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USFSP Faculty Senate Meeting : 2007 : 08 : 24 : Minutes

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday August 24, 2007

Library Conference Room – POY 319

Present: Ray Arsenault, David Carr, Tom Carter, Margaret Hewitt, Larry Johnson,
Gary Patterson
Absent: Jerry Notaro
Guests: Chris D'Elia, Karen White

1. The meeting began at 1 pm. Margaret Hewitt was elected Chair.
2. We discussed the lack of weekend air-conditioning in some buildings, its effect on those working on the weekends, the resulting humidity's effect on books, and the budgetary benefits. Margaret Hewitt will talk with Ashok Dhingra about this.
3. Our meetings this academic year will usually be on the fourth Friday. The plan is: Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 16, Dec 14, Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 28, Apr 25, May 16.
4. The combined Faculty Convocation/Faculty Awards ceremony will be in April.
5. Last year there was an issue, or maybe confusion, with the Faculty role in commencement (Marshals, etc) regarding which we need to look at old minutes. We can get input from the rest of the faculty about preferences on the use of commencement speakers, potential honorary degree recipients, and recommendations for the Chancellor's Award.
6. Margaret Hewitt suggests that a member of the Faculty Senate attend College Council meetings to improve communications between the groups.
7. We discussed the budget situation and got some good news. Jerry Notaro is also on a budget committee and will keep us informed.
8. For SACS monitoring/reporting purposes, Chris D'Elia needs us to ratify the General Education policy, ideally next week. Evidently it was passed by the General Education committee in April. Larry Johnson, who is also a member of the General Education committee, will get it to the rest of us soon. We will have a special meeting Friday August 31 at 1:00 in POY319 (if it's available) to vote on it.
9. Some faculty are having issues with flash drives. Maybe a lack of warning about changes is a problem. Chris D'Elia noted that the help desk is available for such issues and also will talk with Jeff Reisberg about it.
10. Gary Patterson was elected Vice Chair.
11. The Multicultural Student Center will have a reception which faculty can attend. Also, there will be a faculty mentoring program started this year for students of color and planned to be expanded to all new students next year. Faculty are invited to volunteer (you get free food).

The next meeting is set for Friday August 31, 1 p.m., POY 319 (if it's available).