

University of Florida's Faculty Senate Infrastructure Council

Minutes for Council Meeting on October 15, 2007

Attendees:

Jane Brockmann
Jerry Cutler
Marjorie Hoy
Chris Hughes
Ruth Lowery
Lisa McElwee-White
Marc Hoit
Edward Poppell
Raymond Issa
Gene Zdziarski
Fedro Zazueta

The minutes of the September 21, 2007 meeting were approved.

Dr. Zdziarski gave a presentation on campus security issues. The council suggested that a training module on disruptive and trouble students should be incorporated into the annual sexual harassment training. The presentation will be given to the Steering Committee for a possible information item at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Fedro Zazueta, Director of Academic Technology, discussed the implementation of the E-learning system. UF and Purdue have the largest systems of e-learning. Training was conducted for teaching assistants and online training sessions are available. Future maintenance of the system will be easier than the launch. Summer is the best time to test systems because most users are not on campus. The council discussed more appropriate times to launch systems. Dr. Zazueta stated that the e-learning implementation team attempted to communicate as much as possible during the two years this system was being planned. The College of Business trained faculty in a beta system. Problems with the system were in colleges without a structure to assist and train faculty as the system was being deployed. Future issues are anticipated to be related to the growth of the system and the continued increase in resources. Funding for the system is non-recurring.

The council discussed the use of e-learning at UF and where it fits into the university's mission. The council discussed the possibility of utilizing e-learning for introductory classes or to build larger classes. The council also discussed quality control. Marc Hoit suggested that the council think of ways to improve the quality of teaching while reducing the cost of instruction. He said that a possible way to do this would be to utilize e-learning.

Update and views on the Scheduling Proposal

Amelia Bell will follow up with Steve Pritz on the subject.

The council will look into how the scheduling can be improved. The council agreed that they need to determine who is actually meeting during scheduled class times. The council needs a survey of room scheduling and room usage.

Complaints about tail-gators on football Saturdays

The committee discussed how to keep the university clean on game days while continuing to work.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM