

**UNITED FACULTY OF FLORIDA
SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY**

Volume 1, Issue 1, October 2015 Newsletter

Message From the UFFSLU President Doris Van Kampen

On behalf of the entire UFSLU leadership team, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2015-16 academic year.

I want to take a moment to thank all of the members for your continued confidence in me. It has been a tough twelve months, with a lot of transitions at the institution. This is a very busy year, with much to do, and much to be thankful for. The UFSLU Board has been busy right out of the starting gate, with the review and response to the University administration's announcement concerning schedules and office hours, a review and discussion with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness concerning the online course evaluations, and the grievance concerning the CPO process, and other matters.

You will find our position statement concerning the course scheduling and office hours in this Newsletter, and more information about the online BYO device course evaluations, as well as an update on the grievance on the CPO process.

We are also in the process of redeveloping our website, which you will be able to find in the listing of UFF chapters in the near future! We are very excited about this development and this step forward in our means of communication with you at

<http://www.unitedfacultyofflorida.org/chapters.shtml>.

This year we will also be bargaining. What does that mean for you? It is an opportunity to get involved, and be part of the negotiations team; we are seeking members who are actively interested in being part of the bargaining team. If you would like to submit comments and suggestions, you will be able to do that on our website in the near future; in the meantime, please send your comments and suggestions to me at breitfr@gmail.com

This is in response to the “Message about scheduling classes” email, dated 9/8/2015

We, the United Faculty of Florida Saint Leo, believe that there is no “one schedule fits all” model. To meet the needs of our students, and in the spirit of our core values of community and respect, the Faculty of Saint Leo University will continue to make themselves available in person, online, and via email and other methods of communication, such as Skype, telephone, VTT, webcam, etc. Today’s world, and this University, do not fit a traditional ‘9-5” schedule. As a community of professionals committed to our students and to the University, we believe it would be a disservice to our students to limit ourselves to serving our campus students over our students who are not living at the University Campus.

We teach online, on-ground, on weekends and at night. We travel to geographically distant Centers, and teach via VTT, as well as video-conferencing within online courses. We have office hours posted at University Campus, and within our syllabi we list our office hours and encourage students to contact us. We try to be available for all of our students, on and off University Campus when they need us.

For the administration to set an expectation that a faculty member should also be available 4-5 days per week at University Campus when they may be teaching in a variety of formats, location or times outside University Campus business hours is unrealistic and could be detrimental to the mission of the University, and to our off- campus students.

Faculty are expected to schedule their ten (10) office hours, and six of those office hours must be posted.

Chairs and Deans should be sensitive to a faculty member’s overall schedule, including DL, COL, Center commitments, travel commitments to Centers, and preference in teaching format, as faculty “shall be given preference. . . to teach for COL, Distance Learning, or the Division of Continuing Education and Student Services or Graduate Education” (CBA, Article 5, Section 4). The Chair should also consider a faculty member’s other professional commitments, as well as family obligations, transportation/distance of travel from the University, etc., when scheduling classes or making changes to previously agreed-upon and established teaching schedules, keeping in mind fairness and equity for each and every Faculty member.

REMEMBERING BILL FOLEY

WRITTEN BY JACK MCTAGUE SENTAOR AT LARGE

Former Accounting Professor Bill Foley died on September 23 at the age of 71. Bill, who taught at Saint Leo from 1983 to 2008, was President of the Saint Leo faculty union during most of the 1990s. Those were difficult years for the university as enrollments declined steadily both on campus and at the centers, making it hard for the union to gain many concessions from the administration. But “Bulldog Bill” as he was known, fought hard for the faculty and always managed to negotiate some raises for us despite the tight budgets.

Bill had been a Navy helicopter pilot in Vietnam and after the war he got his Accounting degree, worked in the business world for a while, and then came to Saint Leo. He was known for his caustic sense of humor and a gruff style which people came to enjoy once they got to know him. Most of us who were here then remember him playing Santa at the annual St. Edward's Hall Christmas parties, always ready with some humorous remarks to make about those present. He brought much-needed stability to the union through his long years of service in the '90s.

Once Bill left Saint Leo, he picked up on his leadership and service to his Catholic faith—most often at his parish St. Mark's in New Tampa. At the service October 10 at that church, the room was filled with a large crowd of people who came to honor him. Whether at Saint Leo as President of the faculty union or in his work for his Church, Bill was a man of service and great friendship for all.

MEMBER BENEFITS

WRITTEN BY PATRICIA TOBIN SENGER SECRETARY

Our faculty union stands for you during salary negotiations and when individual members have a grievance to mediate. Did you know that other benefits from the Florida-wide union include insurance and discounted travel benefits? Here is an overview of the money saving programs and benefits available to Florida Education Association members. TO REGISTER FOR ALL OF THESE BENEFITS AND MORE, SIMPLY GO TO www.aft.org/benefits or download the APP for your iPhone or your android phone.

NEA HOME FINANCING PROGRAM

NEW RETIREMENT PROGRAM

NEA AUTO AND HOME INSURANCE PROGRAM

NEA AUTO BUYING PROGRAM

VIP SAVINGS: HERTZ, ALAMO, ENTERPRISE, NATIONAL AND DOLLAR CAR RENTAL PROGRAMS

SHOPPING SAVINGS: GOODYEAR TIRES, TELEFLORA, COSMETICS, AND DELL COMPUTERS

TRAVEL/ENTERTAINMENT DISCOUNTS

TERM LIFE INSURANCE

AUTICLUB PROGRAM

CREDIT CARD PROGRAMS

RELOCATION SERVICES