

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 21, 2018

1:00 PM-1:30 PM

Via Tele-Conference

I. Call to Order

Chair Don Wilson called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Kris Wharton called the roll: Chair Don Wilson, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Philip Dur, Trustee Frank Martin, Trustee Henry McCance, Trustee Travis Hills, Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Jim Dewey, Trustee Dick Hallion, and Trustee Louis Saco were present (Quorum).

Staff present: Provost Terry Parker, Ms. Gina Delulio, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Mr. Kevin Calkins, Mr. Ray Galleno and Mrs. Maggie Mariucci were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests for public comment.

IV. Approval of the Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report

Mr. Ray Galleno stated House Bill 7019 requires each university to submit an annual report regarding textbook and instructional material affordability. The report details all required and recommended textbooks and supplies for each section of general education courses. It also describes policies for posting textbooks and materials for at least 95% of all courses and course sections 45 days before the first day of class.

The University added two options for students to obtain textbooks: rentals and digital versions. For fall 2017, the University had 61.6% of all titles available to rent and 42% available in digital format. For fall 2018, the University increased textbook rental availability of all titles to 63.8% and digital versions to 43.1%. There was a slight drop in penetration rate for textbook rentals between 2017 and 2018, however, the digital version penetration has increased.

The average reduction cost for Fall 2017 was 15.4% for an average savings of \$16.25 per item and total savings of \$50,508. For Fall 2018, the average cost reduction was 21.4% for an average savings of \$14.80 per item and total savings of \$74,598.

The final part of the report requests information regarding the total percentage of course sections that were able to meet the textbook posting deadline of 45 days prior to the start of class. For both fall 2017 and spring 2018, 100% of all adoptions were received and posted.

Trustee Dewey inquired as to how many students actually buy books at the campus bookstore. Mr. Galleno stated the total number of textbooks (new, used, rentals, and digital) totaled 3,971 units in spring 2018. The bookstore also offers price matching against Amazon.

Trustee Dick Hallion made a motion to approve the Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report. Trustee Jim Dewey seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Other Business

- A. Strategic Planning Committee Chair Mark Bostick stated on September 5, 2018, the Strategic Planning Committee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Strategic Plan, with requested revisions, to the Board. However, at the full Board meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the recommendation of the Committee without awareness of the requested revisions.

Following were the two requested revisions:

1. To add: "New programs will be chosen to complement and strengthen existing programs, to support identified needs in underserved industries, and to create new industries."
2. For racial diversity percentage to state "up to 10% diversity".

It is important the Board of Trustees has full understanding of the changes requested and approved by the Strategic Planning Committee; therefore, a new vote is requested of the full Board to approve the Strategic Plan as amended by the Strategic Planning Committee.

There was no further discussion by the Board.

Trustee Jim Dewey made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as amended by the Strategic Planning Committee. Trustee Dick Hallion seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Provost Comments

Dr. Terry Parker provided a brief academic update. A total of 1,426 students are enrolled this fall, and there are 68 full-time and 20 part-time faculty teaching 310 sections of 140 courses. Also of note is the entire senior class is working on senior projects; Dr. Parker will email Trustees the list of senior projects for their review.

ABET accreditation is rigorous; two site visits are planned in October to review the University's engineering and computer science programs.

The University hosted a BOG staff member this week who came to discuss the University's accommodations for students with disabilities. She affirmed the University's program and offered guidance on handling problematic cases.

This year's faculty hiring target is 25 positions, with expectation of a 75% fill rate.

Regarding collective bargaining: The United Faculty of Florida cancelled negotiations this week, but they are scheduled to meet next week.

Trustee Frank Martin inquired as to the status of diversity and inclusion. Dr. Parker stated he wants to allow the University to be nimble when the right person and opportunity presents itself, specifically in shortening the length of time to hire. Additionally, he is ensuring that faculty search committees are appropriately positioned to consider differences that may be presented in applications.

VI. Closing Remarks & Adjournment

Chair Don Wilson stated that anytime one undertakes something new, there are challenges. He stated he has great confidence in the team leading the University.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:26pm