

## USF College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Council

Meeting Minutes from Friday, March 24, 2023, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

### Attendees:

Stephen Aikins	*	Ryan McCleary	*	Razvan Teodorescu	*	Magali Michael	
Jennifer Collins	*	Byron Miller	*	Sameer Varma	*	Paul Kirchman	*
Maria Luisa Corton	*	Adriana Novoa	*	Allison Cleveland-Roberts	*	Toru Shimizu	*
Anthony Coy	*	Mahuya Pal		Daniel Kanouff		Susan Toler	
Meredith Johnson	*	Thomas Pluckhahn		Randy Larsen			
Jennifer Johnson		Stephan Schindler	*	Robert Potter	*		

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action / Follow-Up
<b>1) Old Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were approved from last meeting held February 24, 2023.</li> </ul>	
<b>2) Tuition Exchange Program Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lisa Lamont – was unable to attend</li> <li>Jen sent via email and then discussed the information she received from other schools that USF often compares themselves to. We should emphasize the idea that this is beneficial for the retention of faculty, and other schools may not have issues with retention and faculty dissatisfaction like we have at USF (shown on a recent UFF survey). We have not received the data from HR that we were expecting to receive in December 2022 so it is not clear the numbers involved and when this could be implemented.</li> <li>Dean Michael said that the programs vary by school</li> </ul>	
<b>3) Standing Committee Liaisons Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Core Facilities Committee (Razvan) – discussed that it's not widely known that people at USF can use core facilities. Suggest revising the USF website to make it more about knowing how to access the core facilities. Service contracts to extend maintenance would be beneficial. No mechanism to use graduate assistants for the core facilities. Dean Michel said those contracts are expensive and requested additional monies for core facilities. So the Dean's Office is working on these issues.</li> </ul>	

- Diversity Committee (Adriana) – Students organizing an event on DEI. Be careful with the language and replacing DEI with “belonging and justice”. She suggested to change Tangela’s title to “advisor of institutional belonging” and the same for the diversity committee “committee of institutional belonging”. Diversity is more than race, and includes gender, disabilities, social class, etcetera. Need to increase student involvement to express their views. Dean Toru stated that to change the name requires a faculty vote because it is in the CAS Governance document. Dean Michael suggested using “community” instead of belonging.
- Faculty Development Committee (Stephan) – evaluated applications for the conference and travel support program. Dean’s Office currently making the decisions.
- Grievance (Allison) – many faculty are handling things themselves and there are no issues for grievance currently. Allison has heard faculty discussing the ChatGPT and may be an issue that the Council should bring up to faculty. Stephan said the World Language faculty is worried about the ChatGPT as it is changing how they assess student performances. Cannot be tracked through turnit.com. Allison recommends faculty attending this program through innovative education (<https://www.usf.edu/continuing-education/explore-programs/technology/ai-and-chatgpt-certificate.aspx>). Raz says ChatGPT works perfectly and will discourage take home exams. Allison says this will promote a paradigm shift on our teaching and assessment processes. Dean Michael said faculty may need to embrace ChatGPT and teach students how to use it in specific ways in the classroom as a new technology teaching tool. Dean Potter said oral exams would be good but you have to be careful on assessments and rubrics. We need to focus on critical thinking skills with this new teaching tool available to students. We will have to change our syllabi because this is the most transformative thing Dean Potter remarks as seeing in a while. Meredith believes the use of ChatGPT is an exciting opportunity and is akin to the invention of the calculator. Maria said

	<p>ChatGPT is very accurate and supports students using ChatGPT for their research. Dean Potter said ChatGPT is not good with references but may be a good place for students to start their research.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library Committee (Maria) – committee had a list of requests from departments for books and journals. They approved all the books on the list and spent over \$6,000 although the budget was \$5,000. Dean Michael said some of the chairs in the humanities department have been meeting and the library pledged to spend \$300,000 of unspent monies to support the humanities and the Dean’s Office will match that contribution so they serve as a “partner” with the Library.</li> <li>Technology Committee (Stephen) – did not meet</li> </ul>	
<b>4) Faculty Council Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring Assembly – will be held May 4, 2023 from 1-3pm.</li> <li>FC and Standing Committee Nominations for 2023-2024 – discussed the process to select the members for CAS standing committees. Dean Toru clarified the FC will vote on new FC members in Fall 2023</li> <li>Informing Students on the Political Climate – Dean Michael said we need to be careful. Adriana states let’s emphasize the services students need.</li> </ul>	
<b>5) Dean’s Remarks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are some opportunity hires throughout the college – met with the Provost who wanted to know about the College. The colleges gave a budget presentation and asked for additional money. We need more faculty to teach our growing student body. CAS received extra money last year, spent the money how they said they would, so hopefully we will get money again for hiring tenure line faculty, instructors, and academic advisors.</li> <li>Provost said they will conduct a national search for the CAS and College of Business Interim Dean positions.</li> </ul>	
<b>6) Faculty Concerns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All salaries in Sarasota are aligned to the median (not compression, rather alignment across campuses to the median)</li> </ul>	
<b>7) Final Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None. Motion to adjourn. Passed.</li> </ul>	

**Next Meeting: April 28, 2023**

**Minutes Submitted by:** Byron Miller

College of Arts and Sciences  
Faculty Council Meeting  
Friday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
2:00 – 4:00pm, Microsoft Teams

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of 2/24/2023 Meeting Minutes
- III. Tuition Exchange Program (TEP) Update
  - Lisa Lamont – USF Human Resource Manager
  - Jen Collins
- IV. Standing Committee Liaisons Updates
  - a. Core Facilities Committee (Razvan)
  - b. Diversity Committee (Adriana)
  - c. Faculty Development Committee (Stephan)
  - d. Grievance (Allison)
  - e. Library Committee (Maria)
  - f. Technology Committee (Stephen)
- V. Faculty Council Business
  - Spring Assembly
  - FC and Standing Committee Nominees for 2023-2024
  - Informing Students on Political Climate
  - Provost Mohapatra Invitation to April Meeting
- VI. Dean's Remarks
- VII. Faculty Concerns
  - RCM Budget Update
  - Salary Compression Update
  - Improving Faculty and Student Mental Health Supports
  - Council Member Questions
- VII. Adjourn