Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy
And
University of Florida Board of Trustees
Conference Call
July 12, 2012
2:49 p.m. EDST
123 Tigert Hall

Board Members Present:  David Brown (Chair), Marshall Criser (Vice-Chair), Cheri Brodeur, Susan Cameron, Chris Corr, Charlie Edwards, Michael Heekin, Alan Levine, Carolyn Roberts, Juliet Roulhac, Steven Scott, T.J. Villamil, Al Warrington

Others Present:  Bernie Machen, Joseph Glover, Win Phillips, Jack Payne, David Kratzer, Karon Grabel, Jamal Sowell, Jamie Lewis Keith, Jane Adams, Curtis Reynolds, Barbara Wingo, Matt Fajack, Elias Eldayrie, Paula Varnes Fussell, Cheryl May, Steve Orlando, Samatha Shavell (Alligator), Nathan Crabbe (Gainesville Sun)

Chair David Brown requested a roll call and, after a quorum was confirmed by Jamal Sowell, with all Trustees present, asked for a motion to convene the Committee on Educational Policy and Strategy and the Board of Trustees for a joint meeting, as all Trustees are on both. Trustee Carolyn Roberts made a motion, Trustee Marshall Criser seconded it, and the motion was unanimously passed.

Chair Brown addressed the discussion items:

- Tenure Upon Hire Cases
- Additional Reductions in FY 2013 Budget
- Update on the J. Wayne Reitz Union

He asked Dr. Joe Glover, Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost to present the Tenure Upon Hire Cases. Dr. Glover noted the candidates are Nick Place in IFAS, a Professor in Agricultural Education and Carlos Rinaldi in Engineering, a Professor in Biomedical Engineering. Trustee Al Warrington made a motion to approve, Trustee Cheri Brodeur seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next, Chair Brown asked President Machen to update the Board on the additional budget reductions arising from the nine percent (rather than 15 percent) differential tuition increase. Dr. Machen noted that the approval of the Budget Resolution in June requires a report back to the Board on additional budget reductions, if the tuition increase is less than 15 percent and he is providing that information at this time. Dr. Machen explained that the nine percent increase leaves an approximately $5M shortfall. The financial aid need, however, is reduced at a nine
percent, rather than 15 percent, tuition differential increase (reducing the shortfall by about $1.5M). This leaves a $3.5M-$4M shortfall. Units will need to phase in the additional cuts over the coming year, so this shortfall will be covered by strategic one time funds for this year. This will provide the units with additional time to plan and use attrition to meet the need for the additional cuts, which will be required going forward. Trustees Alan Levine and Al Warrington raised the possibility of the Board voting to authorize this course of action. Trustee Marshall Criser reminded the Board that authority was already given by the Board to the President in the June Budget Resolution to determine and phase in the additional cuts and that no further Board authorization is needed. Trustee Al Warrington made a motion to endorse President Machen’s plan, recognizing that the President is already authorized to determine and pursue the plan. Trustee Juliet Roulhac seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Trustee Alan Levine reaffirmed the need to not use reserves as the final approach to funding recurring budget cuts.

Chair Brown then called upon Vice President for Student Affairs David Kratzer to update the Board on the J. Wayne Reitz Union Project. Mr. Kratzer reminded the Board that the Board of Governors approved a $2.00 increase to the CITF fee to help fund the renovation portion of the project, and the bond funding package for the facility expansion portion of the project was sent to the Governor’s cabinet and received final approval. The state will issue the bonds in January, on-schedule and as planned. Mr. Kratzer reported the total cost to be approximately $75M and with a completion date of 2015. There are five finalists for architectural work, and selection is planned for tomorrow. The Construction Manager and HVAC contractors will be selected separately. Trustee Warrington complimented Mr. Kratzer for his leadership as Vice President for Student Affairs. Trustee Warrington also spoke highly of the work of Assistant Vice President for Facilities, Planning and Construction Carol Walker.

Chair Brown then addressed the Consent Agenda items:

- EP1 Tenure Upon Hire
- GV1 R12-106/ Establishment of the Strategic Initiatives Committee
- R12-107/ Establishment of the Presidential Search Committee

Governance Committee Chair Criser asked if any Trustee wanted further discussion of the proposal to establish a Strategic Initiatives Committee. All members of the Board were in attendance at the Governance Committee, which unanimously recommends this Committee’s creation, and no one desired further discussion.

Chair Brown then provided some background on the proposed establishment of a Presidential Search Committee to assist the Board in the selection of the next president of the University. The Board of Governors’ regulations (and good practice) require the establishment of a search committee to recommend candidates for president to the full Board. The Board’s Bylaws (Sections 5.1 and 5.2) set out how all committees are to be established and populated. Chair Brown also described his commitment to Board and stakeholder involvement in the search. The Board will approve the search criteria. There will be a joint meeting of the Search Committee and the full Board in August to discuss, and for the Board to finalize and approve, the search criteria, which will be used by the Search Committee and included in a job description. There will be broad stakeholder involvement on the Committee and in the search. The full Board will have robust and critical involvement in the search, will be kept well-informed of the Search Committee’s work, and can have other joint meetings if needed. The Board will get notice of all Committee meetings and anyone who has time is very welcome to attend. The full Board will
interview a number of candidates and will vote to select the President. Chair Brown asked if there were any questions or discussion. Trustees expressed support of the approach.

Chair Brown then called for a motion and second to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Warrington made the motion, Trustee Roulhac seconded it, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Brown then brought the Board’s attention to the Non-Consent Agenda item:

R12-108 Amended Naming, The Austin Cary Forest.

Vice President and General Counsel Jamie Keith reminded the Board that this item is a Non-Consent Agenda item because a naming must be voted on separately under the Board of Governors regulations.

Sr. Vice President for Agricultural Affairs Jack Payne presented this item. Dr. Payne told the Board that in 1936 the University of Florida acquired a 2,000-acre forest in Alachua County, named the Austin Cary Memorial Forest, after a pioneer in the forestry profession who was an early supporter of the School of Forest Resources and Conservation. He stated IFAS is asking the Board to rename the forest to remove “Memorial” from its name in order to better capture the forest’s dynamic and ongoing role in research, teaching and extension.

Chair Brown asked for a motion and second to approve R12-108, the Amended Naming of the Austin Cary Forest. Trustee Levin made the motion, Trustee Roulhac seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Brown asked for discussion. Trustee Michael Heekin asked to speak regarding the budget. He said he thought it would be helpful to have a one-to-two-day workshop on UF financial matters for any interested Trustees. Chair Brown explored that approach or, as an alternative, having a meaningful discussion of UF financial matters as part of a retreat. Trustees Roberts and Roulhac thought that incorporating a discussion of UF’s financial matters in a retreat would be a good idea. President Machen commented that having such a session at a retreat is very welcome and ties into retreat goals well.

Chair Brown thanked everyone for being available for this meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Roberts made a motion, Trustee Susan Cameron seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.