Faculty Governance

At The

University of Florida

In Gainesville

A Brief Summary 1906-2003
This brief summary of faculty participation in the governance of the University of Florida was motivated by Dr. Jean Larson, Chair of the Faculty Senate during 2002-03 as a part of the University of Florida’s celebration of its Sesquicentennial. The information included in the summary has come from original sources such as the minutes of the General Faculty; minutes of the University and then Faculty Senate from 1932 to 2003; the catalogs of the University and various colleges; biennial reports by the presidents and deans to the Board of Control; and from the Seminole yearbooks.

Gene W. Hemp
May 2003
Faculty participation in the administration of any institution of higher education is essential. This is particularly true for a large, diverse, major, research university such as the University of Florida. When the Buckman Act consolidated several institutions into what would become the University of Florida in Gainesville in 1905, it is hard to believe that those involved could predict the growth that would occur in size and recognition of the institution.

However, when the University of the State of Florida began operation in Gainesville in the summer of 1906, there was only a faculty of 13, including President Sledd. The entire faculty met as the General Faculty to consider the issues and to take action on the recommendations regarding those issues from committees of the General Faculty. As might be expected, faculty committees carried out much of the administration of the University with final approval lodged in the General Faculty and the President. Because of the small number of faculty, all were involved in one or more committees.

The importance of the faculty committee structure was best stated in the 1927-28 appointments of committees of the General Faculty:

“Owing to the small number of meetings, three a year, of regular meetings of the General Faculty, a great deal of responsibility falls upon its Standing Committees. During the periods between meetings of the General Faculty, each of these committees is, under the President of the University, the sole authority on the matters within its jurisdiction. Each committee is however, to submit a written report of its activities at all regular meetings of the General Faculty by which body its proceedings may be approved, amended, or revoked,”

Dr. Charles Langley Crow (Professor of Modern Languages) was the Secretary to the General Faculty from the time the University was established in Gainesville in 1905-06 until his retirement in 1930 when he was replaced by the then-Registrar Harley Willard Chandler. (See picture of Dr. C.L. Crow)

The faculty committees for 1905-06 were:

- Courses and Degrees: Yocum, Farr, Flint, Rolfs, and Blair
- Entrance Examinations and Classifications: Farr, Schmidt and Benton
- Schedules: Flint, Conner and Cox
- Discipline: Commandant, Sellards, and Thomas
- Public Functions: Rolfs and Hochstrasser
- Athletics: Blair and the Commandant
- Student Organizations: Sellards, Farr, Schmidt, Thomas, and the Commandant
- Library: Thomas, Anderson, and Farr
With the arrival of President Murphree, there was an organization of the faculty into colleges in accordance with the standards of the Association of State Universities. The result was a structure with four colleges, an Experiment Station and a Division of University Extension effective with the beginning of the 1910-11 academic year.

With this reorganization came a change in the administrative structure of the university. A University Council was formed composed of the President, Vice President, Deans and the director of the Extension Service. Meanwhile, the General Faculty continued to meet three times each year.

The following were the 1910-11 Standing Committees of the Faculty:

- Athletics: Crow, Cox, the Commandant
- Discipline: Flint, Cox, Banks, the Commandant
- Entrance Examination: Farr, Keppel, Anderson, Banks, Davis
- Graduate Work: Anderson, Banks, Benton, Davis, Keppel, and Vernon
- Library: Banks, Farr, Crow, and Mr. Hadley (librarian)
- Public Functions: Crow, Anderson, Davis, Floyd
- Publicity: Crow, Floyd, and Keppel
- Schedules: Keppel, Cox, and Flint
- Self-Help: Floyd, Kicklighter, Davis, and Vernon
- University Publications: Farr, Keppel and Benton

(See picture of most of the 1910-11 faculty)

The first Constitution of the University of Florida dated May 1929 describes the administrative structure of the University to include The University Council (comprised of the President, Vice President, deans of the colleges, Director of the General Extension Division, Dean of Students, and the Registrar serving as secretary to the Council).

It is interesting to note that one of the functions listed for the Council is to act “As an ad-interim Executive Committee” of the General Faculty with authority to enact such legislation as may be necessary between the stated meetings of the General Faculty, which legislation shall remain in force unless changed by the General Faculty.”

The Constitution was amended April 1, 1932 to include among other issues two very important steps in the University of Florida governance. First was the formal establishment of a Graduate School to be administered by a Dean and Graduate Council. Until this time there had been a committee of the faculty charged with oversight of graduate programs.

Second, the new constitution established “the University Senate as the supreme legislative body of the University.” Its membership was composed of the President, members of the University Council, Director of the School of Architecture, Business Manager, Director of Athletics, Director of the Florida Museum, Director of Music, Director of Publicity, Director of the Radio Station, University Librarian, University Physician, Assistant Dean for Research, Assistant Director for Administration, and the Vice Director of the Agricultural Extension Service, Professor of Military Science and Tactics, Director of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, and “three representatives
from each college, of the rank of assistant professor or above, unless the number of full time staff members of the rank of instructor or above on the line faculty of any college exceeds 25, in which case the college shall have an additional member on the University Senate for each ten (or major fraction of ten) members of its line faculty.” This resulted in an initial University Senate of 26 administrative appointments and 24 faculty members.

“The college representatives shall be chosen as follows: one shall be appointed by the dean of the college; the remainder shall be elected by the line faculty of the college. Each representative shall serve for a term of three years.”

“The presiding officer of the University Senate shall be the President, or in his absence, the Vice President. The Secretary shall be the Registrar, who shall keep the minutes of its proceedings, with a record of all actions taken.”

NOTE: At the end of this timeline there is an extensive review of the proceedings of the first 70 years of the University-Faculty Senate.

