



Florida Statewide Committee RUF Campus Ministry 04/29/2015

Location:

Orlando, Florida,
La Quinta Inn and Suites, 7160 N. Frontage Road

Members Present:

Central FL Presbytery: None
 Gulf Coast Presbytery: TE Dennis Shackelford, TE Bob Evans
 North Florida Presbytery: TE Steve Lammers
 Gulf Stream Presbytery: TE Matt Wilson
 Southwest Florida Presbytery: **Chairman** TE Rod Culbertson, RE Ken Pothoven,
 TE Steve Casselli, TE Jeff McDonald
 South Florida Presbytery: None
 Sun Coast Presbytery: RE Chick Shue

Campus Ministers (CM):

TE Jeff Lee: USF
 TE David Story: FSU
 TE Tommy Park: UNF
 TE Lee Wright: UCF
 TE Tim Carper UF

Guests: TE JR Foster, Florida Area Coordinator.

Excused Absences: TE Michael Woodham, TE David Burke, TE Clif Wilcox, TE Todd Veleber, TE David Bradsher, RE Craig Carter, TE Chris Schwartz, TE Mike Osborne, TE Randy Greenwald, TE Curt Moore, RE Mark Wandell, TE Lucas Tanner

1. **Rod Culbertson** began the meeting at 1010 hours and **lead the group** with a devotional from Colossians 2:6-7 and then opened the meeting with prayer.
MSP: That we discuss holding the meeting of the Florida Joint Committee on or near the various represented campuses under new business today.

2. Campus Minister Reports:

TE Jeff Lee: USF

Jeff reported that there have been several changes on his campus this year. His ministry graduated a large class of student leaders, and he is now working to develop a new leadership team. His Presbytery has planted a new PCA church (Sojourn PCA) near the campus and this has been a great blessing to be able to feed students into the church. They have had a room change on campus for large group and this necessitated a large group meeting on the roof of a parking garage one week while they were looking for a new place to meet. Jeff reported that he had to 'transition' his intern out of the ministry as he was not a good fit for the work. Jeff shared several stories of students and talked about the diverse backgrounds that they have and the challenge of helping them grow in to a cohesive group. Jeff is encouraged by what the Lord is doing on his campus. Jeff says that on a personal level, he and his wife Jenny have determined that they need to homeschool their three boys next year as they do not have good options in their community. Jeff did a sermon series on "Christ in the Old Testament" this spring. Chick Sue offered a prayer for Jeff and his family and ministry.

TE David Story: FSU

David is finishing his 11th year at FSU. He and Karen have been married for 15 years and have three children. This past fall was extremely busy with family life and he has made adjustments in his schedule to be more help to Karen. David shared that it is encouraging to get to the end of a year and to reflect back on all the things that have happened in ministry throughout the year. In the Fall he took the students through the parables of Jesus and he felt this connected well with students' lives. In the Spring he preached through the book of Proverbs. Two of the student couples in his group were married this year. One of his former students will be an RUF intern next year at Kennesaw State in Georgia and David shared a writing from her blog that spoke to the transformation and impact that the ministry of RUF has had in her life. David is looking forward to having a new intern from USA this fall as well. David is looking forward to Summer Conference next week, where he will teach a class on Calvinism. Ken Pothoven led the committee in a prayer for David and his family and ministry at FSU.

TE Tommy Park: UNF

Prior to today's meeting Tommy sent out an excellent video report to the members of the committee that highlighted the campus of UNF. Tommy is in his 8th year of ministry at UNF. This fall Tommy preached through the miracles of Christ. Tommy shared that the diversity of his campus is expanding. He also shared that UNF has a program for students with 'special needs' and his students have been ministering to these students and inviting them to large group. Tommy reported that he had two successful outreach events including a square dance and a masquerade ball that attracted both his core students as well as a number of unbelievers. Over the Spring semester, UNF had a successful basketball team and Tommy reported that the campus has "come to life" as a result. Tommy reported that they had six small groups this year that utilized a curriculum that he co-wrote with one of the students on his leadership team. Tommy will have a very large graduating class with 12 of his students graduation or departing from the campus this year. Tommy says that this has been a good and encouraging year. Tommy reported that four of his student couples are engaged to be married. On a personal level, the Parks now have three children, with the youngest being born this year. Tommy reports that the family is doing well and they are homeschooling their older children. Steve Lammers offered a prayer for Tommy, his family and his ministry.

