Reorganization caught up in a name game

What’s in a name? In the case of USF’s reorganization, a lot.

Interim President Robert A. Bryan has said he had no choice but to change the reporting of the senior officer of Student Affairs from the provost to the president. But, the Faculty Senate has said the point of the reorganization was to make the activities of research, student affairs and academic affairs better coordinated. Last week, Bryan sent a memo to the university community outlining what the Board of Regents (BOR) would and would not accept about the university’s new organization.

The university changed its administrative reorganization in May based on suggestions from a six-month study by KPMG Peat Marwick consultants and the recommendations of a campus steering committee.

According to Bryan’s memo, most of those changes were approved by the BOR. One thing the BOR notified didn’t approve was the idea of having people with the “vice-president” reporting to people other than the president.

According to the reorganization plan, the Vice President for Research and the Vice President for Student Development would report to the Provost. Also, the Vice President for Human Resources & Wellness would report to the Senior Vice President for University Services.

Bryan told the Faculty Senate on Nov. 17 that he never did like the idea of having vice presidents report to other vice presidents. But, he also told the USF community in a campus address in September that he wouldn’t change anything about the reorganization.

Since then, Bryan received word from the BOR’s personnel office that all the new position descriptions were approved but the reporting lines were not approved. According to the BOR, if vice presidents report to other vice presidents then they are actually associate vice presidents, Bryan said.

So, Bryan changed the title of Senior Vice President of University Services to Vice President for Administrative Services.

But, he did not change the names of the Vice President of Research and the Vice President of Student Development. He changed what they report to, from the provost to the president. That move, according to the Faculty Senate, represents a fundamental change in the reorganization.

“The Vice President for Research and the Vice President for Student Affairs could report to either the provost or me. I chose to have them report to the president rather than the provost,” Bryan said.

“I put myself in the Provost’s position and I don’t see how I could perform,” Bryan maintains. He added that Provost Meissel does not agree with this decision.

Neither does Nancy A. Anderson, associate professor of childhood education and vice speaker of the Faculty Senate.

“Imagine you came here to make decisions as if you were a permanent president,” she told Bryan during the meeting. “But now instead of a reorganization we have an unorganization.”

Renu Khator, associate professor of government and international affairs, wondered how the change would help USF to better meet its goals.

“The reporting lines are the foundation of any organizational structure. To change them just because we don’t like the title is inappropriate,” she said to Bryan. “It sounds insulting to our intelligence.”

“We have to believe that it is better to make this decision now,” Bryan said. “We are better to be unhappy now than the new president arrives and the decision is already set by the BOR.”

Kofi Glover, speaker of the Faculty Senate, pointed out that originally the reorganization consultants had called the chief officer of Research and the chief officer of Student Affairs “vice-provosts.” Glover said former president Frank Borkowski turned down the title “vice-provost” because it was too similar to the title of the academic vice president.

Borkowski said in April that putting Research and Student affairs under the Provost further focused the academic mission of the University.

“This change is intended to complement the centrality of these functions to the University’s academic mission, and the need to integrate effectively under one umbrella all of those functions which address that mission,” Borkowski said.

You have done something that Borkowski has done, something that many people believe was one of the best things he could have done, because research was not consulting with Academic Affairs,” Anderson said to Bryan. “Prevost Meissel has been working in this position for seven months. He has said he could handle it. I am premature of you to make this decision.”

Bryan said that he believes he has made a decision that will serve the university well in the coming years.

“I am sorry that you are unhappy and I am sorry that you feel this way,” Bryan said to the Faculty Senate. “I try to solve problems. I am not here to create them.”

The Faculty Senate had planned to submit a resolution concerning the decision. But, the matter was continued to the long meeting.
Inside USF, November 24 - December 9, 1993

Faculty/Staff Notes

Elections and Appointments

Jesse S. Blingford Jr., Chemistry, has been appointed visiting professor for the 1993-94 academic year in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Rice University in Houston, Texas. He is working on a project to develop blood substitutes in the Cox Laboratory for Biomedical Engineering, Institute of Bioscience and Bioengineering.

Chris P. Tsokos, Math and Statistics, was elected vice president of the International Federation of Non-linear Analysis at IPNA. He was also selected to the editorial boards of the International Journal of Non-linear Differential Equations: Theory, Methods and Applications, and Nonlinear Digest—International Journal. Tsokos was also invited by the Russian Academy of Science to tour and lecture at several universities in Russia Oct. 26-Nov. 6. He also toured the People's Republic of China last spring and was guest lecturer at several Chinese universities.

Grants and Awards

Michael D. Knox and Martha A. Friedrich, FMHI, received $12,803 from the University of Miami to design and construct the Florida AIDS Education and Training Network's third "Florida HIV Conference" scheduled for May 12-14, 1994 in Orlando.

John W. Richmond, Music, received a $10,000 award from the Conn Memorial Foundation in Toms River to assist with the development of an all-World Children's Choir during the 1994 World Conference of the International Society for Music Education.

Dr. Thomas J. Mason, College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, has been granted the Public Health Service commendation medal from the National Institute of Health. He was commended for his work as a member of a board formed by the federal Department of Health and Human Services charged with providing health care and monitoring that care for the 1,400 residents of a rural Alabama community.

Dr. Howard M. Knoff and Dr. George M. Batsche, Psychological and Social Sciences, received a $200,000 grant from the Florida Department of Education to support the Institute for Integrated Service Delivery, and a $104,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. These grants will support the Institute for Integrated Project ACHIEVE, which will develop reform projects targeted at at-risk children and youth.

De-you Yang

De-you Yang, Modern Languages and Linguistics, published Chinese translations of "On Being a Christian" (Zuo Jiu Di "Ying Ci Huo") and "The Promised Land" (Fudi) by Wladyslaw Reymont.