Thirty years later there was extended discussion about the organization of the Senate. In fact the discussion began at the May 28, 1962 meeting of the Senate and ended with the adoption of the new constitution at the February 6, 1964 meeting. There was a major change with the adoption of this new constitution with the establishment of a Senate Steering Committee of seven members of the Senate. Its charge by the constitution was:

“The Steering Committee shall annually elect its own chairman. In consultation with the President and Secretary, it shall determine the agenda for each meeting of the Senate. It shall provide for reporting to the Senate by administrative officers, by the chairmen of the standing and special committees, and by individuals.”

At the June 18, 1964 meeting of the Senate, President Reitz announced that he had appointed Professor Gladys Kammerer, Vice President Robert Mautz, and Vice President Harry Philpot to the Interim Steering Committee as provided for in the Senate's action at the April 30 meeting. (See picture of Dr. Kammerer)

September 24, 1964 the Senate held elections for the initial Senate Steering Committee. Those elected were:

Richard James Anderson
Raymond Alexander Dennison
Paul Lamont Hanna
Hal Graham Lewis
George Robert Bentley, Vice Chairman
Manning Julian Dauer, Chairman

(See picture of Dr. Dauer)

In the following years there have been several initiatives to make the Senate more viable; many of these involved the selection of the Senate members both in numbers as well as who was eligible for selection. There have been nine revisions of the Constitution (1932; 1937; 1946; 1949; 1964; 1972; 1984; 1990 and 2002) and virtually all of them dealt with this issue. The concept of three (3) senators per academic college unless the line faculty
was more than 25 prevailed throughout the 1930s including the concept of decanal appointment of one of the senators.

With the 1946 Constitution the idea was that ALL full professors would be members of the Senate. The ex-officio members still included the President, Vice President, all deans, and several designated directors. Membership in 1964 changed to include 50 elected senators from the ranks of the assistant and associate professors.

In 1972 there began a series of changes in the size of the Senate. In 1972 the number of ex-officio members remained the same but the members from the faculty changed to one-third of the full professors serving two-year terms (so all full professors in theory served a two year term every six years). The number of elected members from the ranks of the assistant and associate professor ranks was then linked to one-third of the full professors serving in the Senate. This resulted in a downsizing of the Senate non-ex-officio members to a number now equivalent to four-ninths of the full professors. For the first time (five) student members were allowed to become non-voting members but with floor privileges.

In 1984 this procedure was changed again. It retained the concept that one-third of the full professors would serve as members of the Senate but changed the number of elected members to one-half of the full professors serving in the Senate. This resulted in a slight increase in non-ex-officio members to the equivalent of one-half the full professors. The concept and number for student membership was retained.

In 1990 the process again changed to provide for only one-sixth of the full professors serving a two-year term with the expectation that each full professor would serve a two-year term every twelve years. The number of elected members from the assistant and associate professors was now linked to one-half of the full professors serving in the Senate. Thus, the non-ex-officio members of the Senate now equated to one-fourth of the full professors. Again the issue of non-voting student members was retained.

Most recently in 2002 the size of the faculty representation in the Senate was set at 150 members to be elected from all faculty ranks with no ex-officio members except the President and Provost.

Superimposed on the size issue during all these changes in number of senators was also the definition of eligibility. Ranks of Graduate Research Professor, Distinguished Service Professor, and Eminent Scholar etc. were recognized as part of the terminology of Professor, Curator and Librarian. Also, there was the inclusion of non-tenure accruing ranks such as Engineer, Research Scholar, and Research Scientist in 1974 and later of the Extension Agents.

The presiding officer for the Senate was also a topic of discussion starting in the late 1980s. At the February 23, 1989 Senate meeting a proposal was passed that “confirmed in principle the election of the presiding officer of the Senate from the Senate body itself.” This was President Criser’s last Senate meeting and Interim President Bryan made the determination to leave the decision to the new president whenever he or she was selected. When President Lombardi assumed the presidency, he stated his intention to approve the requested action but the Senate withdrew it.

Again, at the February 10, 1994 meeting a survey of senators showed a desire to have the presiding officer be elected from the ranks of the Senate. After some study, the
Senate Steering Committee through the Constitution Committee placed this issue on the agenda for the November 10, 1994 Senate meeting. It was defeated by a vote of 38-55-1. The issue of the presiding officer of the Senate remained unresolved until November 4, 1999, when President Young was first introduced to the Senate. At the end of his remarks he stated that he has chosen not to preside over the University Senate and invited the Chair of the Senate Steering Committee (Dr. James Pettigrew) to come up and to preside. At the April 20, 2000 Senate meeting two major amendments were approved to the Constitution. The first was to change the name of the University Senate to the Faculty Senate and the second was to elect a member of the Senate to convene the Faculty Senate. With these changes the subsequent election established Dr. A. Joseph Layon as the first elected chair of the Senate Steering Committee and Chair of the Faculty Senate.

During this same time period changes were occurring in the structure of the administration of the institutions of higher education in Florida. The Legislature at the urging of the Governor abolished the Board of Regents effective June 30, 2001. In place of the Regents the Legislature established local Boards of Trustees. These local boards had no provision for faculty. Subsequently a voter-sponsored amendment to the Florida Constitution was placed on the November 2002 ballot and passed overwhelmingly. This amendment established the local Boards of Trustees in the Constitution and provided for the President-Chair of the University Senates and the Presidents of the Student Governments to be full members of the local Boards of Trustees. The same amendment established a Board of Governors with oversight responsibilities for all of the former State University System institutions. It also provided for the presiding officer of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates to be a member of the Board of Governors.

Therefore, in January 2003, when the amendment became effective, Dr. Jean A. Larson the 2003-2003 Chair of the Senate and Senate Steering Committee became the first faculty member of the University of Florida Board of Trustees and Dr. Richard W. Briggs the 2001-2002 Chair of the Senate and Senate Steering Committee became the Chair of the Advisory Council of University Senates and the first faculty member of the Board of Governors.

