

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida
Board of Trustees
November 5, 2004
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
239 Tigert Hall

All Committee Members Present: Dianna Morgan, Chair (via conference phone); Pierre Ramond; Jamal Sowell; and Albert Thweatt, Jr. (via conference phone)

Others Present Include: Doug Barrett, David Colburn, Ken Gerhardt, Joe Glover, and Patricia Telles-Irvin

Committee Chair Dianna Morgan called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and explained the purpose of the meeting was a pre-meeting for the December committee meeting to give the university time to provide further information or clarification on agenda items, if needed. The committee also discussed that the committee would go over the agenda items but all formal voting would take place at the December committee meeting.

Trustee Morgan asked to approve the August 16th minutes, Dr. Thweatt made the motion, Dr. Ramond seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously. She then asked Dr. Colburn to lead the agenda.

“Tenure Upon Hire”, the first agenda item, was discussed by Dr. Colburn. He informed the committee that a website has been developed for viewing the tenure upon hire cases: www.trustees.ufl.edu/edupolicy/tenure/ for the Trustees. He then gave a brief summary of the 5 tenure cases and noted that 2 more were awaiting the President’s approval. The committee agreed that it would take a vote on the cases at the December meeting.

The second agenda item discussed was the “New Degree Programs.” Dr. Colburn stated that in December they would be asking the committee to approve two new degrees: Doctor of Physical Therapy and Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies. The committee briefly discussed the two degrees and their costs as well as their place in the strategic plan. They then decided to have the formal vote in December and asked that the committee be given the consequences for the new degrees on the strategic plan.

Dr. Colburn then commented that there will be some new student local fees proposed at the December meeting which will require a formal committee vote, but the trustees will be provided with the complete fee proposal prior to the December meeting for review.

The committee then went on to review the next agenda item, “AAU Peer Institution Comparisons.” Trustee Morgan asked that Patricia Telles-Irvin and Jane Adams develop 3 or 4 key message points to show the long-term tuition policy to help respond to questions on tuition increases. The message points could communicate such items as long-term tuition policies, looking at peer institutions, helping to fund strategic plan, and helping to keep costs

commiserate with the benefits of the education received. Trustee Morgan asked if a draft of the policy statement could be available for the December meeting. Dr. Colburn and Dr. Telles-Irvin both responded that the President is still developing and it will likely not be ready for the December meeting.

The next agenda item discussed was the “Alliance Program.” The committee reviewed the Alliance Program update and asked that at the December meeting that they receive a short list of potential expansion areas and costs associated with each.

Then Dr. Colburn went on to discuss “Graduate Enrollment.” Trustee Morgan asked that based on the strategic plan and the desire to grow the graduate program, have numeric goals been assigned and how does UF compare with the goal. Dr. Colburn explained that each year they meet with the deans to discuss their ability to increase the graduate program.

Trustee Ramond asked that the committee be provided with the ratio of PhDs awarded to Bachelors degrees awarded over the past several years.

Trustee Morgan asked what are the barriers to growth and is the university moving at the pace it wants to. Dr. Colburn stated that a few of the barriers are graduate assistantships/fellowships, recruiting with waivers and the challenge of class size having more and better faculty to address both undergraduate and graduate needs. Ms. Morgan asked which needs to occur first – increasing revenue, increasing faculty credentials, or availability of good graduate students.

She then asked what the timing of the \$100 million campaign to attract 200 faculty. Dr. Colburn replied that the President and VP Robell are still working out the details, but that the professorial campaign will precede the larger campaign, but the President will need to let the Trustees know when these campaigns are scheduled to occur.

Dr. Colburn stated that at the March meeting, the faculty hires will be shared and then in the fall (2005) the results of the searches will be available. Dr. Thweatt asked that they be given racial/ethnic breakdowns for the new faculty. Dr. Colburn responded that they will provide as much detailed information as possible.

The Committee then discussed the “Performance Accountability Measures”. Dr. Glover gave the committee an update from the Board of Governors and Dr. Ramond gave the committee the feeling from the Faculty Senate on accountability measures. Ms. Morgan suggested that the trustees should try to attend the Board of Governor meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.