



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

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

March 31, 2022

Time Convened: 9:02 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 9:30 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Rahul Patel (Committee Chair), David C. Bloom, David L. Brandon, Cooper L. Brown, Richard P. Cole, Thomas G. Kuntz, Daniel T. O’Keefe, Marsha D. Power, Anita G. Zucker

Others present:

W. Kent Fuchs, President, Chris Cowen, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Elias Eldayrie, Vice President and Chief Information Officer; 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; D’Andra Mull, Vice President for Student Life; Steve Orlando, Interim Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing; Mary Parker, Associate Provost and Vice President for Enrollment Management; Curtis Reynolds, Vice President for Business Affairs; Melanie Schramm, Assistant Vice President for Marketing; Nicole Stedman, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, and members of the University of Florida community.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Committee Chair Rahul Patel welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 9:02 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 Board Chair Mori Hosseini and Trustee James W. Heavener who had conflicts.

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for April Meeting

3.1 Review Draft Minutes

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

- December 3, 2021 – Committee
- January 13, February 17, March 17, 2022- Subcommittee on Mental Health
- March 31, 2022 – Pre-Meeting

3.2 Review Action Items

Tenure Upon Hire

Provost Joe Glover indicated six Tenure Upon Hire cases have met the criteria for tenure and have been recommended to receive tenure. He indicated that there may be additional cases to review at the April meeting. The six cases are as follows:

- Panagiotis Benos, Professor, Department of Epidemiology (jointly with College of Public Health and Health Professions/College of Medicine)
- Di Fang, Associate Professor, Department of Food and Resource Economics (IFAS/CALS)
- Dianne McFarlane, Professor and Chair, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences (College of Veterinary Medicine)
- Daniel Swale, Associate Professor, Department of Entomology and Nematology (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences)
- Nan Zhang, Professor, Department of Management, Warrington College of Business
- Joseph Ladapo, Professor, Department of Medicine, College of Medicine

Trustee Kuntz asked if the offer letter contained a condition of employment on the number of classes that would be taught. Provost Glover indicated it was up to the Department Chair and/or Dean to give the assignment.

Degree Terminations

Provost Glover discussed the proposed two new degree terminations as follows:

The Levin College of Law is requesting to terminate the LLM in Environmental Land Use Law. The program does not currently have any students enrolled due to the popularity of the LLM in Tax and LLM in International Tax.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is requesting to terminate the Master of Arts in Teaching-Latin. The program does not currently have any students enrolled in the program and no students will be impacted by the termination. Provost Glover stated that the Department of Classics continues to offer classes in Latin.

Degree Changes

Provost Glover provided an overview of the three degree program changes requested by the colleges as follows:

The College of Design, Construction and Planning is requesting to reduce the number of credit hours from 144 to 120 in the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree. The reduction is part of a plan to modify the curriculum from a 5-year degree to a 4-year degree.

The College of Design, Construction and Planning is requesting to update the common prerequisites to align with the current curriculum for the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management.

The College of Medicine is requesting to reduce the number of elective credits from 20 to 16 credit hours for its Medical Education program. This would reduce the total number of credits needed for graduation from 196 to 192.

Special Purpose Center

Provost Glover highlighted a proposal by the College of Design, Construction and Planning for a Special Purpose Center in Jacksonville, Florida called CityLab-Jacksonville (JaxLab). This center would provide an additional CityLab location to offer the accredited Master of Architecture professional degree and Master of Science in Architectural Studies degree which will focus on sustainability and regenerative design and provide an active research location for the School's Center for Hydro-Generated Urbanism. This Special Purpose Center is Board of Governor's terminology.

Accountability Plan

Provost Glover advised that the Accountability Plan will be available a week prior to the April Board meeting. The Plan will focus on the metrics tracked by the Board of Governors which is an important mechanism for the performance funding. Chair Patel added it is an important document for everyone to review.

New Degree

Provost Glover discussed the new degree that the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering has proposed for a new Ph.D. and M.S. in Engineering Education. The new degree will prepare graduate students to become researchers, practitioners, future leaders, and agents of positive change in engineering education. Engineering Education is a growing field with strong demand from students who hold an engineering bachelor's and/or master's degree but who want to focus their career on education.

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.

Vice Chair Kuntz asked VP Parker to provide an update on the numbers for the Honors Program and if we are losing honors students – to whom. VP Parker noted this will be included in her presentation.

Trustee Cole asked if VP Parker could also update the Board on how the University reviews legacy applications.

Graduate Student Update

Chair Patel indicated that at the last BOT meeting, Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School Nicole Stedman gave a brief update that focused on the graduate student experience after only being on the job for six days. Dean Stedman will provide a preliminary observation of the initiatives going forward. She added she has a lot more perspective and insight to share including admissions, taking care of graduate students, and resources for jobs.

Chair Patel stated he met with Dean Stedman a few weeks ago and received a preview of her presentation. He indicated it would bolster what we are trying to do and improve the graduate student experience.

Faculty Senate Update

Faculty Senate Chair and Trustee David Bloom will give an update on shared governance involving faculty senate and the administration to improve the conflict of interest and outside activity reporting and appeals process. He will also discuss a request for review of the strategic plan for animal and biosafety facilities noting he has been working with Senior Vice President Charlie Lane and Vice President David Norton. In addition, he will provide an update on the call from faculty and graduate students for increased resources to recruit and support more graduate students to meet the needs of our state for trained workers as well as enhance our research funding growth.

Student Body President Update

Student Body President and Trustee Cooper Brown indicated that the bulk of his update will be focused on the Subcommittee on Mental Health in addition to his regular update.

Strategic Communications and Marketing Update

Chair Patel indicated that Assistant Vice President for Marketing, Melanie Schramm would give an update on the redesign of the UF Homepage. AVP Schramm stated it had been seven years since there had been an update to the main ufl.edu website. She shared the proposed new website and stated, a lot has changed, time for a refresh, experience to users, content development, visual articulation, build flexibility, and OneUF look and feel.

The Office of Strategic Communications and Marketing has been socializing the changes to the website on campus in the last few months and it will be rolled out in three Tiers: 1. Structure, 2. Template for Colleges, 3. Templates for the Business Clients. Chair Patel reminded committee members to reach out if they want to get a more detailed overview.

Subcommittee on Mental Health Update

Student Body President Brown will give an update on the three meetings that took place and the recommendations and action items that the Subcommittee agreed upon.

Department Name Changes

Chair Patel stated that there were 3 department name changes as follows:

The UF/IFAS Soil and Water Sciences Department will change its name to the Department of Soil, Water and Ecosystem Sciences.

The Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation will change its name to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine.

The Department of Otolaryngology will change its name to Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

Center/Institutes

Chair Patel stated that there was one Institute name change as follows:

The Institute for Mobility, Activity and Participation (I-MAP) will change its name to the Institute for Driving, Activity, Participation and Technology (I-DAPT) to better align with what is taking place at the institute.

4.0 New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

5.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.