The range and responsibility of faculty committees and hence of the faculty’s influence on University governance peaked in the late 1980 early 1990 time span. After that the University Budget Committee, the Space Utilization Committee, the Salaries and benefits Committee all ceased to exist. Also, in 1998-99 the Board of Directors for Sponsored Research with elected faculty membership became the Research Policy Committee with only administrative membership. Near the end of the 2002-2003 President Young made it clear that his top priority for the remainder of his presidency was to define how the faculty might play a larger role in the governance of the University and to have that role assured by the Board of Trustees. Also, the Senate elected a committee to study the effectiveness and structure of the senate and its business procedures; the committee is to report back to the Senate no later than November.
In the following pages there is a tabulation of the faculty members who have served in leadership positions since the University of Florida was established in Gainesville in the summer of 1906. First, of course, is Professor C.L. Crow who served as the Secretary to the General Faculty from 1911 to his retirement in 1930. Harley W. Chandler was then the University Registrar (but not with a faculty appointment) was appointed by President Tigert to be the Secretary of the General Faculty.

In the spring of 1932, when the University Senate was established, President Tigert appointed Chandler to be the first Secretary to the Senate. He served until 1940 when he became the first Dean of the University and was replaced as Registrar by Richard S. Johnson who also then served as secretary to the Senate until 1964 when the revision of the Constitution and the establishment of a Senate Steering Committee occurred. At that time the Registrar began to designate a staff member (usually an assistant registrar) to be the secretary to the Senate Steering Committee. Over time that individual became known as the secretary of the senate. In particular, Anne H. Jones served as the first secretary to the Senate Steering Committee and did so from 1965 to 1982 when she retired after forty years of service to the University.

As mentioned earlier, Professor Manning Dauer, who was a major figure not only at the University but also throughout the State during his tenure at the University was the first Chair of the Senate Steering Committee. At first the terms of office as chair of the Senate Steering Committee were for two years but rapidly became one-year terms.

Professor Patricia Schmidt was the first woman to chair the Senate Steering Committee in 1981-82. However, Professor Gladys Kammerer was named by President Reitz as a member of the Interim Senate Steering Committee in the summer of 1964 along with vice presidents Mautz and Philpot and thus was the first faculty member of the Senate Steering Committee as well as being the first woman member.

Following this listing of the principals in the history of faculty participation in the governance of the University of Florida there is a summary of issues considered by the University Senate and the actions taken since its establishment in 1932. The summary does not include consideration of many of the important but more routine issues such as the academic year calendar, curriculum changes, departmental creation, mergers, deletions and name changes, establishment of new degree programs, and reports from the various standing committees. Some exceptions were made when the university-wide level of interest seemed high.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Senate Secretary</th>
<th>Senate Steering Committee Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1964-65</td>
<td>Anne H. Jones*</td>
<td>Manning J. Dauer</td>
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<td>1965-66</td>
<td>Anne H. Jones</td>
<td>Manning J. Dauer</td>
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<td>1966-67</td>
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<td>1969-70</td>
<td>Anne H. Jones</td>
<td>Vynce A. Hines</td>
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<td>1970-71</td>
<td>Anne H. Jones</td>
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<td>1971-72</td>
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<td>Anne H. Jones</td>
<td>J. Donald Butterworth</td>
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<td>2002-03</td>
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<td>Jean A. Larson</td>
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Selected Issues Considered by the University Senate

First Meeting of the University Senate
May 4, 1932   201 Law Building @3:00PM

“The President called the meeting to order and discussed the matter of proxies. He stated that he felt proxies should be submitted to him and the Senate in advance of the meeting for which they would serve. He stated that unless there was an objection on the part of the members of the Senate he would rule that the names of the proxies must be submitted at least one meeting previous to their serving as proxies. He stated that unless there was an objection on the part of the members of the Senate, he would rule that the names of the proxies must be submitted at least one meeting previous to the time to their serving as proxies. There was no discussion on this matter by members to the Senate.”

“Registrar Chandler presented the prepared agenda.”
Other issues of discussion:
Committee on Schedules (final exam schedule)
Committee on Admissions
Committee on Commencement
Discussion on Rules and Customs Governing Academic Costume
Note: There were four pages of minutes of the meeting signed by J. J. Tigert

September 29, 1932 201 Law Building @3:00PM
First regular meeting of the 1932-33 Session
Announcement by President Tigert of the Faculty Committee memberships
Student Petitions (mechanisms to handle the petitions)
Library Committee
Bless Report on Educational Policies
Note: President Tigert and 15 faculty signed the final version of the minutes.

October 27, 1932
W.H. Wilson, Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, presented the A&S Educational Policy. "in accordance with the general policy adopted by the University Senate at its meeting of September 29."

December 5, 1932
The Committee on Educational Policies received plans from the following colleges; Arts & Sciences, Commerce and Journalism, Education, Engineering, and Pharmacy
Curricula were submitted for a BS in Chemical Engineering, BSCE, BSEE, and BSME were submitted for approval.
January 31, 1933
There was a proposal to change from the semester to the quarter system was approved.

At the conclusion of President Tigert's remarks, he brought up a matter concerning the elimination of Lower Division in the colleges of Education, Pharmacy, Engineering, and Agriculture. On the whole there was no particular objection raised to the proposal. The President stated that "... He might have to act arbitrarily on the matter of setting up such an organization, and that he was glad to have the reaction of the Deans of the Colleges concerned."

May 25, 1933
“Professor M.D. Anderson stated that he had been requested by a member of the faculty of the College of Commerce and Journalism to raise the question concerning parking space for professors in Language Hall.” President Tigert referred the inquiry to Registrar Chandler for review so as not to take time in the Senate.

October 26, 1933
“Under Article VII (the only article dealing with the Senate), no machinery of any kind is set up to pass on the validity of election of new members. Should not the Senate have a Credentials Committee or a Committee on Elections, composed of seven members appointed by the President, in May of each year, to determine whether the Constitution has been complied with in the election of new members and to certify the names of the new members to the Senate?”

