



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

AGENDA
SPECIAL FACULTY SENATE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
3:30 P.M.

- I. Approval of the agenda, June 4, 2014 meeting
- II. Resolutions
- III. Adjourn



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MINUTES
SPECIAL FACULTY SENATE MEETING
JUNE 4, 2014
DODD HALL AUDITORIUM
3:35 P.M.

I. Regular Session

A special session of the 2014-15 Faculty Senate was held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014. Faculty Senate President Gary Tyson and Steering Committee Vice-Chair Susan Fiorito presided.

The following members attended the Senate meeting:

J. Adams, T. Adams, J. Ahlquist, M. Akiba, C. Alexander, A. Avina, H. Bass, B. Berg, B. Birmingham, M. Blaber, J. Broome, R. Brower, M. Buchler, E. Chicken, R. Dumm, K. Erndl, J. Fiorito, S. Fiorito, J. Gabriel, R. Gainsford, A. Gaiser, J. Geringer, T. Graban, M. Gross, K. Harper, E. Hilinski, K. Howard, L. Jakubowski, S. Johnson, M. Kapp, T. Keller, A. Kercheval, J. Larson, S. Losh, C. Madsen, K. McGinnis, M. Mesterton-Gibbons, R. Miles, D. Moore, J. Ohlin, I. Padavic, E. Peters, J. Reynolds, V. Richard Auzenne, N. Rogers, S. Rutledge, K. Schmitt, J. Standley, M. Stewart, J. Telotte, F. Tolson, S. Tripodi, G. Tyson, O. Vafek, D. Von Glahn, E. Walker, S. Webber, W. Weissert, W. Wise.

The following members were absent. Alternates are listed in parenthesis:

S. Aggarwal (D. Whalley), E. Aldrovandi, E. Alvarez (R. Leushuis), A. Askew, F. Berry, C. Bolaños, K. Brummel-Smith, J. Cogle, M. Cui, W. Deng, C. Edrington, K. Fishburne, K. Goldsby, C. Hofacker (R. Morton), M. Horner (V. Mesev), D. Humphrey, J. Ilich-Ernst (J. Kim), J. Kesten, E. Kim, W. Landing, B. Lee, S. Lewis, T. Luke, C. Maestas (T. Zhao), D. Maier-Katkin, T. Mariano, R. McCullough, J. McNulty, U. Meyer-Base, R. Morris, O. Okoli (T. Dickens), R. Rodenberg, P. Rutkovsky, K. Salata, V. Salters (M. Humayun), J. Schwenkler (N. Stein), D. Slice (P. Beerli), J. Sobanjo, L. Stepina, J. Turner (A. Roehrig), O. Steinbock (Q. Sang), S. Valisa.

II. Resolutions by the Steering Committee (Passed)

1. We, the members of the Florida State University Faculty Senate, call for a presidential search process of openness and integrity. Specifically, we call for the Presidential Search Advisory Committee to return to an open search according to the following timetable:

- An application deadline in early September.
- A meeting of the PSAC shortly thereafter to vote on a short list of at least three candidates to invite to campus for meetings with the committee, faculty, students, and staff.
- Campus visits the following week.
- A meeting of the PSAC by the end of September to discuss and make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

2. Be it resolved that we, the members of the Florida State University Faculty Senate, call upon the Board of Trustees to give serious consideration to the views of the faculty, students, staff, and administrators on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

III. Resolutions from the Floor (passed)

1. Be it resolved that we, the members of the Florida State University Faculty Senate, call upon the Board of Trustees to appoint a President of Florida State University who fulfills the first, and most important, of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee's approved qualifications and characteristics: "Distinguished intellectual stature with strong academic credentials, proven leadership abilities, and a successful record in senior management." There are many reasons why it is imperative to have an academic leader at the helm of a major public research university. Among these are the following:

- The current Presidents or Chancellors of 29 of the 30 top-ranked public universities in the most recent *U.S. News and World Report* poll have strong academic credentials, having earned the highest degrees in their fields, having previously served as faculty and as university administrators, and having published and gained acclaim in their scholarly fields. (The lone exception is former-governor Mitch Daniels at Purdue, who has proven to be a highly controversial choice since his appointment in 2013.) This group is our aspirational cohort, and if FSU aspires to top-25 status, it should heed the Presidential hiring patterns of top-25 public universities.
- The PSAC's decision to place academic qualifications high on the list of desirable qualities represents the interests of the faculty and students as well as the best interests of the University, and changing this criterion mid-stream is inappropriate. The University of Florida's Board of Trustees recently voted unanimously to prioritize academic credentials, and FSU should aspire to no less in a President.
- FSU Presidents are appointed with the rank of tenured Full Professor in an academic department, a rank that presupposes experience in teaching, research, and service. A President who has never taught nor conducted research would be ineligible for this rank without violating University tenure criteria.

We therefore call upon the Board of Trustees to appoint a President with strong academic credentials. This, more than anything, is integral to our quest to join the highest rank of American public universities.

2. Be it resolved that we, the members of the Florida State University Faculty Senate, declare that we have lost confidence in Presidential Search Consultant R. William Funk's conduct of FSU's Presidential search process.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



Melissa Crawford
Faculty Senate Coordinator