



Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting

BOT approved 02.08.2023

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Florida Polytechnic University
Applied Research Center & via WebEx**

I. Call to Order

Committee Vice Chair Narendra Kini called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call

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

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

Staff Present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, Mike Dieckmann, Kathy Bowman, David Blanton, Dr. Kathryn Miller, Dr. Tom Dvorske, Maggie Mariucci and Kristen Wharton

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Melia Rodriguez made a motion to approve the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes of September 21, 2022. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. 2020-22 Academic & Student Affairs Committee Work Plan Review

Committee Chair Kini reviewed the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Work plan. There was no discussion on this item.

VII. Provost Report

A. Regulation FPU-3.006 Student Code of Conduct

The revised regulation clarifies that actions that constitute expressive activities are not misconduct, when medical and hazing amnesty can be applied, the hearing process for interim suspension, and how the Student Code of Conduct interacts with other relevant University policies.

Trustee Lyn Stanfield made a motion to recommend approval of the revised regulation FPU-3.006 Student Code of Conduct to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. FIPR Institute Annual Report FY22

Provost Parker presented the annual Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute (FIPR) report for fiscal year 2022. FIPR's severance tax income has decreased over the past several years. This loss of income has been balanced with contract funds. For fiscal year 2022, the Institute's net income is \$122,377.

Trustee Gary Wendt inquired if there are any current projects on the removal of phosphate from Florida waterways. Provost Parker responded the research for using biochar relates directly to removing phosphate from both processed and runoff waters.

Committee Chair Kini inquired if there is an opportunity for development of intellectual property or patents for the University. Provost Parker responded in the affirmative stating the University is in the process of applying for patent protections on two projects: the Packed Column Jig, and the use of phosphogypsum stack materials for road base. Committee Chair Kini inquired if this allows the University to research joint venture or other monetization possibilities. President Randy Avent replied once the projects mature and are proven to work, the University will seek partners to license them.

Trustee Laine Powell made a motion to recommend approval of the Florida Institute of Phosphate Research Annual Report for fiscal year 2022 to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Advanced Mobility Institute Annual Report FY22

President Avent presented the first annual Advanced Mobility Institute (AMI) report for fiscal year 2022. The Florida state legislature awarded the Institute \$1M for use over two years, with only \$146,660 expended in fiscal year 2022.

Committee Chair Kini inquired if development of a universal charger for electrical vehicles is underway. President Avent responded it is a standardization issue; the Institute for Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) will be the entity to establish this standardization.

Trustee Susan LeFrancois inquired if a faculty member will manage the equipment and the students' projects. She also asked if this Institute will be incorporated into the University's curriculum. President Avent responded his office currently oversees the program, and curriculum integration is at the discretion of the faculty members engaged in AMI and their department chairs. He does not foresee a specific program/degree in autonomous or electrical vehicles.

Trustee Wendt asked if the million-dollar grant is part of the University budget. President Avent responded in the affirmative. As AMI did not spend all of the appropriation, the balance was moved into the University's carryforward funds. Trustee Lyn Stanfield inquired if there are any concerns with the underspending of funds. President Avent stated the majority of the funds have been expensed over the two years.

Trustee Melia Rodriguez made a motion to recommend approval of the Advanced Mobility Institute Annual Report for fiscal year 2022 to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Laine Powell seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Student Success Plan Status Review

Provost Parker reviewed progress made on the University's Student Success Plan which is required by the BOG. Trustee Bob Stork inquired how achieving high marks in Performance Based Funding (PBF) helps the University be a better institution versus achieving them simply to obtain funding. Provost Parker responded this system of metric achievement has improved the University, particularly in retention and graduation rates.

Trustee Stork further inquired how growing and supporting the Graduate program assists the University versus having the Institution's attention on something else. Provost Parker responded that having a healthy Graduate program is important to support faculty and senior-level students from Florida Poly's undergraduate programs.

Trustee Stanfield asked for additional information on metric number seven: University Access Rate. Provost Parker responded this metric is measured by the percentage of Pell students enrolled at the University and must be balanced carefully. President Avent stated Florida Poly's percentage of 30% Pell students is higher than its peers, yet lower than the rest of the institutions in the SUS as Florida Poly is not a comprehensive university.

Provost Parker also reviewed admissions for Fall 2023, as well as various Student Affairs and Student Life activities. He announced two new Bachelor of Science degree programs, Civil Engineering and Industrial Engineering, which will be formally presented to the Board in February 2023. The goal is to offer these degrees to incoming first-year students in fall 2024.

Provost Parker stated rental rates for Phase II housing will increase by 7%; the University expects Phase I rental rates will also increase by 7%. Chair Otto inquired when rates were last increased. Last year there was a 2.25% increase, which is according to the contract.

Provost Parker reviewed SB7044, specifically the portion regarding changing accrediting agencies. Trustee Laine Powell inquired about the timeline for this process. Following a reaffirmation decision from SACSCOC in December, the University will send a letter of intent to change accreditors to the Department of Education (DOE). Once the DOE accepts the University's proposal, the new accreditation process will begin with another accreditor.

Trustee LeFrancois expressed the concern among SUS faculty senates regarding the requirement of post-tenure review in SB7044 and the ability to attract qualified faculty to the state of Florida. Provost Parker responded this legislation was written specifically for tenure campuses; Florida Polytechnic University and Florida Gulf Coast University are non-tenure campuses. However, this regulation requires Florida Poly to adhere to additional review processes in addition to the ones already in place.

Chair Otto inquired if the faculty job market is improving. Provost Parker responded it depends on the field. The applicant pool for Computer Science candidates is mixed, while the pool for Engineering Physics candidates has been particularly good.

Trustee Stork inquired how not having tenure affects Florida Poly's faculty. President Avent responded the strong faculty leave because they can, but not because the University does not offer tenure.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.