



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

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

May 10, 2023

Time Convened: 9:31 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 9:57 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Rahul Patel (Committee Chair), David L. Brandon, Richard P. Cole, Oliva E. Green, James W. Heavener, Morteza “Mori” Hosseini (Board Chair), Daniel T. O’Keefe, Amanda J. Phalin, Patrick O. Zalupski, and Anita G. Zucker.

Others present:

Melissa Curry, Interim Vice President for Human Resources; 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; Maria Martin, Interim Vice President for Advancement; Steve Orlando, Interim Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing; Mary Parker, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Associate Provost; Curtis Reynolds, Vice President for Business Affairs; Heather White, Vice President for Student Life; members of the University of Florida community, and the public.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Committee Chair Rahul Patel welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. He noted that this was an informational meeting only and that there would be no voting.

2.0 Roll Call

Provost Joe Glover conducted a roll call and Committee members were present.

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for June Meeting

3.1 Review Draft Minutes

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

March 16, 2023

May 10, 2023

3.2 Review Action Items

AFSSPRSC1 Tenure Upon Hire

Provost Joe Glover indicated there are two Tenure Upon Hire cases at this time, but there will be additional cases prior to the June meeting, specifically from the Hamilton Center.

- Dr. Changcheng Song, Associate Professor, Department of Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, Warrington College of Business
- Dr. Jane Bambauer, Professor, Department of Journalism, College of Journalism and Communications

AFSSPRSC2 Annual Tenure Awards

Provost Glover reviewed the Annual Tenure Awards process. He indicated that President Sasse will be reviewing the recommendations for the tenure and promotion cases. The Board only ratifies the approved awards brought forward.

AFSSPRSC3 New Degrees

Provost Glover indicated that there were three new degree proposals from various colleges as follows:

- The proposed Master of Science in Urban Analytics in the College of Design, Construction and Planning will focus on the implementation of new data science techniques, such as data mining, machine learning and other AI approaches, on urban data by introducing a systems perspective to better understand cities and their planning and design procedures.
- The proposed Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence Systems in the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering will provide students with a working knowledge of techniques and software commonly used in Artificial Intelligence Systems. This degree is designed for students with strong analytical and computing backgrounds.
- The proposed Master of Science in Genetics and Genomics in the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences and Medicine will prepare students for an immediate job as a Genetic Counselor, Biological Science Teacher (Postsecondary), Biological Technician or Biological Scientist. This degree will increase the student's competitiveness for medical school or continuance to the Ph.D. in Genetics and Genomics or a related field.

Trustee Amanda Phalin requested the two new undergraduate degrees approved by the Faculty Senate on May 4 be added to this list: 1. B.S. in Meteorology and 2. B.S. in Music Business and Entrepreneurship. Provost Glover indicated those two new degrees will be effective Fall 2024 and will not be presented to the Board at this time.

AFSSPRSC4 Degree Program Termination

Provost Glover indicated that the College of the Arts is requesting to terminate the Bachelor of Arts in Art Education. This program was replaced with a certificate that will fulfill the needs of the students wishing to teach art in the K-12 setting.

AFSSPRSC5 Degree Program Changes

The College of Journalism and Communications is requesting to reduce the number of credit hours from 124 to 120 for the following degrees:

- B.S. in Media Production, Management and Technology Specializations:
Digital Film and Television Production

Management and Strategy
Media and Society

- B.S. in Journalism and Sports Media
- B.S. in Advertising Specializations:
Persuasive Messaging
Agency
- B.S. in Public Relations

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications rescinded the stipulation on the number of credit hours that students needed to take outside the college and the extra four hours is no longer necessary due to the students being allowed to take over 50 credit hours within the college.

3.3 Review Discussion Items

Admissions Update

Vice President for Enrollment Management and Associate Provost, Mary Parker will provide an overview of the enrollment numbers for the incoming class. She indicated that overall, the class looks good.

Faculty Senate Update

Trustee Amanda Phalin indicated that incoming Faculty Senate Chair Danaya Wright will provide the update at the June meeting, as her term ends at the end of May.

Student Body President Update

Trustee Olivia Green indicated that she will discuss the priorities for her time in office at the June meeting as follows: Community Engagement, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), and Gator Needs.

Student Life Update

Vice President for Student Life Heather White indicated she will provide an update at the June meeting on the Disability Resource Center, news about facilities, and new initiatives due to recent money that the legislature has appropriated.

3.3.5 New Centers/Institutes

Provost Glover stated that there are three new Centers/Institutes as follows:

- Name Change: Jacksonville Aging Studies Center to Institute for Population Health (College of Medicine-JAX)
- New Center: Center for Advanced Spatial Biomolecule Research (CASBR) (College of Medicine)
- New Center: Florida Semiconductor Institute (FSI) (Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering)

3.3.6 Degree Name Changes

Provost Glover shared three Degree Name changes, including:

- Ph.D. in Soil and Water Sciences to Ph.D. in Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences

- M.S. in Soil and Water Sciences to M.S. in Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences
- B.S. in Soil and Water Sciences to B.S. in Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences

4.0 New Business

Provost Glover noted changes with the U.S. News and World Report ranking methods. Committee Chair Patel indicated the committee will be looking into two initiatives this year: 1. metrics, including those included in the accountability plan submitted to the Board of Governors and 2. a taskforce that will look into professional testing to help prepare students for success. Provost Glover noted there is a new Interim Dean for College of Law, Merritt McAlister, and that she is aware of what needs to be done with the rankings and with bar passage rates.

Committee Chair Patel indicated the Deans of the Colleges have presented their goals to increase college rankings at Board meetings. He will follow-up with the colleges and professional schools for an update.

5.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.