President Tigert sent the list of proposed new members to the new committee.

November 23, 1933
There was a report of the Committee on Credentials to certify the new members of the Senate.

President Tigert discussed the use of automobiles on campus by students.

November 8, 1945
Dean Beatty made a report to the Senate from the Committee on Fraternities.
There were five recommendations: 1) women guests: referred back to committee; 2) Fraternity Houses inspected periodically: approved; 3) Periodic review of financial status: referred back to committee; 4) information to be provided to prospective pledges and parents: approved; 5) drinking and disorderly conduct at the house: approved.

January 31, 1946
The Senate was presented with a Program and Policy for Public Relations of the University. After significant discussion it was referred back to committee.

February 7, 1946
The revised Program and Policy for Public Relations of the University was approved.
May 23, 1946
The Committee on Planning and Policy made a report and recommendations on university-wide committees and their functions. Approved. Also, the list of committees and functions are to be attached to the constitution and to other relevant documents.

October 30, 1947
The Senate approved a policy recommended by the dean of Students that students were not allowed to maintain firearms in their dormitory rooms.

May 27, 1948
A preliminary report from the Committee on Graduate Faculty was approved with minor amendments.

October 28, 1948
The School of Pharmacy was designated the College of Pharmacy.

May 4, 1949
A proposal to establish a Graduate Faculty was presented and discussed. Tabled by a vote of 42-24.

June 26, 1950
A revised report to establish a Graduate Faculty was considered. After some discussion, Dean Matherly made a substitute motion to refer the concept to a new committee to be appointed by President Miller; this motion was approved. NOTE: A graduate faculty did not come into being until a trial-run Graduate Faculty was appointed by the President on March 1, 1951 and made permanent on August 15, 1951.

October 9, 1951
It was announced that the Board of Control had authorized a change of the College of Physical Education, Health, and Athletics to the College of Physical Education and Health and the establishment of a separate Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

May 25, 1954
The College of Engineering proposed to “… re-establish the program as five year bachelors programs. Approved

November 9, 1954
A motion was made to establish "a sub-faculty of the Graduate Faculty to direct graduate programs of an "inter-disciplinary nature." The motion was approved. (With an incomplete set of Senate minutes for this era it appears that the Graduate Faculty must have been approved in the early 1950s.)
November 22, 1955
A Resolution regarding the football program was introduced by Professor Manning J. Dauer which in part stated: “... Another matter that needs to be considered is the degree of emphasis to be place on a winning team. The interest of all citizens of the state in their University is natural and proper. But if this interest is expressed in such a way that the University is expected to maintain a bowl team, or even a winning team every year, then the role of the University and its athletic program is distorted.” The Senate adopted the Resolution.

December 6, 1955
A proposed resolution concerning integration was discussed at length and then tabled for the January 17, 1956 meeting.

January 17, 1956
The resolution on integration was discussed at length and then tabled by a vote of 74 to 54.

May 24, 1956
President Reitz reviewed the procedures followed by the Budget Committee and stated that it was his desire that two members of the faculty who did not hold administrative position be added to the Committee.

September 27, 1956
The College of Architecture and Allied Arts was re-designated the College of Architecture and Fine Arts.

October 31, 1957
A third member of the faculty was added to the Budget Committee

November 21, 1957
The College of Health Related Professions was established. The original proposal was for a College of Related Health Sciences.

April 30, 1959
The addition of Social Security for Academic Staff under the Teachers Retirement Plan was discussed. The Senate voted no. Later the Senate approved another motion to submit the question to the faculty as a whole.

June 2, 1960
There was consideration of a proposed constitutional amendment which read in part “. There was the question of should there be equal representation of full-time research professors. Forty-two voted for the equal representation. Forty one voted against it.”
July 25, 1961
A major document on Procedures and Principles for University Curriculum Committee Actions was approved.

January 17, 1962
The Senate approved a program to offer graduate engineering programs at remote sites in particular in Orlando. This later became the Graduate Engineering System (GENESYS).

May 28, 1962
The Senate passed a resolution urging the Board of Control to adopt the trimester system.

The Senate began discussion of the proposed new constitution. Discussion was continued to the meeting on June 4, 1962.

June 4, 1962
Discussion continued on the proposed new constitution.

November 8, 1962
The Senate passed a resolution on academic freedom.

June 18, 1963
The Senate was notified to convene immediately following the General Assembly. The Senate meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM to consider new Tenure and Promotion policies. The proposed policies were approved and the Senate adjourned by 5:30PM.

November 21, 1963
The Senate discussed faculty contracts and the impact of the shift to the trimester system. In part a resolution adopted by the Senate stated "…. the Senate urgently requests that there be no forced conversion to the twelve month contract."

The Senate also adopted new Parking and Transportation rules.

February 6, 1964
A proposed new Constitution was adopted.

April 30, 1964
The new Constitution states: "4.e) 1) Senate Steering Committee: 14 names for seven positions. Terms of office to be set in terms of 3 years, next 2 to serve 2 years, and the other 3 to serve 1 year."

June 5, 1964
Proposals to establish a College of Science and a College of Humanities and Socials Sciences were introduced. The proposals reflected the Regan Committee report that was distributed at the end of the April 30, 1964 Senate meeting.
June 18, 1964

'The President announced that he had appointed Professor Kammerer, Vice President Mautz, and Vice President Philpot to the Interim Steering Committee as provided for in the Senate's action at the April 30 meeting.'

September 24, 1964

The Senate held elections for the initial Senate Steering Committee. Those elected were:

- Richard James Anderson
- Raymond Alexander Dennison
- Paul Lamont Hanna
- Hal Graham Lewis
- George Robert Bentley, Vice Chairman
- Manning Julian Dauer, Chairman

October 5, 1965

A special meeting was held by the Senate “to consider a resolution indicating support for President O’Connell and the position he has taken in regard to autonomy from outside control in matters of the Budget.”

