

**CARTA Faculty Assembly Meeting  
March 27, 2025**

Attendance List: No Quorum

Dean's Office	
Brian Schriener (Dean, Non-voting)	Landscape Architecture
Architecture	
Elliott Sturtevant	Music
Art & Art History	
Silvia Pease Tom Scicluna Jonathan Perez	Karen Veloz (Chair, Non-voting) Mesut Özgen (Assembly Co-chair) Sandra Adorno Federico Bonacossa David Dolata Robert Dundas Marcia Littley Jose Raul Lopez
Communication	
Davina Clarke (Chair, Non-voting) Elizabeth Marsh Aileen Izquierdo Nicole Kashian Elena Echarri Paula Powell Rachel Rashe Reed Alfred Soto Hugo Ottolenghi Jefferson Noel Betty Eugene-King Jessica Delgado Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver	Theater Jennifer Ivey (Chair, Non-voting) Ivan Lopez Chris Goslin Melvin Huffnagle Michael Yawney Olivia deGuzman Rebecca Covey Lesley-Ann Timlick Marina Pareja
Interior Architecture	
Journalism	
Susan Jacobson (Chair Non-voting) Neil Reisner Karla Kennedy Lilliam Martinez-Bustos Jessica Kizorek Alejandro Alvarado Teresa Ponte (Assembly Co-chair)	
Guest	
Martha Meyer, UFF-FIU Vice President	

## Minutes

Meeting commenced at 3:35 PM

- Approval of minutes from last meeting 07 November 2025.
- Approval of Agenda
  
- **Dean's Report, Brian Schriner**
  - CARTA School of Architecture is ranked as number 22 among public Universities by QS World Rankings 2024, that's 4 out of the past 5 years that the School of Architecture has been in the top 25.
  - CARTA students continue to lead the university in student success metrics. Those are the metrics measured by the board of Governors and the Board of Trustees in terms of student retention time to graduation and employment upon graduation.
  - The new collective bargaining agreement calls for modifications due to changes brought to the institution:
    - Merit Raises
    - Differential Workload Assignments
  - Faculty should be working with their chair or school director to make sure policies align with the CBA. "Things will be a little bit more local and less college wide...more unit specific."
  
- **UFF-FIU Report, Vice-President Martha Meyer**
  - UFF-FIU State legislative report priority bills that the union is prioritizing for the membership. That is to say, the UFF is requesting the membership to write to the Senate and House committees to ask legislators to place the bills on the agenda to be heard.
    - Senate Bill 1410, House Bill 609 will require the Board of Education to ensure that the FCS (Florida College Systems) are free from undue government influence and interference.
    - Senate Bill 1186, House Bill 1419 defines the final group of applicants for the State University System or the College System.
    - Senate Bill 760, House Bill 631 provides waivers for gas.
  - Bills of Concern
    - Senate Bill 814 prohibiting guns on campus did not pass committee in the Senate and was withdrawn in the House.
    - "Union Busting Bill" Senate Bill 1328, House Bill 1217 tries to raise the percentage of membership of the unit from 60% to 70%. UFF-FIU is currently around 63%. Faculty retirements impact the percentages unless new faculty join.
  - UFF-FIU want faculty to be aware that they have a right to Union representation if called to a meeting with administration personnel . Faculty should call the Union *before* going to the meeting. If called to a meeting by "certain people" assume it's a grievance with disciplinary consequences.
  - The UFF-FIU is running a 30 by 30 this month, trying to get 30 new members by April 30. Make sure you have filled out the Membership Attestation form; if you don't remember if you have or not, it's okay to double up.
  - Martha Meyer's Powerpoint sent to faculty on 3/27/2025 after the Spring Assembly Meeting.

- **Faculty Senate Report, Neil Reisner**
  - There's a new student academic grievance policy. It deals with arbitrary awarding of grades.
  - The University is getting a new President, the Interim President Jeanette Nunez is expected to be elevated to permanent. The Faculty Senate nearly unanimously wrote a resolution supporting renewing former President Ken Jessel, obviously without success. It's expected that the new FIU President Jeanette Nunez will be announced during Summer commencement.
  - There will be no SUS budget cuts.
  - It's not likely that there will be tuition raises, except for undocumented students who will now pay out of state tuition.
  - FIU is up for the 10 year accreditation.
  - The Board of Governors is getting involved in curriculum. Changes reflect the State Legislature.
  - At the University of West Florida all 15 Board of Trustees members were replaced.
  
- Faculty Assembly Co-chair Mesut Ozgen asked Neil Reisner, a former CARTA Assembly Co-chair if he could recall the last time the assembly had a quorum at a meeting. Neither of them could remember. This meeting was the highest attended in a long time. Only additional 13 faculty members were needed to reach quorum. Ozgen sent an electronic ballot to carry out several needed votes for representatives and governance documents.
  
- There was additional discussion regarding the Differential Workload Policy and the Dean clarified that the Provost demands that policies be approved by the Provost and the college Dean. " The status of the differential policy: we do have a [college] policy, There's always been a university one. Our college one adheres to the university's".
  
- Mesut Ozgen introduced the winners of the CARTA Faculty Awards as selected by the Committee. Three awards in the teaching category, one in research, no submission in service. The winners are:
  - Ivan Lopez, Teaching, Theater
  - Robert Dundas, Teaching, Music
  - Sandra Adorno, Teaching, Music
  - David Dolata, Research, Music
  
- New Business - No new business
- Meeting adjourned at 4:47 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Teresa Ponte, JD  
 Co-chair, CARTA Assembly

*P.S. Pending approval in the Fall 2025 Assembly meeting.*