

**General Meeting of the College of Arts and Humanities Faculty
3 September 2008
Student Union – Cape Florida 316 AB**

Dean José Fernandez called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes

Dean Fernandez asked for approval of the minutes for the General Meeting of CAH Faculty on February 5, 2008. A motion to pass the minutes was made from the floor; the motion was seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Report of CAH Election Committee and Run-off Election

Keith Koons, chair of the CAH Election Committee, reported that the recent election for a CAH representative on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee had resulted in a tie between Dawn Trouard and Susan Hubbard. Ballots were distributed to eligible faculty and a run-off election was held, with the result of Dawn Trouard being the winner.

III. Introductions

Dean Fernandez introduced CAH Associate Deans and staff; department chairs introduced various new faculty members.

IV. Election of Alternate Member to the College P & T Committee

Keith Koons and Tison Pugh conducted the election. Four faculty were nominated: Susan Hubbard, Ke Francis, Ayako Yonetani, and Patrick Murphy. Ballots were distributed to eligible faculty. The result of the election was Susan Hubbard, first place; Ke Francis, second place; and Patrick Murphy, third place.

V. Dean's Report

Dean Fernandez commented on the current challenging economic climate in the nation, state, and university. As a result of high unemployment, the state revenue shortfall, and high state deficit, the college has taken an additional 4% reduction in funds, with another 2% likely.

He acknowledged the difficulties of our situation, but said “we have made progress in spite of our hardships.” He cited a number of positive examples in many units of the college. College faculty have achieved a record amount of intramural funding for research. The new Arts II building is on track. We have been able to replace a number of faculty and staff lines.

The Dean predicted that we will survive the current academic year. He acknowledged that larger class sizes can help, but should be balanced with small classes.

The Dean pledged his support to the faculty, offering to listen and work together for solutions. He appealed to the faculty to contact their political leaders and ask for support of higher education in Florida. He reminded the attendees that “UCF stands for opportunity.”

V. Other

Dean Fernandez asked for questions from the floor. In response to a question about rationale for ending programs, he said that the deans would work with the Provost. Another question asked about the wisdom of cutting budgets on the one hand while offering faculty and staff raises with the other. Another question asked about the viability of a 4-day week in cutting costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Koons
CAH Faculty Secretary
Department of Music