The Senate considered reapportionment of the 50 elected members of the Senate.

March 24, 1966

The University of Florida Constitution charges the Constitution Committee with the publication of a policy manual. This manual, which will consist of reference to Florida Statutes, Board of Regents policy manual, Senate By-Laws, Graduate Faculty By-Laws, Graduate School memoranda, Florida Constitution, and Presidential Memoranda, is now ready for publication.

June 30, 1966

The Senate heard the report of the Salary Committee

February 23, 1966

Information was presented to the Senate by the Committee on Student Affairs: The Gainesville Movement For Free Speech Speaks, Gainesville Sun February 7, 1966.

January 26, 1967

The Senate approved the conversion of the School of Journalism and Communication into the College of Journalism and Communication.

February 16, 1967

The Senate passed a resolution commending President J Wayne Rietz for asking the Board of Regents to consult with the Steering Committee on the selection of the next president. ….

April 27, 1967

The Senate approved the conversion to the quarter system.
September 1968

President Stephen C. O'Connell proposed the addition of three faculty members to the University's Executive Committee. The Senate passed a resolution expressing appreciation to President O'Connell for this action.

January 30, 1969

This was probably the most contentious and longest Senate meeting on record. It began with a discussion of whether or not non-members of the Senate or other faculty members could attend the Senate meetings. After a lengthy discussion, the matter was referred to the Constitution Committee and then President O’Connell asked non-members to leave.

The Senate determined that a parliamentarian was required for the orderly conduct of business. Dr. Roy Lassiter was elected as the first parliamentarian.

The Senate adopted the S/U grading policy for selected courses.

After dealing with several curricular matters, a motion to adjourn failed. Later, after dealing with several other matters, the meeting was recessed until February 6.

It was moved that students be permitted to attend the meeting. Motion failed.

A proposal from the Committee on Academic Regulations regarding class attendance (“The University of Florida holds the belief that instruction is a vital element of the educational process…. Accordingly, students are expected to attend classes regularly.”) And “Unannounced examinations shall not be used.”

There was significant debate and parliamentary activity. The original motion was amended to exclude freshmen from its coverage and to delete references to unannounced examinations. However, no action could be taken on the amended motion. The Senate meeting was recessed to Thursday February 20.

When the Senate meeting was reconvened on February 20, a substitute motion was made by Professor Williams that stated: “Attendance in class is optional with students after successfully completing the freshman year. Nevertheless, the students themselves remain fully responsible for satisfying the entire range of academic objectives as they are defined by the instructor in any course.” After considerable further discussion, the motion passed 138 to 28.

The Senate then moved to the consideration of a policy on campus demonstrations prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee on Demonstrations. After some discussion, the policy was adopted.

A motion to adjourn was defeated by a vote of 67 to 64.

A resolution by the Ad Hoc Committee involving the Senate’s support of President O’Connell in carrying out the University Policy on Demonstrations was adopted after an attempt to table.

May 6, 1969

The Senate adopted a Plan for Administration for Faculty within the SUS and requested it be transmitted to the Board of Regents.
October 1, 1970
The Senate elected an Inter-institutional Faculty Liaison Committee to the Board of Regents consisting of Manning Dauer, Paul Hanna, and Jasper Joiner.

December 3, 1970
The Senate considered criteria for a proposed new rank of Distinguished University Professor. No action was taken.

The Senate was presented with proposals for the reorganization of general education and University College. No action was taken at this meeting because this was a constitutional question.

January 21, 1971
The Senate took up the proposals for the reorganization of general education and University College.

Proposal A: “By a count of 167 for and 110 against the motion failed to receive the two-thirds vote required for passage.”

Proposal B: “By a count of 116 for and 167 against the motion failed to receive the two-thirds vote required for passage.”

February 25, 1971
President O’Connell wrote to the Senate saying that since neither proposal for the reorganization of general education and University College passed, he considered the matter closed.

The criteria for the proposed new rank of Distinguished University Professor were returned to the Professional Relations and Standards Committee for further review when no consensus was reached at the Senate meeting.

The Senate approved the establishment of the Department of Computer and Information Sciences.

April 29, 1971
The Name of the School of Forestry was changed to the School of Forest Resources and Conservation.

June 24, 1971
The Senate received a report on the proposed new Campus master Plan.

October 28, 1971
The Senate reconsidered the proposed new rank of Distinguished University Professor rank but did not approve it. Instead it approved the rank of Distinguished Service Professor. There was some correspondence that indicated that the proposed new rank would be confused or conflict with the Graduate Research Professor rank.

February 24, 1972
The Senate approved the establishment of an NROTC program on campus.
March 30, 1972
The Doctor of Engineering degree was approved.

April 27, 1972
A proposal for the reorganization of the College of Engineering was proved.
(The merger for the Civil and Coastal Engineering Departments into one department was approved by a vote of 67 to 48.)

June 29, 1972
The Senate established hearing panels for the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee.

September 28, 1927
The first two Distinguished Service Professors were announced at the Senate meeting. There were: Manning Dauer and Tony Cunha.

November 30, 1972
The ranks of Engineer, Associate and Assistant Engineer were approved.

January 26, 1973
President O’Connell requested that the Senate elect a Legislative Advisory Committee of 15 members to advise him. He has used ad hoc committees in the past but want to formalize it.

February 22, 1973
The Senate approved the establishment of an Academic Advisory Committee as requested by Vice President Hanson and President O’Connell.

April 24, 1973
A University-wide minor and certificate program in Environmental Studies was approved.

May 31, 1973
The Senate approved the participation by the University of Florida in a SUS Faculty Committee.

