



**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 7, 2014

239 Tigert Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Time Convened: 3:04 p.m. EST

Time Adjourned: 3:20 p.m. EST

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Committee Co-Chair, Christopher T. Corr called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. EST

Members present were:

Christopher T. Corr and David M. Thomas, Co-Chairs, C. David Brown, II, Susan M. Cameron, Marc W. Heft, and Steven M. Scott. Juliet M. Roulhac was not able to attend.

Others present were:

Provost Joseph Glover, Senior Vice President Winfred Phillips, Vice Presidents Zina Evans and Jamie Lewis Keith, Special Assistant to the President Jamal Sowell, Scott Nygren, Cheri Brodeur, Aaron Hoover, Melissa Orth, Janine Sikes and Cheryl May

2.0 Verification of Quorum

After a roll call, a quorum was confirmed, with all members present except for Trustee Roulhac.

3.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

None

The Committee considered the following Action Items:

4.0 Action Items

SI1. Mission Statement

Co-Chair Corr read the mission statement and opened the meeting for discussion. Trustee Scott proposed that the word “developing” in the third sentence be changed to “enabling,” which would read as follows: “Our mission is enabling students to become the next generation of leaders...”

The Committee Co-Chair asked for a motion to approve Action Item SI1 which was made by

Trustee Cameron and Seconded by Trustee Scott. The Co-Chair asked for further discussion to which Trustee Heft indicated that he would present this to the Senate Steering Committee at their meeting on January 9, 2014 as an information item. Trustee Edwards complimented the Committee on doing a great job with this project. The Co-Chair then asked for all in favor of the motion and any opposed and the motion was approved unanimously.

The following Discussion/Informational Items were the addressed by the Committee:

5.0 Discussion/Informational Items

The Committee did not have any discussion or informational items on the agenda.

6.0 Adjourn

After asking for any further discussion and hearing none, Co-Chair Corr asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Trustee Scott and a second which was made by Trustee Cameron, and, with no further discussion desired, the motion was passed unanimously and the University of Florida Committee on Strategic Initiatives meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. EST.

Draft Mission Statement

The University of Florida is a comprehensive learning institution built on a land grant foundation.

We are a diverse community dedicated to shaping a better future for Florida, the nation and the world.

Our mission is developing students to be the next generation of leaders through excellence in education and research; and through creating, preserving, and sharing knowledge and expertise for economic, cultural and societal benefit.

Mission Statement

Continuation of the Discussion
Strategic Initiatives Committee
December 2013

Recent History

- In June 2013, the Strategic Initiatives Committee reviewed the current mission statement and discussed a mission statement drafted by a committee of the Faculty Senate.
- And, discussed the BOT's philosophical approach to UF's mission and alignment with strategy and operations.
- And, discussed the approach to revising the mission statement considering all of the above.

Recent History

A small group of staff was asked to review the draft mission statement, while keeping in mind core principles the BOT has affirmed on multiple occasions. These core principles include:

1. UF's land-grant mission
2. UF's research emphasis
3. UF's rise to preeminence
4. UF's responsibility to assist state and nation to improve economic and social conditions

Review

Current Mission Statement

The University of Florida is a public land-grant, sea-grant and space-grant research university, one of the most comprehensive in the United States. The university encompasses virtually all academic and professional disciplines. It is the largest and oldest of Florida's eleven universities, a member of the Association of American Universities and has high national rankings by academic assessment institutions. Its faculty and staff are dedicated to the common pursuit of the university's threefold mission: teaching, research and service.

The University of Florida belongs to a tradition of great universities. Together with its undergraduate and graduate students, UF faculty participate in an educational process that links the history of Western Europe with the traditions and cultures of all societies, explores the physical and biological universes and nurtures generations of young people from diverse backgrounds to address the needs of the world's societies.

The university welcomes the full exploration of its intellectual boundaries and supports its faculty and students in the creation of new knowledge and the pursuit of new ideas.

1. **Teaching** is a fundamental purpose of this university at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.
2. **Research and scholarship** are integral to the educational process and to the expansion of our understanding of the natural world, the intellect and the senses.
3. **Service** reflects the university's obligation to share the benefits of its research and knowledge for the public good. The university serves the nation's and the state's critical needs by contributing to a well-qualified and broadly diverse citizenry, leadership and workforce.

The University of Florida must create the broadly diverse environment necessary to foster multi-cultural skills and perspectives in its teaching and research for its students to contribute and succeed in the world of the 21st century.

These three interlocking elements — teaching, research and scholarship, and service — span all the university's academic disciplines and represent the university's commitment to lead and serve the state of Florida, the nation and the world by pursuing and disseminating new knowledge while building upon the experiences of the past. The university aspires to advance by strengthening the human condition and improving the quality of life.

Review

Faculty Senate Draft

The University of Florida is a uniquely comprehensive learning institution, built on a land, sea, and space grant foundation.

We are a diverse community dedicated to making the world a better place, united in our commitment to diverse approaches as a means to engage the world's greatest challenges.

Our mission is to promote open inquiry; to inspire scholarship and excellence; to generate, preserve, and disseminate knowledge; to learn, create, lead and serve for the benefit of the people of Florida, the nation, and the world.

Revised/Current Draft

Our mission is to shape a better future for Florida and the world through developing students to be the next generation of leaders; through excellence in research and graduate education; and through creating, preserving and sharing knowledge and expertise for economic, cultural and societal benefit.

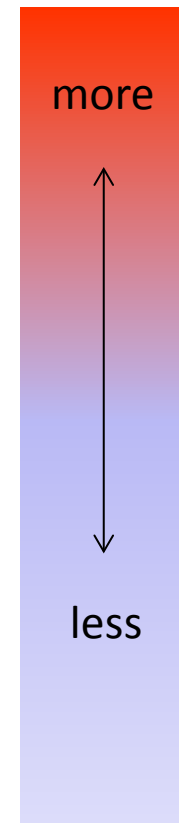
Comments

- The two drafts of the mission statement were circulated to Trustees, VPs, Deans, Faculty Councils and Senators involved with the original drafting.
 - Comments were received from College Faculty Assemblies (or equivalent) – Business and PPHP
 - Comments were received from individuals
 - The majority of the comments favored the revised version of the mission statement, but many also suggested additional adjustments

Comments

Input generally fell into the following categories:

- Good, support the draft with no edits
- Add “diversity”
- Delete “graduate” or add “undergraduate”
- Reference land grant mission
- Add synergy with medical center
- Add “nation” in addition to “Florida & the world”
- Add reference to promoting civic engagement
- Rewrite to reflect philosophical approach to teaching/learning



Proposal/Process

- Discuss
- Proposed next step: Chair to work with President's staff to synthesize a final draft, keeping in mind:
 - The core principles (slide 4)
 - Input received
 - Succinct is better
- Seek Faculty Senate comment
- Present for review at next BOT meeting