



# Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting

**BOT approved 11.15.2022**

**Wednesday September 21, 2022  
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM**

## **Florida Polytechnic University WEBEX TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

I. Call to Order

Committee Vice Chair Narendra Kini called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Zaira Medina called the roll: Committee Vice Chair Kini, Trustee Susan LeFrancois, Trustee Melia Rodriguez, and Trustee Lyn Stanfield were present (Quorum)

Committee Member Not Present: Trustee Laine Powell

Other Trustees Present: Chair Cliff Otto, Trustee Gary Wendt, and Trustee Mark Bostick

Staff Present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Dr. BenMatthew Corpus, Dr. Kathryn Miller, Dr. Tom Dvorske, David Blanton, Mike Dieckmann, Dr. Allen Bottorff, Alex Landback, Melaine Schmiz, and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

**Trustee Lyn Stanfield motioned to approve the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes of May 23, 2022. Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. 2022-24 Academic & Student Affairs Committee Charter

Committee Vice Chair Kini explained the Committee Charter is reviewed every two years to ensure that it accurately reflects the committee's responsibilities. He opened the floor for comments, however there were no questions or comments.

**Trustee Lyn Stanfield motioned to recommend approval of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Charter to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VI. 2022-24 Academic & Student Affairs Committee Work Plan

Committee Vice Chair Kini stated that the committee's Work Plan for 2022-2024 has been updated to ensure it accurately reflects the work done in quarterly committee meetings. He

opened the floor for comments, however there were no questions or comments.

**Trustee Melia Rodriguez motioned to recommend approval of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Work Plan. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VII. Provost Report

Provost Parker presented the Textbook Affordability and Instructional Materials Report. By statute, each state university must submit an annual report following an exact template. The requirement is that 95% of course sections post their instructional materials 45 days prior to the start of the semester. For Fall 2021, the University complied at 98.6% and for Spring 2022, the University reached 100%. Recent legislation requires general education course syllabi to be posted 45 days prior to the first day of classes and for Fall 2022, 100% of the syllabi were posted.

Trustee Stanfield inquired if the previous issues that prevented the University from fully complying have been resolved. Provost Parker responded in the affirmative. First, Florida Poly created its own posting site for materials, removing sole reliance on the bookstore vendor. Second, his staff worked with David Blanton to put a process in place preventing the addition of course sections after the 45-day due date, while still meeting student demand.

**Trustee Lyn Stanfield motioned to recommend approval of the 2021 Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report to the Board of Trustees, following the BOG template. Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Provost Parker reminded trustees that the current out-of-state (OOS) fee for undergraduates is \$510 per credit hour; however, for OOS students entering fall 2021 through fall 2022, there is a waiver amount is \$410 per credit hour. This waiver was used to recruit students from other states, resulting in a 51% increase in OOS applications from forty-two states. Provost Parker compared Florida Poly's annual cost of attendance to out-of-state flagship institutions, showing Florida Poly remains very affordable and cost competitive.

From 2020-2021, OOS completed applications increased by 32% and deposits by 180% - although the N was small. From 2021-2022, OOS applications increased by 96% and deposits by 3%. Indications are that the number of deposits was limited by lack of available housing.

Provost Parker requested approval to continue the OOS fee waiver for another four years.

Trustee Stanfield inquired if there were any plans to expand this pilot to graduate students. Provost Parker responded graduate students who have some type of assistantship automatically have their OOS fee waived which complies with state regulations and practice. However, this would be helpful for OOS graduate students on the 10-month track; however, it has not yet been considered.

**Trustee Lyn Stanfield motioned to recommend approval of the continuation of the out-of-state waiver for the next four years of incoming undergraduate cohorts to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Susan LeFrancois seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Provost Parker reported on the Legislative activity in Florida which requires the University to take certain actions. He made the committee aware of activity that keeps the campus compliant with the BOG's Civil Discourse Initiative. This included a review of the content of Student Orientation and also a review of student code of conduct. In addition, the committee

was made aware of the University's current activity in support of the new requirement for all SUS institutions to change accreditors.

In compliance with Civil Discourse initiative and Individual Freedom bill, the new student orientation program and the Student Code of Conduct have both been reviewed.

Trustee Wendt inquired why the state legislature is asking the universities to change accrediting agencies. President Avent responded the motivation is unknown. Trustee Wendt recommended talking to our local legislators to gain a clear understanding on why they made this decision.

SACSCOC decides Florida Poly's reaffirmation in December 2022, triggering the University to act on a new accrediting agency at start of 2023. The president will seek approval of the new agency from the Board of Trustees, and the U.S. Department of Education must also approve the change request.

Provost Parker reviewed the six strategies for the student success plan. There are thirteen measurable outcomes for the plan which must be completed by March of 2023; four of these outcomes have been successfully met. The BOG proposed changing Performance Based Funding (PBF) Metric 8 from fraction of FTIC in top 10% to percentage of degrees at graduate level in areas of strategic emphasis.

Student diversity and faculty hiring were also reviewed. Trustee Wendt asked what the target number of new faculty hires was, and if there is a way to increase competitiveness in hiring. Provost Parker responded the target of new hires was twenty. Regarding competitiveness, the challenges included the candidate receiving an offer from a campus they like better, or they prefer an institution that has tenure track, or one that is more established.

Trustee Stanfield commended Provost Parker and his team for a clear correlation between the student success plan and the University's activity. She inquired if there were strategies employed to attract young women and Black students that can also be used to target Hispanic, Asian, and Indigenous students. She also asked if there is a correlation with the work the team is doing to bring in more diverse students from out-of-state. Dr. BenMatthew Corpus responded the percentage of Indigenous population is so low it does not register a percentage; the Asian population is 2.9% which is low as well. He stated there is opportunity to increase those population from other states such as New York, New Jersey, and California. He also shared the challenges with recruiting minority students.

Trustee Stanfield encouraged the team to intentionally reach out to organizations such as Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers, National Society for Black Engineers, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, and the National GEM Consortium to begin to brand Florida Poly to those students and families.

Trustee Kini mentioned there are some STEM schools such as Coral Reef in Miami with whom the University can establish relationships and have Admissions Counselors target these schools. Dr. Corpus responded his team has identified these schools throughout Florida, ranked them, and have them on their visitation list.

#### VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.