John W. Richmond, Music, recently was published "Setting the Stage: An Update on ISME '94" in the International Journal of Music Education. He also published "A Review of Two Reprints: Catalogues Compiled by James Peter Aitch, Church Choir Director's Survival Guides" in Florida Choral News 5.


Sonja Helton, Education, USF St. Petersburg, has published her fifth book, Ready to Use Math Activities for the Primary Grades, in May.

John T. Romen, Biology, with Kelsey R. Downum and Helen Stafford, recently published Phytochemical Potential of Tropical Plants.

Darryl Paulson, Government and International Affairs, USF-St. Pete, recently was interviewed about St. Petersburg's strong mayor form of government for Governing magazine. His comments appeared in the July issue.

James Fellows, Business Administration, USF-St. Pete, published "Taxing the Middle Class" in the October 1993 issue of Taxing Times magazine.

Barry Harbison, Marine science, USF-St. Petersburg, will be out in the Arctic ocean on Dec. 26 at 27. We get to have Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas on the ship." Vargo said.

The scientists will be scavenging for plankton, a microscopic plant and animal organism that lives in its water. Samples will be collected in a plankton sampler, which weighs 700 pounds and will be towed behind the 219-foot ship.

"It's state of the art in plankton sampling," said graduate student Tracey Sutton. He will also travel on the Polar Duke.

The instrument, which was designed by a USF professor and students, has 10 electronic sensors to measure plankton and a net to catch plankton. The sensors measure light and the amount of chlorophyll in the water. The scientists will be looking at the phytoplankton, which are microscopic, floating aquatic plants. Other taking this holiday trip include: Jose Torres, another USF marine science professor; Richard Harbison of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts; and Gary Kieppl of Nova University.

One group will study herbivores and carnivores, Vargo said. Harbison’s group will dive into the chill water to collect various types of jellyfish.

"Without this, we’re on the verge of the Gulf," Sutton said. "I am kind of getting nervous as it gets colder. I want to make sure everything works right," By Lisa Cunningham
November

24 Wednesday

Art exhibit: The first Winter Salon Exhibition, featuring more than 50 Graphicstudio works, will be on display through Jan. 15 at Graphicstudio. Those works, which vary in size, shape and price and span the history of the 25-year-old studio, will be available for purchase to both the university community and the public. Hours of the sale are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Children's show: "Seasame Street Live!" will be performed at 7:30 p.m. at the Sun Dome. Shows will continue on Nov. 26-28, with two shows each day, at various times. Tickets range from $7 to $13. For more information, call the box office at ext. 4-3002.

Radio broadcast: WUSF-FM 89.7 will showcase medal winners in the Van Cliburn Ninth International Piano Competition 1993 during the Evening Concert at 8 p.m.

25 Thursday

Radio broadcast: WUSF-FM 89.7 will air "Notes on Thanksgiving," as part of Karl Haas' "Adventures in Good Music" show at 12:00 p.m.

TV broadcast: WUSF-TV Channel 16 will air "Florida Roundhouse," featuring the history of Florida's passenger rail service, from its early days to today's revitalization of train travel, at 8 p.m.

26 Friday

Concert: The USF Jazz Ensemble II will perform at 8 p.m. in Theatre 1. Tickets are $3 for general admission and $2 for students and senior citizens. For ticket information, call ext. 4-2323 or 4-2322.

Seminars: Dr. Fulton Crews of the University of Florida will discuss "Changes in glaucoma signaling during aging and Alzheimer's disease," a Department of Pharmacology seminar, at 3 p.m. in MDC 1096. For more information, call Nancy Hunt at ext. 4-2543.

Basketball game: The USF Men's basketball team will open its season against Stetson University at 7:30 p.m. in the Sun Dome. For ticket information, call ext. 4-2125.

Concert: The USF Holiday Concert, featuring USF and guest choirs and instrumentalists, will be directed by Robert Summrow. It will be performed at 8 p.m. at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center Festival Hall, 1010 N.W. 22nd Pl. MacLaren Place. Tickets are $6. For more information, call the box office at 221-1045.

Radio broadcast: WUSF-FM 89.7 will air "Notes on Thanksgiving," as part of Karl Haas' "Adventures in Good Music" show at 12:00 p.m.

TV broadcast: WUSF-TV Channel 16 will air "Florida Roundhouse," featuring the history of Florida's passenger rail service, from its early days to today's revitalization of train travel, at 8 p.m.

28 Sunday

Radio broadcast: WUSF-FM 89.7 will air "Nueva Espafia/Early Music in the New World" by Boston Camerata, as part of the Sunday and Sunday Morning series at 8 a.m.

Monday

Seminars: The USF Employee Assistance Program will offer "Finding Care for Patients with Alzheimer's" at noon in SVC 2126. The series is for employees who are concerned about or are caring for elderly relatives. The free seminar requires registration. For more information, call Christine Ost at ext. 4-5469.

Concert: William Hayden will direct the USF Swing Division Showcase Concert at 8 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall. For ticket information, call ext. 4-2311.

Lecture: W. Wallace Cleveland of the University of Wisconsin will discuss "What Makes Enzymatic Reactions So Fast?" at 4 p.m. in Lecture 4, 800. The event is part of the Candler Lecture Series. For more information, call George Jurch at ext. 4-2444.

Dinners: The 21st Annual Madrigal Dinners will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Theatre 2. Dinners will also take place on Dec. 3-4 and at 5 p.m. Tickets went on sale Nov. 15. Cost is $20. For more information, call the box office at ext. 4-2323.

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Update on procedures manual

A manual that sets procedures for inviting prominent people to campus for various reasons may be published.

Anyone who has suggestions for the manual can send them to Gordon McDougall, interim vice president for University Advancement, at ADM 247.