Report to the College Assembly from the College Faculty Council
7 April 2008

(1) Introduction of committee members

College Faculty Council Webpage:
http://www.clas.ufl.edu/gov/comm/faculty.html

College Faculty Council Members

Chair (2007-2008): John Leavey, English

Behavioral & Social Sciences:
Susan deFrance, Anthropology (2007-2009)
Sam Stafford, Political Science (2007-2009)
Donald Stehouwer, Psychology (2007-2009)
Barbara Zsembik, Sociology (2007-2009)

Humanities:
Nora Alter, Germanic and Slavic Studies (2007-2009)
Carol Murphy, Romance Languages and Literatures (2007-2009)

Natural & Mathematical Sciences:
Ken Wagener, Chemistry (2007-2009)
John Yelton, Physics (2007-2009)

Ex Officio:
Chair of the College Assembly: Chris Snodgrass, English
Chair (Vice-Chair) of the Finance Committee: Paul Robinson, Mathematics (06-09)

Student Representatives:
1 graduate (2008)
1 undergraduate (2008)

(2) Search for a new Dean: The Faculty Council and the Finance Committee met as a group with the candidates for the deanship: Paul D’Anieri and Barbara Romzek, and the Council provided a report to the Special Advisory Committee and the appointed Search Committee of support for the candidacy of Paul D’Anieri from the Faculty Council.
(3) Resource Allocation

(A) The Council issued its statement with regard to the proposed 6% budget reduction: Response of the Faculty Council to the Administration’s Request for a $6M Reduction in Budget for CLAS: http://www.clas.ufl.edu/gov/comm/facultycouncil/budget-cut-response.pdf

(B) The Council met with the Interim Dean Glover in January (twice), February, and March to discuss such questions as the state of the college and of the college budget (history and present and future). Interim Dean Glover felt that it was best not to disclose the particular scenarios he would outline to the Provost regarding a possible 6% budget reduction in CLAS, because the final choices would be decided by the President and may not coincide with those suggested or may not be 6%.

(C) The Council received the requested information on sabbaticals from the Dean’s office late on 5 December 2007. In the budget discussions, the Dean’s office has been quick and thorough in providing the data requested or needed to get an overview of the current situation.

(4) Shared Governance and Organization

(A) As stipulated by our constitution, the Council met with the Dean once a month to discuss College business, except for December, when the Council requested that the meeting be canceled to prepare further information on the Dean Search. The Interim Dean agreed.

(B) As stipulated by our constitution, the Council took up the recommendation that the Program in Linguistics become the Department of Linguistics. The Council unanimously supported this recommendation, which had the support of the faculty in the affected units.

(C) As previously reported, the website on governance will become separate from the Dean’s office on the College’s website.

(D) Next year the Council will be gathering information on the status of shared governance at the department and unit level.

(E) The Council proposed a constitutional amendment to account for the rotation and election of the Faculty Council for the initial three years: Rotation and Election of Members of the Faculty Council [Proposed], for consideration by the CLAS Assembly.

(F) Concerns regarding shared governance have been raised by members of the faculty regarding the appointments of lecturers without faculty consultation.

(G) The Council unanimously reaffirmed the authority of the Chair of the Faculty Council to represent the College Faculty Council to the University.