

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
March 9, 2007
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
239 Tigert Hall
University of Florida

Committee Members Present: Carlos Alfonso, Chair (via telephone); Cynthia O’Connell (via telephone); Danaya Wright; John Boyles

Others Present: Janie Fouke, Kyle Cavanaugh (via telephone), Brian Beach, Jane Adams, Ryan Moseley (Student Body Treasurer), Zina Evans and Alligator Reporter

Committee Chair Carlos Alfonso called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Action Items:

Tenure Upon Hire

Chairman Alfonso requested Dr. Fouke comment on the tenure upon hire case, Kelli R. Brown.

Regulations

Kyle Cavanaugh provided the committee with highlights about university regulation changes in the employment area.

Leaves: updates to regulations regarding sick leave balance transfers from other state entities, extends eligibility for parental leave to domestic partners of expectant or adoptive parents, conforms military leave policy to law and updates definition of “immediate family member” under the regulation to include domestic partners for sick leave purposes.

Employment of relatives: Two clean-up items - title of Vice President for Human Resources and adds domestic partners.

Research Misconduct: Updates the University’s policy on dealing with conduct in research, including definition of misconduct and clarifying requirements for finding misconduct.

Dr. Fouke then provided the committee with highlights of other university regulation changes before the committee.

Community Campaign: Change provides that participating organizations may receive the same percentage of undesignated funds as the percentage of designated funds they receive.

Works & Inventions: Updates regulation to reflect to current versions of University’s Intellectual Property Policy; Work Disclosure Form and Invention Disclosure Form.

Housing Rental Rates

Dr. Fouke advised the committee it would be voting on new housing rates at its March 30 meeting and that the proposed fee increase is 2% over the last year's rate, an increase of \$8/month.

Degree Changes

Dr. Fouke summarized the proposed degree changes. The committee's approval is being sought to discontinue the Master of Civil Engineering with a major in Civil Engineering, Engineer degree with a major in Civil Engineering, Engineer Degree with a major in Coastal and Oceanographic Engineering and the Ph.D. in International Relations. Also, the business school would like to change its M.S. with a major in Business Administration with a concentration in Entrepreneurship to an M.S. with a major in Entrepreneurship. Dr. Fouke noted to the Committee that students currently can receive a concentration in Entrepreneurship but want to be able to major in it.

Discussion Items:

Department Name Change

Dr. Fouke advised the committee that the Department of Decision and Information Sciences would like to change its name to the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management. Trustee O'Connell inquired about whether the name change was consistent with other departments nationwide and Dr. Fouke confirmed that to be the case. ***[The item is currently before the Faculty Senate and will be brought to the Board in June.]***

Early Admissions

Dr. Fouke requested that Dr. Zina Evans provide an overview of the proposed changes to the early admissions process.

Dr. Evans explained that one deadline in early November with a release date in February, which is still early relative to other institutions, is contemplated for early admissions. In response to a question from Trustee Alfonso, Dr. Evans explained that this would allow students to take the December SAT and ACT tests and for the scores to be considered by the University.

Trustee O'Connell inquired as to which other institutions have November deadlines and Dr. Evans stated that UNC – Chapel Hill, UVA, Cal-Berkeley, among others, have a November deadline. Trustee O'Connell then inquired about other Florida public universities and Dr. Evans stated that FSU has 4 deadlines and ***[USF and UCF have a rolling deadline through May.]***

Trustee Alfonso stated that this seems like a well thought out and logical model which will hopefully reduce stress on students and also should reduce pressure on University staff. Trustee O'Connell concurred in her support of the change, stating that the current early decision process was put in place to address a different set of circumstances than exists today.

Trustee Alfonso inquired as to whether committee approval of the change is required and Dr. Fouke explained that she believed making this change was well below the Board level. Trustee Alfonso requested that Dr. Fouke advise the committee at the June meeting whether its approval is required.

Opportunity Scholars

Dr. Fouke asked whether anyone desired additional information about the Opportunity Scholars program at the upcoming meeting. Trustee O'Connell requested an update and Dr. Fouke indicated it would be an update regarding numbers. Trustee O'Connell indicated that the limited update would be okay.

Senate Bills 1954 and 1956 – Underage Drinking

Dr. Fouke advised the committee that these bills were being brought to the committee's attention simply for information. Dr. Fouke then provided the committee with background information about the University's current underage drinking policies and programs and an overview of the proposed legislation, including the addition of a requirement to report to the Governor and Legislature regarding the University's efforts in this area and requiring registration of kegs at the state level. Dr. Fouke inquired as to whether the committee would like to keep this item on the agenda. Trustee Alfonso requested an update on the status of the bills be provided.

Pappas Report

Dr. Fouke next mentioned that the Board would have a resolution in support of the Pappas Report on its March agenda. Trustee Alfonso inquired as to whether this item would be on committee's agenda. Brian Beach advised that it would be considered by the full Board and not by committee. Trustee Alfonso requested information be provided to the committee at the upcoming March meeting.

Searches Update

Dr. Fouke next provided a searches update. She indicated that a new associate provost for Undergraduate Affairs, Dr. Daniel A. Wubah, had been hired and that he has lots of experience in the undergraduate area. Dr. Fouke then informed the committee that Dr. Hank Frierson from UNC would be hired as the new Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School.

Trustee Wright inquired as to whether any CLAS decisions had been made yet and Dr. Fouke responded that no decision had been made; that the matter was in progress.

Dr. Fouke indicated that medical school Dean search and Dean of Libraries searches are currently underway.

Other Issues:

Trustee O'Connell asked about the status of minus grades report. Dr. Fouke responded that Dr. Machen is currently working on a draft report. *[Trustee Wright stated that Dr. Machen announced at the February 22 Faculty Senate meeting that all are now in agreement.]*

Trustee O'Connell inquired about the Merit Scholars program and recruitment process changes and whether any changes in numbers had been detected? Dr. Fouke explained that a definite answer could not be provided until May. Dr. Evans indicated that the numbers so far were strong. Trustee O'Connell asked that an update be provided at the appropriate time.

Trustee Boyles added that student input is being sought for the minus grades report. Trustee Alfonso asked that a copy of the report be provided to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.