Lee Wright: UCF

Lee and Sarah have two little girls (Tilly and Margo) and they have had a busy this year getting established in Orlando. They have landed in a new church home at Willow Creek PCA. Lee shared that three of his graduating students went on to be RUF Interns. These students had been in the student leadership and had been part of the “glue” that had held things together at UCF in some ways. Lee also had several member of his leadership team move on, but he is encouraged by the way large group has gone this Spring and he is encouraged by the new student leadership team that is coming together and developing. Lee says he has been “systematizing” the small groups on his campus by teaching the leaders who in turn lead the small groups. Lee has been encouraged especially by the freshman small group that is based on the Sermon on the Mount. Lee shared several stories of students in the group who have been growing in their understanding of the gospel and how he has personally been encouraged. Lee will have his ordination and installation service in June. Steve Casselli offered a prayer for Lee and his family and ministry.

TE Tim Carper UF

Tim just ended his first year at UCF, but his counseling load is full. Tim’s wife has a job as a “victims advocate” for the University of Florida and they are both working through how to manage jobs that require them to give and invest on an emotional level. Tim feels he took too much on last semester as he was helping out at Christ Community church with preaching and serving on the Session. Ministry wise, Tim believes that things are beginning to stabilize and that students are getting into the new rhythm and he is encouraged in the numbers of non-Christian students that are coming to large group. Tim says that small groups seem to be dying because students do not seem to have the time to engage in them. Tim stressed that his vision for the ministry at UF would involve his encouraging students to reach fellow students with the good news of the gospel and he shared that the temptation for him was to short circuit this work by doing all of the telling about Jesus himself. Tim shared an encouraging story of how the Lord was working through a particular student in the group to reach out to an interested, but unbelieving friend. Rod Culbertson offered a prayer for Tim and his ministry as well as for the provision of the meal.

Order of the Day: 12:30 pm – Lunch

Lucas Tanner FGCU

Chick Shue gave a brief report on Lucas Tanner and his preparations to begin the new work at FGCU on June 1st, 2015. Matt Wilson offered a prayer for Lucas and his pending ministry,

3. Update on FAU possibility: Matt Wilson shared that the monies to open a new account for RUF at FAU have been raised and are on the way to the National Office and Gulfstream Presbytery is now working to raise another 40K to get over the next ‘startup’ hurdle.
4. Report from Area Coordinator, JR Foster. JR shared briefly that his job entails visiting each campus minister twice each year to encourage, consult and shepherd him in his work. JR gave a brief update on the RUF National Office and Tom Cannon’s work with the new Director of Advancement (development) Kevin Teasley (a former campus minister who was a highly successful fundraiser). JR also shared with the committee that RUF will be holding a Marriage Conference as part of July training this summer and that wives were being especially encouraged to attend summer training with their husbands for this special event.
5. Existence and Membership of FL RUF Presbytery Committees Update.

Rod Culbertson shared as information that we now have six functioning RUF Presbytery committees in the state of Florida.

6. Other/New Business

The committee entertained the idea of moving the location of our statewide meetings to the various areas of the state to see the various campuses.

MSP: That the chairman of the Florida Joint Committee hold a conference call with the various RUF Presbytery Chairmen to help define the Florida Statewide committee meetings and functions.

Next Meeting:

MSP - To hold the next meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2015, in Orlando at La Quinta Inn and Suites, 7160 N. Frontage Road .

MSP - to adjourn at 2:30 pm, David Story led the committee in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Shackleford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dennis Shackleford
Clerk of Committee