

**PRESS RELEASE: UCF Board of Trustees Committee recommends faculty receive a meager 0.5% raise**

UCF's faculty union, the United Faculty of Florida (UFF), is extremely disappointed with today's recommendation by the UCF Board of Trustees' (BOT) labor and compensation subcommittee to give a meager 0.5% raise to UCF's hard-working faculty. In a meeting earlier today, the committee listened to arguments presented by the UFF for faculty raises and by Mr. Mattimore, the outside lawyer hired by the UCF administration to make its case against faculty raises. The boardroom in which the arguments were presented was standing room only. UCF faculty, students, and alumni supporting improved compensation of faculty wore "respect" buttons and held signs stating "reward faculty performance." UFF presented evidence that UCF faculty were significantly less well paid than their peers nationwide and evidence that UCF had sufficient funds to reward the performance of faculty and professional staff with a 3% raise. (This evidence is publicly available-[see here](#)). The lawyer for UCF argued against granting "them"—the faculty at UCF--any raise at all. After hearing the arguments, Mr. Sprouls, Chair of the Labor and compensation committee, announced his committee would recommend to the full Board that faculty be granted a non-retroactive raise of 0.5% to begin in January. This announcement was accompanied by statements of regret, as Chairman Sprouls acknowledged "the faculty deserves more" and noted that UFF "had made a strong argument with regard to compensation." Board member Ray Gilley likewise indicated that the Board would like to give "[their] precious faculty the raise they deserve."

UFF is shocked by the BOT committee's refusal to appropriately recognize faculty contributions to UCF's success. Just last week, the Board granted substantial bonuses totaling over \$320,000 to some administrators (including a \$117,000 bonus to President Hitt) for meeting performance goals that *could not have been met* without significant faculty teaching, advising, and research success. The Board also granted police officers a 3-8% salary increase depending on their time in service. Clerical workers were offered a much more modest raise of 1%. Amidst ever increasing faculty workloads, declining take-home-pay, and already low morale, faculty at UCF perceive the decision to award them a mere 0.5% as a slap in the face. It is our hope that the Board of Trustees will take into consideration the central importance of UCF faculty to the university's mission, and that the full BOT will overturn this committee recommendation and will grant a fair raise for UCF faculty. The average raise package for faculty at other Florida universities this year is over 2.5%.

**UFF Contacts:**

Shelley Park, UFF-UCF President, [shelleypark@gmail.com](mailto:shelleypark@gmail.com) , 407-267-4993

Jim Gilkeson, UFF-UCF Co-Chief Negotiator, [jim.gilkeson@gmail.com](mailto:jim.gilkeson@gmail.com), 407-748-3717

Candi Churchill, UFF State representative, [candi.churchill@floridaea.org](mailto:candi.churchill@floridaea.org), 352-281-7454