeting dates have been set for every other Thursday at 8:30 a.m. in 2066 Weimer. The next meeting will be September 27.

Dodd provided an update on the status of the Constitution Committee. She reminded the Senate that she has sent an e-mail to the full faculty listing the current committee members, asking for nominees for the at-large position and outlining the purpose and expectations for the committee.

Dodd will ask for a faculty meeting to be called on Thursday, Sept. 20 from 12 noon-1 p.m. in G030. Lunch will be served.

Agenda items for the meeting will include: 1) the election of the at-large representative for the Constitution Committee, 2) selection of a sabbatical selection committee, 3) providing an update on the Dean's search, and 4) providing an update on the Constitution Committee.

Voting for eligible faculty will take place during the meeting from 12 noon-12:45 p.m. Votes will be counted before the meeting is adjourned.

Ferguson will also provide a summary of what the College needs to do to be in compliance with University shared governance guidelines.

Roberts and Molleda provided an update on the Dean's search progress. As of Sept. 13, five candidates are considered "active." The committee will decide at its Sept. 14 meeting if it wishes to issue invitations to all five, based on reference checks which are underway. The visits are expected to take place during the first two weeks of October and each should last approximately 2½ days.

Among the priorities the committee has identified is a demonstration of respect for the shared governance process and an ability to surround him or herself with competent people. Additionally, the candidates should demonstrate a commitment to diversity and internationalization. The ability to raise \$27 million in the Capital Campaign was seen as a priority.

The committee is discussing the structure of the candidate visits and will try to include as much time as possible “inside Weimer” so that the faculty has a thorough chance to interact with each candidate. Candidates are expected to be asked to speak in detail about their vision for the College.

Ferguson encouraged each department to meet to discuss their questions and priorities before the candidates’ visits. She suggested that the Senate should also discuss its questions and priorities before the visits.

Dodd encouraged senators to come up with a list of questions they believe should be asked during the Senate’s meeting with the candidates. These questions should be discussed during the next Senate meeting.

Grogan reported on the Budget and Planning Committee’s last meeting. She noted that one committee member had questioned the need for the committee. Grogan encouraged patience in the process and said that she thought the committee should be given time to define its mission and provide advice to the administration. Ferguson noted that the University requires each College to have such a committee.

Hon noted that many of the questions about the committee and its function may have to do with the “flow chart” issues previously discussed.

Roberts suggested that the committee be asked to reconcile the College’s budget with the Strategic Plan.

Dodd asked that each unit’s senators talk with Budget Committee representatives about the purpose of the group and encourage them to design a “job description” for the committee. She suggested that in addition to the senators talking informally with their representatives, that they be invited to a lunch meeting for a group discussion about the focus and purpose of the committee. (Dodd also suggested a similar meeting with the Constitution Committee.)

The agenda items for the next Senate meeting include the Dean’s search and developing questions for the candidates, and a discussion of the recent UF faculty survey results.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 on a motion by Morton, seconded by Roberts.

Respectfully submitted,
Johanna Cleary

Minutes approved at the College Faculty Senate meeting, Sept. 27, 2007