

meeting minutes

Regular Meeting of the College of Education Faculty Assembly (COE FA)

September 8, 2023

Via Zoom Video Conference

Attendance (59 Attendees)

Ali Danesh, Andy Brewer, Ann Musgrove, Ayse Torres, Bessie Dernikos, Bryan Nichols, Caitlin Imgrund, Carman Gill, Charles Dukes, Cristobal Salinas, Jr., Dale Williams, Daniel Reyes-Guerra, David Kumar, Deborah Floyd, Deborah Shepherd, Dilys Schoorman, Ira Bogotch, Jack Scott, Jennifer Krill, Jenny Bloom, Joseph Furner, Joyce Krzemienski, Julian Powers, Justin Faulkner, Katie Miller, Kelly Emelianchik-Key, Kelly Kearney, Lisa Finnegan, María Vásquez, Mary Lieberman, Maysaa Barakat, Maysaa Barakat, Melanie M. Acosta, Melissa Antonelli, Meredith Mountford, Michael DeDonno, Michael Frain, Michelle Vaughan, Pat Maslin-Ostrowski, Paul Peluso, Peggy Goldstein, Rangasamy Ramasamy, Rick Laliberte, Rina Bousalis, Robert Shockley, Robyn Klein, Sabrina Sembiante, Sharon Darling, Sita Ramnarace, Steve Diaz, Susannah Brown, Taka Mays, Traci Baxley, Tricia Meredith, and Vicki Brown.

Welcome/Announcements

Announcements from the meeting agenda were briefly reviewed by FA President:

- *Updated [COE FA website](#)*. Check the site for FA Steering and Executive Team contact information, or future meeting dates.
- *Engage*. Members were urged to engage and consider joining FA Leadership (PRESIDENT, Vice President, Archivist, or Secretary) or Steering Committee (Dept. Representative) for next year! Due to Dr. Porcaro's departure, Dr. Finnegan will serve as VP this year, but will not serve as President for 24-25. Spring 2024 FA election will seek nominations for President, Vice President, Archivist, and Secretary. Seeking nominations throughout the year.
- *P&T Criteria* (Approved, April 2023) can be found on the College's website.
- *COE-FA Constitution changes* will be solicited throughout the year. Proposed changes will be presented at the January 2024 meeting, with voting April 2024. One proposed change thus far is re-defining Standing Committees.
- *COE Retention and Recruitment* document, approved April 2023, is available under the *Guides and Reports [tab](#)* of the Office of Accreditation, Assessment, and Analytics website. If needed, contact Andrew Brewer for additional information.

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- *COE FA Membership and Quorum.* For 2023-2024, there are 59 Voting members of FA (includes tenured/tenure earning faculty, Chairs, Dean, and Associate Deans). Quorum requires 30% in attendance which comes to 18. These numbers we will be using for voting at this year's COE FA meetings.

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the April 2023 FA Minutes was made (Dr. Mountford) and seconded (Dr. Finnigan). There was no discussion or changes. Minutes Approved.

Guest Speakers

- *FAU High/A.D. Henderson School Research Committee.* Dr. Tricia Meredith described research opportunities, examples of the kinds of research currently taking place, and how the research committee can assist COE faculty with (a) planning and conducting research (e.g., IRB applications), or applying for grants (e.g., writing letter of support). She also introduced Dr. Jennifer Krill who directs projects on the Jupiter campus, and mentioned the Action Research Certification program offered to FAU High students by Dr. Michelle Vaughn. Note-COE faculty representatives are Drs. Vasquez & Lieberman.
- *Dr. Sharon Darling* spoke to the FA about working as the COE Liaison to the Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (OURI). She urged faculty involvement in OURI initiatives, indicating that is only through faculty that we can engage more undergraduate students in conducting research.

Committee Reports & Other Updates

- *Dr. Meredith Mountford*, representing the UFF, reminded faculty of the change in method for collecting union membership dues. Faculty can sign up for eDues or write monthly/annual check(s). FAU UFF must attain membership density of 60% membership by March 2024 to remain as an active chapter. We are currently around 52%. Questions may be directed to Dr. Mountford or Nicole Morse, FAU UFF Membership Chair.

Continuing Business

- *Faculty Incentive Survey.* Last April, the Faculty Incentive Survey [Faculty Incentive Survey](#) was distributed to COE faculty. It will be re-distributed this month in order to increase the sample size. Tell us how the COE could support you in attaining YOUR goals. Please provide input by Friday, Sept. 22.

New Business

- *For Information Item:* All faculty received an email regarding the COE's new research incentive plan for Monetizing Buy-Outs.
- *For Discussion Item:* Dissertation Title and Advisor (not) in Commencement Program. For the last few years, the titles of dissertations along with the names of the dissertation chairs has not appeared in the printed Commencement Programs. The discussion followed by a motion to draft a resolution to be presented to University Faculty Senate. One member called for an Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Dr. Deb Floyd, to be established to draft the Resolution. Draft will be shared with FA Steering. Procedures to establish the subcommittee were announced by Dr. Floyd.

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Motion: “The COE FA resolves that the Dissertation Titles and the names of the Dissertation Chairs be reinstated in the FAU Graduation Program.”

- *Virtual Listening Tour/Breakout Groups.* Virtual Listening Tour was designed to elicit faculty ideas about how COE FA can support their needs this year. Members were urged to join Breakout Rooms aligning with their academic department. Discussion facilitator (faculty from a different department) and one or two scribes (members of the department) facilitated the breakouts. Notes will maintain contributor anonymity. Additional input could be provided via this [GoogleForm](#) -no later than Friday, Sept. 15. All input will be summarized and presented at the next Steering Committee and FA meetings.

Dean’s Talking Points

- *Dean’s vision and action for 23-24.* The Dean provided a brief overview of what’s been happening in the COE (e.g., two successful accreditations), then reflected on obstacles (e.g., political environment/legislation, administrative uncertainty with many interim positions in FAU administration, difficulty in meeting faculty needs with new lines and new faculty). However, he indicated he has been promoting enrollment increases, emphasizing outreach to alumni to increase the college's annual fund, and promoting new initiatives to engage with alumni locally and out of state (e.g., local networking activities and receptions at national conferences). Last, he will continue to support ongoing searches and believes that the \$700,000 the COE may receive for recruitment and retention should help. He is currently seeking approvals for spending requests. He ended his vision/action plans with the phrase “building momentum.”
- *SPE/PTR Update.* The Dean offered broad remarks about SPE/PTR due to lack of final direction from the administration. The Dean’s position remains that he wants faculty input in these processes. He mentioned that one proposal has “scores” affixed to faculty performance and he wondered out loud how it would be perceived if all faculty received high scores. SPE/PTR will be discussed at FAU Senate on Sept. 18.
- *Differential Teaching Loads for Tenured and Tenure-earning faculty.* The Dean proposed that the COE enter into a discussion of moving to differential faculty assignments, allowing faculty who prefer to teach to have increased teaching loads, while faculty who prefer more emphasis on research productivity are allowed to do so.
- *Travel Support/Conferences with DEI mission statements.* The Dean reported that because of the possibility of both new dollars for recruitment and retention and carryover funds (awaiting administrative approval), the COE will likely be able to provide travel support for up to two conferences per year, including monies to travel internationally. As for the concern raised by some faculty about conferences where DEI is highlighted, he reported that no change in this regard has been announced, adding that Florida laws do not prohibit research in these areas.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 noon

*Minutes Submitted by Ira Bogtoch
2023-24 COE FA Secretary*

Minutes Approved TBD/ADD Date