Meeting Minutes

I. United Faculty of Florida
Dr. Steve Permuth, a representative from United Faculty of Florida (UFF), discussed the need to have direct input from faculty regarding issues that concern us as employees at USF. The UFF has just begun to negotiate a three-year contract with the USF Board of Trustees that will clearly state the rights and obligations of employees in the bargaining unit.

TASK: Faculty were asked to take five minutes to complete the “United Faculty of Florida – Bargaining Survey 2006.”

Dr. Permuth offered to return to talk about the contract (with the USF Board of Trustees). The majority of faculty agreed to have Dr. Permuth return to address the Faculty Assembly about the contract. For questions Dr. Permuth may be reached at 974-1287.

Comment on contract:
It was noted that the Health Insurance Benefit items are not included in the contract.

Comment on survey:
Including the item on enforceable shared governance by faculty and professional employees was questioned. Dr. Permuth suggested that faculty read the contract on academic freedom and job transfer to find clarification on this item. In addition, it was noted that the Faculty Assembly has no legal binding authority. The bargaining unit has legal binding authority.

II. Approval of the Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2006

Faculty approved the meeting minutes.

III. Academic Affairs Update
Dr. Karen Liller gave a presentation on the Nation Research Council (NRC) Survey. Handouts were provided to facilitate the presentation. This survey will provide data on the quality and characteristics of research-doctoral programs at institutions in the United States. The study is conducted every 10 years. This is the first time data will be collected on public health. Data will also be collected on publications, citations, and dissertations.

TASK: Faculty will be receiving questionnaires online to complete. Results will be confidential and in the form of aggregate data. Dr. Liller urged the faculty to complete the questionnaire when they receive it from NRC.

Dr. Liller led a discussion on a new and revised General GRE TEST that will be introduced in September, 2007. Handouts were provided. The test will be comprised of revised verbal
reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and analytical writing sections. The testing time will be 4 hours and 20 minutes. Dr. Liller asked that the Student Affairs Committee to help her with making a decision about not having cut off scores.

For all non-degree seeking students who are enrolled in on-line certificate programs, beginning in Spring, 2007, the cost of their tuition is approximately $400 per credit hour plus the technology fee. Resident tuition is $376.98 and non-resident tuition is $407.70.

Six hundred and twenty one graduate students are enrolled for Fall, 2006. Over 3000 undergraduate students are now enrolled in our undergraduate courses every semester.

We will be completing the Association of Schools of Public Health annual survey. This survey is due in January, 2007. Copies of this report are available in Dr. Liller’s office.

Dr. Liller acknowledged the first issue of “Field Reports” authored by Natalie Preston.

Linda Rodriguez is our new interim international field counselor.

Overall pass rate for first-time core comprehensive test takers was 78%. The College Committee is working on new options for the delivery of the core course information.

IV. Dr. Ann DeBaldo introduced Dr. Norbert Wagner as a new faculty member in the department of Environmental & Occupational Health, COPH. Dr. Wagner’s areas of interest include occupational medicine, tropical medicine and political science.

V. USF HEALTH Guidelines for Selection of Distinguished University Health Professors

Dr. Yehia Hammad led a discussion on the guidelines. A handout of the draft dated 10/19/06 as per COM Faculty Council was handed out for faculty to review. Faculty were asked to approve or disapprove the guidelines.

First Motion: Approve the guidelines

Discussion:

1. USF has an Annual Distinguished University Professor Award with guidelines. This award is given to one professor on main campus. Professors from USF HEALTH have rarely received this award. This is a prestigious award where professors are recognized internationally for their work and awarded an annual $5,000 increase in pay.

2. USF HEALTH Guidelines

A concern is that the focus may be on clinical achievements more so than research, teaching and service.

Since there could be a high number of nominees 5 awards could be offered each year with an annual $5,000 increase in pay.
It was noted that professors can apply for all four categories of clinical, research, teaching, service but can only win one category per year.

First Motion: Opposed

Second Motion: The second motion was to change the name of the guidelines to USF HEALTH Guidelines for Selection of Outstanding University Health Professor. In addition, 5 awards should be offered each year – one in each category of clinical, research, teaching, service with an annual increase in pay of $5000.00

Motion: Approved

USF HEALTH Guidelines for Professional Development Leave for Non-Tenure Earning Faculty

Dr. Hammad led a discussion on the professional development leave guidelines for non-tenure earning faculty. A copy of the document was provided to faculty to review.

Motion: Faculty approved the guidelines

VI. Reports of Standing Committees
College Committees
Dr. Marti Coulter stated that Faculty Affairs met yesterday and recommended that special credentialing processes be handled at the Faculty Affairs department level. Associate credentialing should be addressed at the department level and then go to the college level for review and approval.

University Committees
No reports

VII. New Business
Dr. Suzanne Perry-Casler stated that she will serve as the United Way Campaign 2006 coordinator for the COPH. The timeframe for the campaign is from now until January 30, 2006. Dr. Perry-Casler will send out an email to faculty and staff with information on different methods to make donations. With departmental permission, materials for display will be provided to the departments.

Dr. Wendy Nembhard gave a report on behalf of the Faculty Senate, USF. Topics on the table include:

- How to make the role of faculty more legislative than advising in the area of governance
- USF Strategic Plan for 2007 – 2012. President Judy Genshaft is currently reviewing the plan.
- USF Constitution
Dr. Yehia Hammad reported on the Tri College Council meetings for Fall 2006. The council has met three times thus far. The meetings are very productive. Topics discussed during the meetings include community engagement, cooperation in research, goals and objectives for the council, and developing courses shared by the colleges. The council has invited the committee chairs of the colleges to meet with the council to discuss the issues stated above. The next Tri College Council meeting is December 6, 2006, COPH, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, room 2024.

The next Faculty Assembly Meeting is January 26, 2007, 10:00 -12:00pm, room 2016.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 12pm.

Dr. Suzanne Perry-Casler respectively submits these meeting minutes.