

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
May 25, 2006
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
239 Tigert Hall

Committee Members Present via telephone: Carlos Alfonso, Chair, Cynthia O’Connell and Danaya Wright**

Committee Members Present: John Boyles

Others Present: Janie Fouke, Patricia Telles-Irvin, and Barbara Wingo

Committee Chair Carlos Alfonso called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and opened up discussion on the March 23, 2006 and March 30, 2006 minutes. Trustee O’Connell asked about the Ph.D. in Genetics. It was removed from the Educational Policy and Strategy agenda, but was not removed from the March 31st consent agenda. Trustee O’Connell asked that the minutes reflect the update that the Ph.D. in Genetics was approved at the Board of Trustees meeting on March 31, 2006.

Tenure Upon Hire

Trustee Alfonso asked Dr. Fouke to comment on the three tenure upon hire cases: Steve Dorman, Scott Pape, and Scott Perry. Dr. Fouke commented that Dr. Dorman is the new dean of Health and Human Performance, Dr. Pape is from Ohio State and has an international reputation in the School of Teaching and Learning, and Dr. Perry is a material scientist from the University of Houston. Chairman Alfonso commented that each case seemed to have overwhelming support from their faculty.

New Degree Programs

Chairman Alfonso stated that there are two new degree programs for the committee’s review: 1) B.S. in Athletic Training and 2) B.S. in Biology.

1) B.S. in Athletic Training

Dr. Fouke commented that the B.S. in Athletic Training from the College of Health and Human Performance is an accreditation issue. UF already has a program in athletic training, however, the discipline has moved away from having programs or concentrations and toward having degrees, so UF is following the national trend and migrating the program into a full bachelor’s degree.

Chairman Alfonso asked if students would be moving into this degree from some other area. Dr. Fouke replied that UF might get more visibility from offering the degree rather than the concentration, but those that are already training in the program will get a different degree, so UF will drop the specialization and just offer the degree instead.

** Danaya Wright joined the call about 4:10 p.m.

Trustee O'Connell asked how many students are in the existing specialization. Dr. Fouke replied that it is a small number, such as a couple dozen, but that she did not know the exact number. Trustee Alfonso commented that from the proposal it appears that the college is expecting the class to grow to a hundred. Dr. Fouke clarified that that figure was the total amount of students in the program at a time, not a graduating class size. Upon further review, Dr. Fouke realized the college is projecting a class size of 100 and she commented that if they get there she will have to hire more faculty for the program.

Trustee Boyles asked when the university expects the concentration to be discontinued and the degree program taking over. Dr. Fouke responded that if the proposal is approved, the new degree program will begin next fall and the concentration will phase out when the students who are currently enrolled graduate. The students in the concentration could elect to go into the degree program, but they would not be mandated to do so.

2) B.S. in Biology

Chairman Alfonso commented he was surprised UF did not already have this degree. Dr. Fouke stated that it is a joint degree between the colleges of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Agricultural & Life Sciences. Chairman Alfonso noted that the proposal expects 1,000 majors by the end of the fifth year. Dr. Fouke stated that the demand is great. Chairman Alfonso commented that he could see this bachelor's degree taking a lot of different directions in graduate school. Dr. Fouke agreed and commented that it could feed majors like zoology, entomology, botany, etc. Trustees Boyles stated that the students are very excited at the possibility of having this degree option.

Dr. Fouke addressed the committee to be sure everyone was clear on the situation with the Ph.D. in Genetics. She stated that at the March 30th meeting, the signature page for the degree proposal was misplaced. Because we could not find the approved signature page, we removed it from the Educational Policy and Strategy agenda and we thought it was removed from the BOT consent agenda. However, it went before the full board and was approved on the March 31st consent agenda, which turned out to be fine because the Graduate School had the signed signature page. Trustee Alfonso commented that nothing further was needed for this degree program.

Proposed University of Florida Regulations

Dr. Fouke informed the committee that the Governor signed the tuition regulation, however, UF is waiting to receive a final copy of the bill. Chairman Alfonso asked for a copy of the bill to be sent to him prior to the next board meeting.

Annual Tenure Cases

Dr. Fouke stated that the annual tenure cases would be provided at the June 15th meeting.

