



**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC, FACULTY
AND STUDENT SUCCESS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATIONS**

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

February 13, 2023

Time Convened: 11:09 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:41 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Rahul Patel (Committee Chair), David L. Brandon, Richard P. Cole, Christopher T. Corr, Morteza “Mori” Hosseini (Board Chair), Lauren D. Lemasters, Daniel T. O’Keefe, Marsha D. Powers, Fred S. Ridley, and Anita G. Zucker.

Others present:

Ben Sasse, President; Joseph Glover, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Amy Hass, Vice President and General Counsel; Mark Kaplan, Vice President for Government and Community Relations and University Secretary; Steve Orlando, Interim Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing; Mary Parker, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Associate Provost; Curtis Reynolds, Vice President for Business Affairs; Heather White, Vice President for Student Life; members of the University of Florida community, and the public.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Committee Chair Rahul Patel welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m. He noted that this was an informational meeting only and that there would be no voting.

2.0 Roll Call

Board Staff conducted a roll call and Committee members were present except Trustee Bill Heavener and Trustee Amanda Phalin.

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for March Meeting

3.1 Review Draft Minutes

Committee Chair Patel noted that we will review and approve the following minutes at the March BOT meeting:

December 8, 2022

3.2 Review Action Items

AFSSPRSC1 Tenure Upon Hire

Provost Joe Glover indicated there were three Tenure Upon Hire cases at this time but there may be additional cases prior to the March meeting.

- Dr. Changying Li, Professor, Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering, IFAS
- Dr. Andrew Short, Professor and Chair, Department of Entomology and Nematology, IFAS
- Dr. Heng Xu, Professor, Department of Management, Warrington College of Business

AFSSPRSC2 New Degree: M.S. in Business Analytics

Provost Glover indicated that the Warrington College Business is proposing a New Master of Science in Business Analytics. The new degree will provide analytic computing, business, and communication skills to prepare students to work in various industries. They will learn how to become a crucial translator of functional business needs into analytics processes and analyses. Provost Glover indicated that this new degree was created for the new West Palm Beach campus portfolio of degrees.

Board Chair Hosseini indicated a comprehensive plan for West Palm Beach should be put together for the president to review and discuss with administration. That plan should address why we should have a presence in West Palm Beach, what needs we are filling, and how we plan on filling that need.

President Sasse agreed and indicated that a framework about all potential opportunities outside of Gainesville should address the following five questions, with the last three based on the first two, including:

- What programs do we intend to offer beyond Gainesville and what needs do they fill?
- What geographies align with those needs?
- What specific property is in mind?
- What funding is available?
- What philanthropy or private funding is available?

Provost Glover indicated that the West Palm Beach educational site proposal was sent to the Board of Governors in January. Committee Chair Patel asked Provost Glover to address the questions raised by Chairman Hosseini and President Sasse at the March committee meeting. Board Chair Hosseini noted that it is important to obtain approval for the West Palm Beach campus from the Board of Governors.

AFSSPRSC3 Degree Program Changes

Provost Glover indicated that the College of Medicine is requesting to reduce the number of credit hours from 36 to 30 for the Master of Science with a major in Medical Sciences and a concentration in Gerontology. The change will align with the Graduate Council's minimum degree requirements and will not impact initial enrollment, retention, or graduation.

3.3 Review Discussion Items

Admissions Update

Associate Provost and Vice President for Enrollment Management, Mary Parker will give an overview of the enrollment numbers for the incoming class as well as updates on the Division and the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan. Provost Glover reminded the committee there

will be limited information on the Fall 2023 class at the time of the meeting, but more information would be available about the class later.

Board Chair Hosseini stated that out of state tuition increases were going to be discussed at the Board of Governors in March and that UF should have a thoughtful plan consistent with Board of Governors guidance.

Faculty Senate Update

Committee Chair Patel stated that the committee would get an update from Faculty Senate Chair and Trustee Amanda Phalin.

Student Body President Update

Committee Chair Patel stated that the committee would get an update from Student Body President and Trustee Lauren Lemasters.

Student Life Update

Committee Chair Patel stated that the committee would get an update from Vice President Heather White.

Mental Health Update

Committee Chair Patel stated that Trustee Richard Cole will give an update on the mental health recommendations that were made by the Subcommittee on Mental Health last year.

Rankings Analysis Update

Assistant Provost Cathy Lebo will give an update on the metrics tracked by U.S. News and World Report and the Board of Governors performance metrics. Board Chair Hosseini emphasized the importance of continuing to have a plan around these metrics.

West Palm Beach Update

Committee Chair Patel indicated that Provost Glover will give an update on the West Palm Beach academic programming as well as the other items mentioned during the discussion of Action Item AFSSPRSC 2 above.

Honors Search Update

Committee Chair Patel stated that Associate Provost Angela Lindner will give an update on the search for the Director of the Honors Program. Board Chair Hosseini indicated that the head of the Honors Program is important to the Board of Trustees and its strategic vision. He stated that President Sasse should be involved with the final decision making. Committee Chair Patel agreed and noted the investment the Board is making particularly in the Honors dorm.

New Centers/Institutes

Provost Glover stated that there were three new Centers/Institutes as follows:

- AI, Cybersecurity Governance and Privacy Management Center (Warrington College of Business)
- UF Scripps Biomedical Research Institute

- UF Prevention and Intervention Network (PIN) for Youth, Families, Schools and Communities (College of Education)

4.0 New Business

Board Chair Hosseini stated that UF's future is bright, and we are making history. He thanked Committee Chair Patel and trustees for work on rankings and shared the benefit it has for the University. He asked that Provost Glover and Cathy Lebo make sure they have a plan in place and to let the Board know if they need anything.

President Sasse thanked Committee Chair Patel for his work on the committee along with Provost Glover and Assistant Provost Lebo for helping him understand our performance metrics. He noted we are radically underpriced for out of state student tuition.

5.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

DRAFT