

PREAMBLE

The intent of the parties hereto in carrying out their responsibilities to negotiate the terms and conditions of employment of members of the bargaining unit is to promote the quality and effectiveness of education in the University of Central Florida and to maintain high standards of academic excellence in all phases of instruction, research, and service. The parties concur that these objectives are facilitated by amicable adjustment of matters of mutual interest. It is recognized by the parties that mutual benefits are to be derived from continual improvement in the University of Central Florida, and that participation of faculty and professional employees in the formulation of policies under which they provide their services is educationally sound.

While the United Faculty of Florida (hereinafter UFF), as the elected bargaining agent, retains the exclusive right to negotiate and reach agreement on terms and conditions of employment for the members of the bargaining unit, and the University of Central Florida Board of Trustees (hereinafter the University) retains its rights, under law, to manage and direct the University of Central Florida, the parties recognize the desirability of a collegial governance system for faculty and professional employees in areas of academic concern. It is desirable that the collegial system of shared governance be maintained and strengthened throughout the University of Central Florida so that employees will have a mechanism and procedure, independent of the collective bargaining process, for making recommendations to appropriate administrative officials.

Collegiality in academic governance on each campus of the University of Central Florida can best be accomplished through the Faculty Senate selected by representatives of the appropriate campus constituencies in accordance with the Faculty Constitution and tradition. Appropriate matters of concern should be brought before the Faculty Senate by its members or steering committee, or by the President of the University or representatives. Among matters which may be of concern to the Faculty Senate include: (a) curriculum policy and curricular structure; (b) requirements for degrees and granting of degrees; (c) policies for recruitment, admission, and retention of students; (d) the development, curtailment, discontinuance, or reorganization of academic programs; (e) grading policies; and (f) other matters of traditional concern.

In such a collegial system, departments or other traditional governance structures should play an active and responsible role in academic matters, including significant involvement in the recruitment of new faculty and professional employees, the development of high quality programs, participation in the development of tenure, promotion, and merit salary increase criteria, participation in the selection of instructional and library materials, and other matters of professional concern. The collegial relationship is most effective when peers work critically together to carry out their duties in the most professional manner possible.

In recognition of the importance of the collegial system of governance described herein, the president or president's representatives shall confer regularly with representatives from the Faculty Senate.

This Preamble is a statement of intent and policy and is, therefore, not subject to Article 20, Grievance Procedure.