

**FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Florida Polytechnic University Admissions Building  
4700 Research Way, Lakeland, FL 33805  
October 31, 2017 @ 1:30 PM**

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Sandra Featherman called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Maggie Mariucci called the roll: Chair Sandra Featherman, Vice-Chair Dick Hallion, Trustee Henry McCance, Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Jim Dewey, and Trustee Jacob Livingston were present (Quorum).

Other trustees present: Board Chair Frank Martin, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Gary Wendt and Trustee Don Wilson.

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Dr. Terry Parker, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Mr. Ray Galleno, Ms. Gina DeJulio, and Ms. Maggie Mariucci were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

**Trustee Bob Stork made a motion to approve the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes of June 8, 2017. Trustee Jacob Livingston seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. Provost's Report

Dr. Terry Parker reviewed comparisons of the current class with the previous three classes in the areas of class size, diversity, and locations from where students originate. This year's class is smaller but higher in academic quality. Significant changes were made to the management of freshman math, namely the addition of a pre-calculus class. Improvement in the D, Fail, Withdraw (DFW) rate is already being realized this semester.

The Admissions Department multi-year recruiting plan includes focused diversity recruitment efforts. Dr. Parker also reviewed the decline of the discount rate, which is down to 61%; this is due to students not maintaining the minimum GPA required to continue to receive scholarship aid. Trustee Wendt inquired how many applicants were admitted this past year. Lauren Willison responded 1,600 applied, 800 were admitted and 401 actually matriculated.

Block tuition is a concept developed by the state legislature. Students would buy a full-time registration instead of paying by the credit hour. There is potential for universities to lose money with block tuition; however, universities are requesting the ability to design block tuition in a way that is best suited for each individual institution. Board Chair Frank Martin asked if block tuition rates would increase graduation rates. There is not enough evidence to confirm this statement.

Florida Poly received \$4.8M in recurring funds from the state for faculty hiring. This enables the University to strengthen faculty and add programs. Florida Poly is considering adding two degree programs that require six new faculty per program. Trustee Stork inquired if this will require additional support staff. Dr. Parker replied a few additional support staff would be needed, but they would not need to be doubled. As always, space is another consideration, including classrooms, labs, and faculty offices.

Increasing faculty diversity requires stronger and more agile recruiting. Board Chair Martin asked how much of the \$4.8M would be spent this year. Dr. Parker responded approximately \$300-400k. The University can also use these funds toward Fulbright programs.

Four graduate programs have been submitted to ABET for review and approval. A response should be received from ABET by January 1, 2018. The University is not locked into those programs, as SACSCOC would require.

The University received \$2.5M in non-recurring funds from the state for an entrepreneurship program. Dr. Parker reviewed the five goals for this program. The intent is to use these funds wisely to prove a need for the money to be recurring; hence, the University's efforts are currently focused on outcomes.

Noel Levitz is a national survey of students across the United States. Florida Poly had a low response rate of 28%, but of those who responded, the University received very favorable marks. Dr. Parker reviewed the areas where Florida Poly received lower marks and stated the University is addressing them via this year's operational plan.

VI. Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability Report

Ray Galleno, Director of Business & Auxiliary Services provided information on textbook cost variances and the process of selecting textbooks for courses. For fall 2016, 70% of textbooks were adopted 45 days before the start of class; for spring 2017, 82% of textbooks were adopted 45 days before the start of class. **Trustee Dick Hallion made a motion to approve the Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability Report. Trustee Bob Stork seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VII. 2016-2018 Academic and Student Affairs Committee Work Plan Review

The Work Plan was briefly reviewed with no additional comments or recommendations.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.