July 12, 1973
The Senate elected five faculty members to serve as members of the Presidential Selection Advisory Committee.

October 25, 1973
Modifications to the regulations concerning “D” and “E” grades were approved.
January 25, 1974
The Senate approved a resolution Concerned with Safeguarding Faculty Participation in University Government. Approved and forwarded to PERC.
The Senate approved a resolution thanking E.T. York for his “highest quality of service in his position as Interim President and wishing him every success as Chancellor”.
The Senate approved a resolution welcoming Robert Q. Marston as President.

February 28, 1974
The Senate established an Ad Hoc Fact Finding Committee on collective bargaining.
The Senate approved an amendment to Article III, section 2 of the Constitution so that faculty elected to the Senate Steering Committee will remain members of the Senate during their time in office.
The Senate approved the establishment of the faculty titles of Research Scientist, and Research Scholar.

March 28, 1974
The Senate approved changes to the Constitution and By-Laws regarding departmental and college evaluations.
The Ad Hoc Fact Finding Committee on collective bargaining made their report to the Senate.

December 5, 1974
The Senate approved a resolution by a vote of 90 to 24 to request that the University of Florida be a separate unit for any consideration of collective bargaining.
The Senate passed a resolution pertaining to the Statewide Common Course Numbering System questioning the merit of the proposed system and the effect on individual faculty member’s academic freedom and expressing concerns about accreditation.

January 30, 1975
The Senate approved the division of the College of Architecture and Fine Arts into a College of Architecture and a College of Fine Arts.

April 24, 1975
Vice President Hanson reported to the Senate that at his request the Senate Steering Committee had approved a Faculty Educational Policy Group (FEPG) be appointed. The continuation of the FEPG would be an issue for a future Senate meeting to consider. (See photo of Dr. Hanson)

June 26, 1975
The Senate passed a resolution expressing concern over the proposed BOR rule 6-C-5.07(4) “Termination of Faculty Members by Reason of Reorganization or Reduction Based on Financial Exigency”. The resolution was forwarded to the SUS Senate Council and combined with other university responses and sent to the Board of Regents.
April 29, 1976
The Senate passed a resolution relating to how the current BOR-UFF collective bargaining might affect the University Senate. Of particular concern was a proposal by UFF that would exclude administrators and faculty not included in the bargaining unit from participating in the Senate.

May 27, 1976
The Senate passed a resolution regarding Increased Freshman Enrollment for the summer term 1976.

September 30, 1976
The Senate abolished the Grade Forgiveness Policy that had existed.

March 31, 1977
The Senate approved the merger of the Department of Fundamental Mathematics with the Department of Mathematics.
The Senate approved the merger of the Department of Comprehensive English with the Department of English.
The Senate approved the establishment of the School of Accounting.

April 28, 1977
The Senate approved the establishment of a Physician Assistant Program.

October 27, 1977
The Senate approved a change in the grading system to permit half “+” grades.

February 23, 1978
The Senate passed a resolution commending the Board of Regents for its long and through process that has resulted in the “System wide Role and Scope Policies of the State University System of Florida”
The Senate passed a resolution endorsing the Florida constitutional amendment to give constitutional status to the Board of Regents.

April 27, 1978
The Senate passed a resolution, which withdrew its sponsorship and ceased recognition of the SUS Faculty Senate Council.
The Senate approved the transfer of the Departments of Microbiology and Cells Sciences and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology to the College of Agriculture and Medicine respectively.
November 30, 1978

The Senate passed a resolution affirming that “the University of Florida is a community for study, research, and service, open to all races and faiths; in diversity there is strength.” And that “any resort to violence and religious intolerance is condemned.”

April 26, 1979

The Senate re examined the concept of “Dead Week” and determined that the O’Connell memorandum on the policies for the Week should be reissued

January 31, 1980

The Senate passed a resolution opposing the creation of a super board that would have responsibility for K-20.

February 25, 1981

The Senate adopted a credo for the University, which was proposed by the Faculty Educational Policy Group.

December 31, 1981

The Senate adopted a resolution thanking Anne Jones for her 16 years of service to the University Senate and for her 40 years of service to the University.

October 14, 1982

The Senate approved a proposal that the committees evaluating a faculty member for tenure be composed only of tenured faulty members.

January 27, 1983

The Senate approved the establishment of the rank of Distinguished Research Curator.

March 24, 1983

The Senate approved the permanent establishment of the School of Accounting.

December 1, 1983

The Senate approved the addition of a new early morning first period class.

May 25, 1984

The Senate passed a resolution commending President Robert Q. Marston for ten years of superior leadership” to the University and wishing him “a successful and happy continuation of his service to the University, and this nation.”

April 24, 1986

A proposal was considered to reorganize the College of Physical Education, Health and Recreation and to rename the College as the College of Allied Health Sciences. The reorganization was approved but the name change was approved as the College of Health and Human Performance.
The Senate passed a resolution opposing consideration of four lanes for Museum Road and North–South Drive.

February 26, 1987
A proposed policy dealing with faculty conduct in research was reviewed by the Senate at the request of Provost Bryan.
The Director of the Libraries announced the closing of the card catalog with the introduction of LUIS.

November 17, 1988
The Senate approved the request by Provost Bryan to increase the number of faculty members on the Academic Personnel Board from 4 to 5 a) to assure better representation of portions of the campus by dedicating one of the positions to the Health Sciences Center and one to IFAS and b) to assure a faculty majority on the APB.

January 26, 1989
The Senate received a recommendation from the FEPG on measures to revitalize the Senate. One of those recommendations is to elect the President of the Senate from the faculty.

