

Committee on Educational Policy & Strategy Minutes
University of Florida Board of Trustees
December 2, 2008
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
239 Tigert Hall

Committee members in attendance: Cindy O'Connell, Chair (via telephone) and Steven Scott (via telephone)

Committee members absent: Frank Bova, Mac McGriff, Danny Ponce, and Kevin Reilly

Others in attendance: Meredith Morris Babb, Roland Daniels (via telephone), Joe Glover, Janine Sikes, Patricia Telles-Irvin, Thomas Stewart (Alligator), and Frank Brocko (student)

Trustee O'Connell called to the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

There was no discussion on the minutes from the September 4, 2008 and September 22, 2008 meetings.

Dr. Telles-Irvin discussed the proposed fee increases as well as the proposed housing rental rate increases.

The committee briefly discussed the proposed sustainability fee and the process that remains for approval.

Provost Glover introduced and gave some background information on the University Press of Florida (UPF) Academic Infrastructure Service Organization (AISO) proposal. Dr. Glover stated that the Board of Governors (BOG) requested the proposal as an application for re-certification of the UPF. Once reviewed and approved by the UF Board of Trustees, the AISO will be submitted to the BOG for approval.

Dr. Glover introduced Meredith Morris Babb, Director of UPF and asked Director Babb to comment on the AISO.

Trustee O'Connell asked Director Babb to go through the goals of the UPF.

1. Increase visibility and become one of the top 15 presses. Currently UPF published about 110 publications a year and would need to increase that number to 145.
2. Create a division that allows organizations to take advantage of their expertise in publishing. Everything but printing of books is done in-house.
3. Create a center for scholarly communications

Director Babb briefly went through the rest of the attachments in the proposal and discussed that the budget submitted may no longer be realistic, however, she noted that in all the funding requests with the exception of salary, no request was recurring, just special funding requests.

Trustee O'Connell asked if a Legislative Budget Request was being submitted for the funding. Dr. Glover replied that it had been submitted and was approved by the BOG.

The committee briefly covered the discussion items on the agenda, but a little more detail was given on the Update on Administrative Transitions agenda item. After the discussion, the committee asked that a timetable on the search process be provided at the December meeting.

Dr. Telles-Irvin provided an update to the committee on the Student Conduct Code/Chancellor update.

Trustee O'Connell added a new discussion item – in light of the current economy how is the Strategic Work Plan adapting to the current situation. Dr. Glover commented that due to the magnitude of the budget cuts, it may not be possible to preserve all parts of the Work Plan, but that discussion is just starting. Trustee O'Connell asked that the committee receive an update on the situation.

Trustee O'Connell also requested the committee receive a copy of Faculty Senate notes that gave a recap of the issues before the Faculty Senate. This information should be included as a standard discussion item and could be provided via e-mail.

Trustee Daniels asked if any follow-up had been given after the June meeting when Dr. Wubah presented a plan to review curriculum issues. Dr. Glover responded that this issue has developed into a large committee co-chaired by Jill Varnes and Edward Schaefer. The committee is currently engaged in discussions and are attempting by the end of January to formulate a report. The report at that time should incorporate the two sub-committees' information regarding the current state of undergraduate curriculum and best practices. When Dr. Glover gave the committee its charge, he emphasized breaking the large project down to show progress, to review product and to look at pieces to implement incrementally. Trustee O'Connell asked Dr. Glover or Dr. Wubah to give a report to the committee at the December meeting.

Trustee O'Connell asked for additions to the agenda. There were none.

The committee meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.