New School of Health Professions

Chairman Alfonso asked if the new School of Health Professions was stemming from an accreditation concern. Dr. Fouke explained that UF is trying to accredit the Public Health program. Public Health accreditation criteria are applied to everything within the College of

Public Health and Health Professions. Nationally, in order to not have Public Health criteria applied to Health Professions, universities have started separating their Public Health programs to limit the accreditation to the appropriate area instead of to non-Public Health components. The following departments would be part of the School of Health Professions: Clinical and Health Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Communicative Disorders and Physical Therapy.

Honorary Degrees

Chairman Alfonso asked Dr. Fouke to go over the honorary degrees: 1) Dr. Robert H. Grubbs and 2) Dr. Linda Aiken. Dr. Fouke commented that Dr. Grubbs has won the Nobel Prize and is one of only two UF alumni to have done so. Dr. Fouke explained to the Committee that Dr. Aiken had already received her honorary degree. Unfortunately due to the timing of the application, graduation, and the timing of BOT meetings, this request just missed the June BOT meeting. Dr. Aiken was available for the May commencement and was able to receive her honorary degree. President Machen acted on the trustees' behalf and granted Dr. Aiken's honorary degree.

Dr. Fouke commented that all honorary degree applications need to be completed by the end of the calendar year to ensure the trustees' approval prior to spring commencements.

Harn Museum of Art Permanent Status Resolution

Dr. Fouke stated that the Harn Museum of Art is in the process of conducting its 10-year accreditation. In order to meet recently changed accreditation regulations, the Harn has to have a resolution of permanence from the university.

Trustee O'Connell asked what the private and public funding components of the Harn Museum. Dr. Fouke stated that she would bring that information to the June meeting.

Discussion Items:

Update on University of Florida Opportunity Scholarship

Dr. Telles-Irvin reminded the Committee that this is the scholarship for low income families and hoped it would help increase UF's diversity. The Governor has reviewed the program and has recommended the Legislature to support and fund a matching grant of about \$6.5 million, so however much money the universities raise for this program, the state will match up to a certain point. Dr. Telles-Irvin stated the criteria for eligibility: Florida residents, first time in college, first generation student, and comes from an annual family income of \$40,000 or less. She then gave a few statistics about the program:

- 400 students eligible
- 1:2 male to female ratio
- 38% African-American, 25% Hispanic, 11% Asian, <1% Native American, 22% White, and about 14 students no race indicated.
- Average family income is close to \$25,000
- Program will cost UF about \$2 million

Trustee O'Connell asked how UF was communicating this opportunity to high schools. Dr. Telles-Irvin replied that the Admissions Office is informing high school counselors and recruiters are also informing the students directly.

Trustee Boyles asked if the university has in place the means to provide these students with the need to meet tuition. Dr. Telles-Irvin explained that how the scholarship works is they take the base cost of attending UF, subtract any grants or awards the student may have received as well as the family contribution, and then the scholarship covers the difference, so each student theoretically receives a different scholarship value.

New Department – Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics

Dr. Fouke stated that is part of the accreditation issue for the College of Public Health and Health Professions to help delineate the various departments.

Department Name Change

Also in keeping with the Public Health accreditation, the College of Public Health and Health Professions has changed the name of the Department of Rehabilitation Counseling to the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health.

Concentration Discontinuation

Dr. Fouke stated that the degrees listed on the agenda are concentrations that have not been used for some time and even to maintain them is costly so the concentrations are being eliminated. Trustee O'Connell asked if alumni who had received the degrees were contacted. Dr. Fouke clarified that these concentrations have evolved into MBA degrees.

Admissions Update

Dr. Fouke informed the Committee that she will provide a report for the June meeting, but that the last numbers estimated the admissions total to be 6,721 and appear to be on-track for the goal. Trustee Alfonso asked that the detailed report also provide the break down of in-state and out-of-state numbers.

Legislative Budget Requests (LBRs)

Dr. Fouke stated that the LBRs have been made to the colleges and their proposals are due June 5th, so they will be covered at the June meeting.

Shared Governance Report

Chairman Alfonso was pleased to see the report completed. He also instructed the committee to review the report and be ready to comment at the June meeting.

Trustee O'Connell asked that the Bright Futures component in terms of percentages be provided in the admissions information also. Trustee Boyles asked for the break-down between 75%-100% funding.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.