On Tuesday, November 13, 2012 the Faculty Senate met to discuss several items of business.

**Old Business:**
An uncertainty about how policies may be created, where they originate, etc. was clarified at a previous meeting. However, at that time, a flowchart wasn’t distributed. The flowchart was disseminated at this meeting; it illustrates that academic policies can originate at either the Senate or Provost’s office level and illustrates the role the Senate and Provost’s office play in this process. This document is available under the “Agendas and Minutes” tab of this site for this date.

**New Business:**
Vicki Stieha, director of the *Foundational Studies Program*, updated the Senate on the Foundations Program and where we currently are. The new program received an award for its innovation from the Albertson Foundation. UF 100 Intellectual Foundations and UF 300 Transitional Foundations were implemented this fall for the first time, and UF 200 Civic and Ethical Foundations will be taught in the spring.

Mark Wheeler, Dean of Extended Studies, presented to the Senate on *eCampus* (i.e., the new name of distance learning). There has been tremendous growth in online courses, but BSU has not kept up with other institutions in regards to online degrees. The current focus of Extended Studies is to create more fully online courses and programs. This is a result of data that has been collected from students in which they indicate that they take online courses due to convenience. The data indicates that in any given semester, 1 out of 4 students are taking an online course, that 10% of the credit hours given at any time are online and that this is a growing demographic.
Vice Provost James Munger brought *Policy 4400, Faculty Sabbatical Leave*, was brought to the Senate for consideration of revisions. The policy was tabled following discussion based upon many questions raised by the Senators and the need for more information. The policy will be discussed at the next meeting (November 27th).

Other items discussed:
- The Senate has approved emeritus status for Nancy McGown (English) and Peter Wolheim (Communications)
- Constitutional change may be needed to account for timely distribution of information. This was deemed an unnecessary step and the Senate President will now attempt to send the agenda for the meeting one week prior to its occurrence.
- January 8th Senate meeting cancelled (still on Winter Break) *and* there will be a meeting on November 27th.
- Senate webpage is being updated