

ACFS ZOOM meeting June 8th, 2020

This meeting was called to order by the Chair, Shawn Felton, based on an invitation from the Chancellor to discuss faculty concerns and the re-opening plans at each of the SUS institutions.

Chancellor Criser joined the meeting and discussed several topics with members, including ongoing conversations with the Provosts (CAVP), CFOs (CAFA) and our group. A general discussion of personal responsibility, mask wearing, contract tracing and the differences between the campuses and their communities (especially local department of health offices and hospital facilities) ensued.

The plan that was presented separately by the UFF was also discussed briefly, and this led to some further discussion on mask wearing policies, policing mask wearing, and concerns over faculty that are not able to return to teaching face to face. Other concerns over the need for support for GTAs and undergraduate teaching assistants to aid faculty in their deliver of courses was discussed. Concerns about needed testing materials (swabs, testing chemicals) was raised and the use of leave hours for faculty and staff that cannot return to campus.

The chancellor mentioned that he would share the plans for reopening with the ACFS as soon as the BOG office has them (drafts or final).

The chancellor ended his participation and the members began discussing making a statement or resolution in support of the protests that are occurring in the wake of the death of George Floyd and other instances of racism in society. After a discussion, a draft statement was suggested to the group, however most felt that a statement needed to be edited and further work was needed in order to come to a consensus. Volunteers were sought to help a small group of members to edit this statement and report back to the group in one week at the next ACFS meeting. Several local statements from faculty senates (e.g. FSU) were shared through chat and email both during and following the meeting.