

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
June 12, 2008
3:45 – 5:00 p.m.
President’s Room 215C, Emerson Alumni Hall
University of Florida

Committee Members Present: Cynthia O’Connell, Chair; Frank Bova; Mac McGriff; Danny Ponce; Kevin Reilly; and Steven Scott

Others Present: Janie Fouke, Patricia Telles-Irvin, and Jamie Lewis Keith

Trustee O’Connell called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

The committee reviewed the Committee on Educational Policy and Strategy minutes from their February 22, 2008 and March 31, 2008 meetings. Trustee Ponce motioned to approve the minutes, Trustee Scott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The committee then reviewed the action items on the agenda.

EP1. Approval of Tenure Upon Hire

There were eight candidates up for approval: Samuel T. Huang, Ray G. Huffaker, Frederick J. Kaye, Marvin D. Krohn, Michael S. Nussbaum, Toney Romeo, Michael Sagas, and Bruce C. Wheeler. Trustee McGriff motioned to approve the eight cases for tenure upon hire, Trustee Scott seconded the motion, and the tenure upon hire cases were approved unanimously.

EP2. Approval of University of Florida Regulations

Chair O’Connell requested the committee discuss each of the six Regulations on the committee’s agenda.

6C1-1.008 Disruptive Behavior – Trustee McGriff stated he would not be able to approve a Regulation that approves of “rude or offensive” language. VPs Keith and Telles-Irvin discussed with the committee the laws the university has to adhere to as a public institution and that a public forum setting is a matter of US Constitutional law. VP Keith clarified that once the forum is open to public speaking, the person speaking has the freedom of speech to say anything he or she pleases but it does have to relate to the subject of the forum. Trustee McGriff requested that the Regulation be modified to include the speaker must relate their communications to the subject of the forum.

The committee discussed at length 1st Amendment rights and the impact on a campus setting as well as trying to define offensive behavior.

Trustee Ponce asked whether or not other universities in the state have adopted similar language and Trustee Scott asked whether or not the university require that people use professional language. VP Keith explained that the ad hoc Committee on a Civil, Safe and Open Environment was asked what UF’s legal

policy should be. That committee found that there is a lot of confusion on campus on what constitutes free speech. They asked that UF make its regulations very clear and recommended strong free speech statement to be brought forward. The ad hoc committee did look at universities' policies across the nation and specifically at a report from Yale University from 1975.

Trustee McGriff motioned to remove 6C1-1.008 Disruptive Behavior from the consent agenda until further examples of other university policies are brought back to the committee. Chair O'Connell asked VP Keith if there would be any trouble bringing the regulation back to the Ed Policy Committee in September. VP Keith said that would be fine and Trustee Scott seconded the motion. Chair O'Connell asked that the committee receive the Yale University report. The motion to remove the regulation from the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

6C1-3.0375 Tuition Cost

Provost Fouke briefly described the tuition costs per student credit hour.

6C1-3.0376 Miscellaneous Fees (Continuing Education Auxiliary Fund)

VP Keith explained the change in this regulation was to capture the accounting for these funds that were not reflected in the regulation.

6C1-4.003 Student Leader Eligibility (Student Organizations)

VP Keith discussed the changes to this regulation removes language that is inconsistent with other regulations and current practice. It clarifies that non-registered student organizations are able to use university facilities in the same way as public organizations.

6C1-4.007 Confidentiality of Student Records

Dr. Fouke explained this regulation describes what types of information are protected and defines what directory information is.

Trustee McGriff motioned to approve the following Regulations: 6C1-3.0375, 6C1-3.0376, 6C1-4.003, and 6C1-4.007. Trustee Ponce seconded the motion and the committee passed the regulations unanimously.

EP3. Approval of Annual Tenure and Permanent Status Cases

Trustee McGriff motioned to approve the 2008 tenure and permanent status cases, Trustee Ponce seconded the motion. Trustee Scott stated that he would like to make sure faculty know the committee appreciates all their hard work on receiving tenure and permanent status and the committee understands it takes excellence to receive and recognize what a high honor it is for faculty to receive. The committee unanimously approved the tenure and permanent status cases.

EP4. Approval of Degrees

Dr. Fouke gave a brief summary of the degrees up for the committees review:

approval of the B.S. in Sustainability and the Built Environment, approval of the Master of Historic Preservation, and approval to discontinue the Master of Health Science in Physical Therapy. Trustee Reilly motion to approve the degrees, Trustee McGriff seconded, and the committee passed the motion unanimously.

EP5. Approval of BOG Compliance Projects

Dr. Fouke explained that the Board of Governors (BOG) Compliance Projects codify how academic programs as well as centers and institutes are approved. The BOG requires university Board of Trustees approval of the current practice. Once the process is approved, in the future, the process will be assessed and modified as needed and brought back before the committee. Trustee McGriff motioned to approve the compliance projects, Trustee Scott seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

EP6. Approval of Facility Security Clearance

Dr. Fouke discussed the resolution to designate Dr. Win Phillips to obtain security clearance for individual Trustees and the President. Trustee Ponce motioned to approve the facility security clearance, Trustee McGriff seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

EP7. Approval of Honorary Degrees

Trustee Ponce motioned to approve the three honorary doctor of science degrees to Bo Diddle (posthumously), Ann Lurie, and Hamilton Smith. Trustee Scott seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The committee then reviewed the discussion/informational items on the agenda.

4.1 Renewable Energy Fee at the University of Florida

Kelly Moosbrugger and Adrian Erlenbach gave a presentation to the committee on a possible renewable energy fee. The presentation included information on support of the project, possible projects funded by fee, and the process of determining which projects to fund. The committee commended the students and Student Government for such a thorough presentation. VP Telles-Irvin explained that the next step for a future committee meeting would be to approve the actual fee, not just the proposal of a fee.

4.2 Revenue Estimating Model

Dr. Fouke stated there is a big information gap between how money is received by UF and then how that money is disbursed to the dean level. Marie Zeglen, Assistant Provost and Director of Institutional Planning and Research, and Sheri Austin, Director of University Budgets, worked on a model to provide more budget information for daily management. Ms. Austin and Dr. Zeglen gave a demonstration to the committee on the Revenue Estimating Cube.

4.3 Student Flow Model

Dr. Zeglen gave a demonstration of the Student Flow Model to show how students flow through the institution in order to try to predict graduation and retention rates

of students. She explained that the intent of the model was to support advisers, admissions, and colleges in enrollment management efforts. Eventually through regression models, the model should project enrollments. Dr. Zeglen clarified the model is not designed to be used in admission decisions, but in as an advising tool. Then Dr. Zeglen demonstrated a few of the models available.

4.4 Transfer Students Update

Dr. Zina Evans, Assistant Provost and Director of Admissions gave the committee an update on the incoming freshman class. She explained that they are right on target for an entering class of 6,660, and stated that the number of applications has increased by 10%, but the quality of the students applying has either increased or remained constant. The committee discussed several different aspects of admissions such as legacies and out-of-state students.

Dr. Evans then briefly explained the 2+2 Articulation Regulation and that the priority given to community college transfer students is legislatively required.

There was no new business and the committee adjourned at 5:08 p.m.