

**Remarks to the FSU Faculty Senate on  
Collective Bargaining and Related Matters**  
by Jack Fiorito, Senator and UFF-FSU Chapter President

September 17, 2008

Good afternoon!

We are conducting ratification voting today through Friday. I will be brief to allow you more time to vote.

Sometimes when I'm listening to Senate reports and looking over my notes, a song pops into my head. Today, hearing of Vice President Bradley's comments regarding the FSU administration (belatedly) recognizing the need for salary adjustments to help stop the brain drain of FSU faculty, some lyrics from a Doors tune came to mind: "Don't you love her as she's walking out the door?"

As you probably know, our UFF-FSU chapter's negotiating team has been calling for FSU to place a higher priority on faculty and faculty salaries for a long time. Both the faculty and administration teams worked hard to produce the current tentative agreement. Faculty Senate leaders including President Standley were instrumental as well, helping to show that when the faculty speak with a unified voice, good things can happen. The tentative agreement is a good thing. FSU faculty members certainly deserve better, but this is the best we could do for now in a difficult budget environment. We urge faculty, and we urge you to urge your colleagues, to vote "Yes" to accept the tentative agreement and the MOA on winter holidays.

I would like to thank our regular and occasional faculty negotiating team members for a job well done, including Robin Goodman, Irene Padavic, Diana Rice, and Dan Vitkus, and most especially our chief negotiator, Senator Ted Baker.

Are there any questions?

Thank you for your time.