

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
September 7, 2006
2:45 – 4:00 p.m.
215C President's Room
Emerson Alumni Hall
University of Florida

Committee Members Present: Carlos Alfonso, Chair; Cynthia O'Connell; John Boyles; and Danaya Wright

Others Present: Janie Fouke, Patricia Telles-Irvin, and Zina Evans

Committee Chair Carlos Alfonso called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the May 25, 2006 conference call minutes and the June 15, 2006 committee meeting minutes. Trustee Wright motioned to approve the minutes, Trustee O'Connell seconded and the minutes were passed unanimously.

Tenure Upon Hire

Trustee Alfonso called for discussion of the tenure upon hire cases: Linda Bartoshuk, Geoffrey Dahl, John Hayes, Glen Hoffsis, John Kirkpatrick, Christopher Silver, and Ghatu Subhash. No questions were raised, Trustee O'Connell made a motion to approve the tenure upon hire cases, Trustee Wright seconded, and the motion carried with unanimous approval.

Proposed University of Florida Regulations

The committee discussed the UF Regulation on Tuition Cost (6C1-3.0375). Dr. Fouke stated the regulation was just a revision to correct the undergraduate non-resident tuition fee, previously approved with an incorrect amount. Trustee Wright made the motion to approve UF Regulation 6C1-3.0375. Trustee O'Connell seconded, and the motion carried with unanimous approval.

National Merit (NM) Guidelines

An extensive discussion was held by the committee regarding the National Merit guidelines. The motion was clarified as a motion to bring UF's commitment for National Merits more in line with peer groups.

Trustee Boyles inquired about the redirection of funds saved by not awarding NMs? Dr. Fouke stated the savings by the new proposal would not be realized for a few years; however, the additional funding would assist with Florida Opportunity Scholars (FOS), the Graduate School and other student academic programs.

Trustee Fernandez addressed the committee stating that he was supportive of the new proposal, yet requested the number of NMs at UF be monitored closely to ensure this change does not cause UF's numbers to drop. He suggested the committee monitor and review the results to see the long-term effects. He would like to revisit the topic in 18 months.

Trustee Boyles requested when reallocating funds that consideration be given not only to FOS, but also to other need-based students.

Trustee Alfonso called for a motion to approve the following NM guidelines:

1. "UF will continue to recruit and reward academic excellence, including NM Finalists and Scholars, believing that the strength of its programs should be the dominant factor in a student's decision to select UF."
2. "UF will bring its award size more in line with peer schools, effective Fall 2007."

Trustee Wright motioned to approve the guidelines, Trustee O'Connell seconded.

Trustee Alfonso opened the floor for discussion. The committee continued discussions and Trustee Alfonso stated the university will continue monitoring the program. He provided a recap of the four year awards for 2007; a total of \$5,000 for in-state students and \$17,000 for out-of-state students.

After discussion, the committee unanimously approved the National Merit Guidelines.

Discussion Items:

Student Government Tuition Survey

Trustee Boyles introduced Ilan Kaufer, Student Government Secretary of Finance and Fees, to the committee and requested he discuss the tuition survey. Mr. Kaufer stated the purpose of the survey was to obtain input from the student body on tuition, yet keep the survey brief and to the point. Student Government is hopeful the survey will avoid knee-jerk reactions by the student body regarding tuition increases.

Trustee Boyles stated the survey would be distributed in mid-October. He is hopeful the results will be completed by November 30th.

Admissions Update

Dr. Zina Evans provided the committee with a comprehensive admissions update. She stated the entering freshmen class was smaller by design. The goal was a freshmen class of 6,650 and the actual class size is 6,774. The number of applications increased by over 2,000 or 10%, but the number admitted was lower with 10,600 being admitted.

She distributed a two-page document to all trustees which provided specifics on comparisons of 2006 and 2005 applications, admissions, and enrollment.

Florida Opportunity Scholars (FOS) Update

Dr. Telles-Irvin provided an update of the FOS program and stated there are 434 students, of which 66% are female and 76% are minorities: 182 African American, 102 Hispanic, 49 Asian, and 93 White. The cost for this year is \$1.6M. A match is forthcoming. The average award to each student is approximately \$4,200.

Sorority and Fraternity Affairs Update

Dr. Telles-Irvin provided the committee with an update regarding the 2010 regulation mandating installation of sprinkler systems in the Sorority and Fraternity Houses. Funding of 1.2M in loans is available to houses to make the appropriate updates for fire safety. There were 18 houses without sprinklers, 11 houses accepted loans and three are still considering. There is a November 30th deadline to take advantage of the loan opportunity. After this date houses will be on their own financially to comply with the 2010 Sprinkler Regulation. Dr. Telles-Irvin praised the Housing Department for their outstanding work on this initiative.

Dr. Telles-Irvin stated a few houses have requested a management package for maintaining house and grounds. Student Affairs has developed a pilot program with 2-3 houses to determine if it would prove beneficial.

Dr. Telles-Irvin commented that Greek Life is thriving with 1300 pledges.

Dr. Telles-Irvin stated the NCAA certification was submitted. The number of visitors coming to UF for site visit and the number of days spent on campus (October 17-18, 2006) were reduced. This represents the quality of the program. Trustee Alfonso gave his congratulations.

The committee adjourned at 4:00 p.m.