

Florida International University

Engineering Faculty Council on Governance, Regular Meeting

April 21, 2006

EC 2410, 10555 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33174

MINUTES

Meeting started at: 12:00 PM				Officers: <i>Chair</i> Gene Farmer <i>Vice Chair</i> Cesar Levy <i>Secretary</i> Yong Tao <i>Parliamentarian</i> Walter Tang
Meeting ended at: 1:55 PM				
Next regular meeting: TBD				
Members:		Present	Absent	Guests: Vish Prasad, Exc. Dean Osama Mohammad, ECE Martha A. Centeno, ISE
<i>Biomedical:</i>	Anuradha Godavarty	X		
	Anthony McGoron		X	
<i>Civil and Environmental:</i>	Mohammed Hadi	X		
	Walter Tang	X		
<i>Construction Management:</i>	Syed Ahmed		X	
	Gene Farmer	X		
<i>Electrical & Computer:</i>	Sakhrat Khizroev		X	
	Jean Andrian	X		
<i>Industrial & Systems:</i>	Marc Resnick	X		
	Chin-Cheng Chen	X		
<i>Mechanical & Materials:</i>	Yong Tao	X		
	Cesar Levy	X		
<i>Sch. of Comp. Info. Science</i>	Jai Navlaka	X		
	Bill Kraynek, alternate for Tim Downey	X		

1. **Call to Order:** The Faculty Council on Governance (FCG) Meeting was called to order by Gene Farmer, at 12:00 PM. The quorum was achieved as listed in the above table.
2. **Agenda Approval:** A motion was offered, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the meeting agenda.
3. **Last Meeting Minutes:** A motion was offered, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the meeting minutes dated March 3, 2006 and to approve the revised minutes of Nov. 14, 2005 by adding the following underlined sentence:

“...Secondly, there will be a transitional committee formed. It will consist of faculty members of CE, CS and EE. (One Council member interpreted that the transitional committee will make decision on the curriculum, program and new faculty hiring.) The process and program will be evaluated both internally and externally through an independent consultant.”

4. **Dean’s Report:**

Dean reported that no new money was allocated on any new program. There is \$30,000 per program for ABET improvement, and \$1,000 per faculty on average for travel, mainly for

attending a workshop for seeking funding. If moving ahead, the international exchange program will add a little money for supplementing sabbatical leave funding for international visiting scholars. Research money should attract faculty who advise Ph.D. students. College is going forward and hired a few new faculty members: CS had one and another one is coming, CM hired one, IE one faculty and one visiting, and Civil Engineering had one as well. Bio-Nano area has a possible one. College hired a communication person and a research person; now fully staffed. Search for Associate dean for Research and Graduate Program is in progress. Also, College is seeking a new chair of global program.

Other issues discussed by Dean include incomplete roof repair pending on FEMA's response and the State's proposal to cut the funding for building construction.

5. **Discussion** went to the underutilization of classrooms in Engineering Center. It was mentioned that no issue exists for the time slots of 7:30 – 10 AM daytime; but the class times after 8 PM is not counted because the Faculty Senate only consider 8 AM -8 PM. Suggestions were offered to count the actual class hours not just consider the needs in hours, and also consider the senior design class hours. Dean mentioned that we have to follow the formula under which we had low number. The perception on FIU is that it is low in building usage; i.e., on the State chart, FIU's % is low. What is important is that each department should recognize the fact of low utilization of the building and do something about it.

The following motion was offered, second and passed:

“The Faculty Council for Governance requests each department in Engineering Center to develop the plan with its chair for better utilization of the classrooms on Fridays.”

6. **Discussion** continues on whether or not the member on FCG should be the tenured faculty only. A motion “to suggest that FCG members should be the same as serving on the Tenure and Promotion committee,” was offered and seconded. The vote was 2 for 6 against and 2 abstain.

A motion of “FCG members should be tenured faculty” was offered and seconded. The vote was 6 for, 2 against and 1 abstain.

A motion of “An FCG member cannot be a Faculty Senator at the same time” was offered and seconded. The vote was 2 for, and 6 against.

7. **New Business:** Professor Levy asked FCG members to speak to faculty and support forming a Sigma Is, an honor society chapter at FIU. Contact Dean of Graduate School for more information.
8. **Adjourned Meeting:** The Faculty Council of Governance meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Minutes subscribed and prepared by: Yong Tao, Secretary of FCG