February 23, 1989
The Senate considered the proposal to have the President of the Senate elected from the faculty. After considerable discussion and two failed motions to table the issue, the Senate passed a motion “that confirmed in principle the election of the presiding officer of the Senate from the Senate body itself.”
This was President Criser’s last Senate meeting as President. He made remarks to the Senate, which in part stated: “In my view the quality of the faculty at this University is ever improving, and will continue to improve. For that reason the quality of this University, its reputation among its peers, its place among the universities in this country will continue to improve. The challenge of the state of Florida is to provide resources that are adequate to support the first class educational institution. That is a challenge that some of us have concern about, but certainly not one that none of us should stop working to see that those with the responsibility carry out what they should be doing for the people of Florida.”
The Senate passed a resolution “by acclamation to indicate its appreciation to President Criser for having been its leader for the past five years.”
The Senate approved the changes to the University Constitution that included having “the Senate President elected from the faulty.”

April 27, 1989
The president’s report to the Senate indicted that the President had deferred action on the matter of the presiding officer of the Senate to be elected from the faculty but approved all other changes to the Constitution and By Laws.
April 26, 1990
The Senate discussed the revitalization of the Senate but no further action was taken. One faculty member wrote a letter to his colleagues stating that revitalization implied that the Senate had been vital in the past. His point was that the Senate tended to focus on routine matters rather than issues of importance.

November 15, 1990
The Senate received a briefing on the proposed telephone registration.

February 26, 1991
The Senate approved a “Fresh Start Policy” (academic bankruptcy). The Senate Steering Committee announced the appointment of Tony Clark as the official parliamentarian for the Senate. A faculty member (Lonnie Ingram) was recognized for receiving the five millionth patent the US has awarded.

March 28, 1991
The Senate received a proposal from the General Education Committee for “Reforming the General Education Program at the University of Florida”. There was considerable discussion and a continuation to the April Senate meeting.

April 25, 1991
After further discussion the Senate approved the proposed changes to the General Education program.

May 30, 1991
A special meeting of the Senate considered a proposal from the College of Health Related Professions to terminate the programs in Clinical and Community Dietetics and Medical Laboratory Sciences in response to critical budgetary problems which the College and University was facing. After significant discussion the proposal was approved.

August 29, 1991
President Lombardi reported to the Senate on actions to be taken in response to the report from the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee. In part the actions will be to enhance and strengthen the Committee in both its role and independence from the University Athletic Association. He also briefed the Senate after further analysis the budget is much worse than previously reported.
September 26, 1991
The Senate approved a revision on the computation of “I” and “X” grades for the student’s GPA.

The President continued a discussion with the Senate on the consequences of the budget shortfalls. The Senate adopted a resolution regarding the effects on the operations of the University and petitioning the Executive Branch and the Legislature “to take immediate steps to reform Florida’s inadequate tax structure, exercise fiscal responsibility and exert leadership to guide Florida out of the current financial crisis.

October 24, 1991
Provost Sorensen presented an Accountability Plan that has been discussed with a wide variety of faculty groups.

There was a presentation on the probability of layoffs during the current fiscal crisis.

January 23, 1992
The Senate received a progress report from the Intercollegiate Committee

The Senate received a report from the Task Force on Research and the Graduate School. There were 34 separate recommendations including major issues regarding “the extent of current faculty involvement in the administration of The Graduate School and The Division of Sponsored Research (DSR) and the involvement of faculty in research activity generally.” And also “that it will be necessary to find some way to better support graduate education; that the success of both research and graduate education depends on the quality of the faculty; that there is a need to give closer oversight in policy in the administration of research, and in The Graduate School.”

There was also a recommendation to create a vice presidential position to administer both DSR and the Graduate School.

March 26, 1992
The Senate approved revisions to the “Dead Week” policies.

There was also discussion on the proper use of the “H” grade.

The Senate received the report from the Council on Affirmative Action regarding their review of the recommendation from the Task Force on Diversity.

The Senate received the report from the Task Force on Natural Resources and Environment including the recommendation to establish a college within IFAS to “be a node with horizontal connections to develop cross-campus collaboration.”

October 22, 1992
The Senate Steering Committee made a presentation of ideas for stimulating Senate participation by senators.

November 19, 1992
Vice President Lindgren requested that the Senate appoint faculty to serve on the Foundation/Faculty Committee.
December 10, 1992
The Senate considered The Academic Progress Policy, which is a replacement for the 80-hour Rule.
The Senate heard a report that a new College of Natural Resources and Environment was being proposed and that a public hearing was scheduled for December 17.

January 14, 1993
The Senate was presented an Overview of Procedures for Addressing Sexual Harassment Complaints. There was considerable discussion with numerous suggestions for modifications of the policy.
Modifications were approved for the Fresh Start Policy.

March 4, 1993
There was a presentation of the rules and regulations being adopted by the Board of Regents for reporting conflict of interest and outside activities.

September 9, 1993
President Lombardi presented plans for a Teaching Improvement Program (TIP).

October 14, 1993
A report from the Committee on the Status of Women was presented.

December 9, 1993
The Senate approved the establishment of a College of Natural Resources and Environment.

January 13, 1994
A presentation was made on the process for the University of Florida ten-year Master Plan.

February 10, 1994
A survey of senators on reorganization of the Senate was presented. The principal results were that 1) all senators should be elected, 2) the Senate should be substantially reduced from 400 to less than 100, 3) the President and Provost should be the only administrative representation, and 4) the President of the Senate should be an elected faculty member.

November 10, 1994
The Senate Steering Committee reported the results of the October 13, 1994 vote on issues on Senate reorganization. The proposal to reduce the size of the Senate passed; the proposal that all senators be elected passed; the proposal to change the presiding officer from the President to an elected faculty member was defeated 38-55-1.

January 12, 1995
The academic tracking program was presented to the Senate.
March 16, 1995
The Senate approved a reduction in the General Education requirements from 45 to 42 credits by merging two categories and requiring 9 credits instead of 6 credits in each of the original two categories.

October 19, 1995
The Senate approved the change in name of the College of Health Related Professions to the College of Health Professions.
The Senate received a report on Academic Integrity for students and endorsed a University of Florida Honor Code.

