

4-25-2006

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University of South Florida St. Petersburg, "Campus Board Meeting : 2006 : 04 : 25 : Supporting Documents" (2006). *Campus Board: Supporting Documents*. 17.
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Faculty Senate Chairperson's Report

Prepared by

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Chair, Faculty Senate AY 2005/06

Presented at the Campus Board Meeting

Holden at Residential Housing I, USF St. Petersburg

This 21st Day of April 2006

The following is a report on the major activities and accomplishments of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg for AY 2005/2006.

Preamble

The Faculty Senate—hereinafter, the Senate—is the principal academic advisory body to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (VCAA) at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USFSP). In this capacity, the Senate makes recommendations deemed important for the operations and welfare of USFSP, especially with respect to the academic mission of the University.

General Activities & Accomplishments

During AY 2005/06 the Senate:

- met fortnightly (or bi-weekly);
- publicized its meeting dates and time, as well as the minutes, in a timely manner, using state-of-the-art communication tools, particularly the Internet;
- maintained effective communication with the College Councils, Regional Chancellor (RC), VCAA, and other constituencies of USFSP;

- was represented on the RC's Leadership Council;
- reviewed reports from College Councils and cognate bodies, and made recommendations to the RC on aspects thereof having implications for the academic mission of USFSP;

Specific Activities & Accomplishments

During AY 2005/06, the Senate deliberated and recommended specific actions on the following:

- professional code of ethics for faculty of USFSP;
- equity in teaching load and assigned duties across all colleges at USFSP;
- uniformity (across colleges) in tenure and promotion procedures and requirements;
- fitness centre fees;
- faculty attendance at faculty meetings;
- Mathematics and Science Literacy centre;
- USFSP representation in USF Tampa Faculty Senate.

Specific Actions taken

As part of her efforts to stay abreast with faculty needs and desires, the Senate conducted a faculty survey in AY 2005/06. The results of the survey are available on-line in pdf format. The universal resource locator (URL) for the site is as follows:

http://www.nelson.usf.edu/faculty_council/docs/pdf/Council%20Survey%20Results%20July%202005.pdf

As part of her contribution to ongoing efforts to secure accreditation for USFSP, the Senate met with the Site Visitation Team of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges.

Ongoing Activities

The Senate has also been active in efforts to revamp the general education requirements curriculum for undergraduate students at USFSP. In this connection, the Senate has agreed to constitute a committee to be charged with the primary responsibility of reviewing and updating this curriculum on a continuous basis.

Finally, the Senate continues to do all in her powers and within her capabilities towards making USFSP the best it can be.