December 7, 1995
The Senate passed a resolution commending President Lombardi for his “innovative and effective leadership”.

March 7, 1996
The President of the Student Body (Mr. Kevin Mayeux) addressed the Senate about student concerns about services they receive and the costs involved.

April 11, 1996
Regent C.B. Daniel held a question and answer session with the Senate members.

October 17, 1996
Regent Uhlfelder discussed plans for a post-tenure review of faculty, multi-year contracts and productivity with the members of the Senate. He also made a call for more recognition of service learning.

December 5, 1996
The Graduate School strategic planning document: Responsive Leadership for Tomorrow: Graduate Education in Florida was presented to the Senate. There was also discussion of graduate enrollment planning and periodic review of graduate programs.

February 6, 1997
Representative Bob Casey discussed legislative issues related to higher education.
There was also discussion of two proposed rule changes for which a public hearing has been scheduled in March. One would change the title of Distinguished Service Professor to Distinguished Professor and the second would extend the time from tenure to the sixth year of full-time service with an option for earlier tenure.

September 18, 1997
The Senate discussed the affect of the Sun Shine law on the tenure and promotion hearings after concerns were expressed the current process might be in violation of the law. University rules and procedures will need to be changed.
November 6, 1997
The Senate heard presentations on the athletic program and preparation for NCAA accreditation of these programs.

February 19, 1998
The designations of the Department of Music and the Department of Art were changed to the School of Music and the School of Art and Art History.

December 10, 1998
Chancellor Adam Herbert addressed the Senate on current issues.
Later and unrelated The Senate passed a resolution: “BE IT RESOLVED: that the University Senate of the University of Florida encourages the administration of the University of Florida to support the activity of the State University System units to expand the SUS non-discrimination policy to include nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.”

October 21, 1999
The Senate passed a resolution “acknowledging the contributions of President Lombardi during his ten years in office.”

November 4, 1999
Dr. James Pettigrew, Senate Steering Committee Chairman, introduced Dr, Charles Young as the new Interim President of the University of Florida.
Dr. Young addressed the Senate: “He wants more faculty involvement in the governance process, because it is the most comfortable operating method for him. He wants to instill an environment where faculty participates, because they believe such participation is meaningful. As a result, he has chosen not to preside over the University Senate. He will participate from the floor unless invited to speak.

April 20, 2000
The Senate passed a resolution “requesting the Board of Regents suspend, and then expand the search for a University of Florida president.”
Approved a constitutional amendment “to change the name of the University Senate to the Faculty Senate.”
Approved a constitutional amendment “to elect a member of the Senate to convene the Faculty Senate.”

April 27, 2000
The Senate approved a name change of the College of Architecture to the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

December 1, 2000
An emergency meeting of the Senate was called to discuss the status of the State University System after the Board of Regents is replaced in 2003.
The Senate issued the first press release of the Faculty Senate of the University of Florida calling for an intermediary board for higher education.
January 18, 2001
   Mr. Phil Handy, Chairman of the SUS Governance Transition Task Force addressed the Senate. There was an extended and intense discussion.

February 8, 2001
   There was a continuation of the discussion on the governance of the SUS. President Young distributed a statement on the governance issue.

October 4, 2001
   The Senate approved a Mission Statement for the University of Florida for inclusion in the five year Master Plan.
   The Senate requested the Shared Governance Committee a) to investigate which colleges have college constitutions and that these are in conformance with the University’s constitution and 2) to create a model constitution for those colleges, which do not currently have to follow when creating one.

September 19, 2002
   The Senate was presented an overview of the president’s strategic plan. The plan has been christened “Vision 10/20: Building a Great University”. The University of Florida seeks to become one of the top ten public universities and one of the top twenty public or private universities in the nation. The timeline for accomplishment of the major part of the vision is the next decade. This plan is designed to mesh the needs and interests of the university and the needs and interests of the state of Florida. The state economic base is shifting from agrarian- and tourism-based to urban- and technology-driven. The state of Florida must have at least one truly great university if it wishes to remain competitive.

UF 150 Year Celebration Committee reported to the Senate. The celebration will run from January through December with 175 or more events planned. The theme is “Honoring the past, shaping the future”. Faculty are encouraged to get involved by bringing their history, knowledge and ideas to the project.

The Senate was presented an overview of the report of the Sustainability Task Force that was jointly charged by President Young and the Faculty Senate. It was announced that there would be a public hearing in three weeks. Any outcome from that hearing would be brought before the Senate at its October 17 meeting. A motion in support of a draft resolution to show support for the task force’s final report was ruled out of order by the parliamentarian. A motion was made and approved (with one dissenting vote) to bring this item to the Senate in October as an action item.

October 17, 2002
   The Senate approved a resolution supporting the final report recommendations of the Sustainability Task Force.
   The Senate heard a report from the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) task force on shared governance.
November 21, 2002
The Senate received the report of the special Town/Gown Committee: The efforts of the committee focus on improving the quality of the environment around the university and reducing the impact of the university upon the surrounding neighborhoods. Members of the committee come from the university, city and county. The report identifies 25 recommendations that are divided into five strategies – teaching students to be good neighbors, strengthening residential neighborhoods, requiring responsible property management, providing appropriate student housing options and manage special events and traffic in an improved manner. City of Gainesville staff is already implementing portions of the plan.

The Senate was provided an update on the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation process. The focus was on the effort to internationalize the campus.

March 20, 2003
A proposal to allow the chair of the Senate to appoint a committee to research the creation of a faculty ombudsman position was approved.

The Senate approved a resolution to establish a Committee on Senate Structure and Effectiveness to report back to the Senate no later than November 2003.

April 17, 2003
The Senate approved a constitutional amendment to add a parliamentarian from the faculty and that the Senate Chair would be elected from the voting membership of the Fauly Senate.