

Florida Polytechnic University
Board of Trustees

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019
9:15 AM-10:15 AM

Florida Polytechnic University, Student Development Center
4700 Research Way, Lakeland, FL 33805

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Hallion called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Amy Devera called the roll: Committee Chair Richard Hallion, Committee Vice Chair Adrienne Perry, Trustee Victoria Astley, Trustee Ryan Perez, Trustee Mark Bostick and Trustee Philip Dur were present (Quorum).

Other trustees present: Board Chair Don Wilson, Trustee Frank Martin, Trustee Cliff Otto, Trustee Gary Wendt and Trustee Bob Stork.

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Ms. Gina Delulio, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Mrs. Kathy Bowman, Dr. Kathryn Miller, Dr. Tom Dvorske, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Mrs. Kim Abels and Ms. Amy Devera were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Adrienne Perry made a motion to approve the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes of March 22, 2019. Trustee Victoria Astley seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. 2018-20 Strategic Planning Committee Work Plan Review

The 2018-2020 Work plan remains unchanged and no discussion occurred.

VI. Provost Report

Provost Terry Parker reviewed activity aligned with the Work Plan, which included Admissions and Financial Aid, Student Affairs, four-year graduation improvement plan, degree program additions, faculty hiring status, student and faculty diversity, Graduate programs, and Technology and Pedagogy.

Admissions and Financial Aid

Provost Parker reported on the current Admissions status. Currently, the entering student headcount for first day of classes was 401 students; the targeted headcount was 400 students. Provost Parker recognized the staff of the Admissions department and thanked for their recruitment efforts. He then briefed the committee on the First Time in College and diversity statistics and reported that the Graduate program is continuing to grow with 25 new students enrolled for fall 2019. When reviewing the FTIC chart, Trustee Gary Wendt asked what the difference was on the 279 enrolled number and the previous enrolled number that was provided. Provost Parker stated that the 279 was the FTIC enrollment number and the 401 enrolled number included FTIC, transfer and graduate students. Trustee Wendt asked where transfer students come from and Ms. Michelle Powell stated that transfer students come from a variety of other different institutions. She also stated that the University receives a good amount of transfers from Polk State College and Hillsborough Community College where students have either decided not to finish an Associate's degree or transferred after finishing the degree.

Degree Program Additions and Faculty Hiring Status

Provost Parker reviewed how the faculty were distributed in each department. The total number of full-time faculty that the University currently employees is 74, with the Computer Science department currently having the most faculty. Trustee Victoria Astley stated that according to a previous report, it seemed the University was behind on hiring Mechanical Engineering faculty. Provost Parker said that he would have to go back and look at the numbers but ensured the Committee that Mechanical Engineering is where it should be in terms of faculty recruitment. Hiring priorities are for Computer Science and Environmental Engineering. Trustee Frank Martin asked what the faculty hiring goal was for this academic year. President Randy Avent stated the goals may have been higher, but this was the result. Trustee Martin stated he would like to see the faculty hiring budget for academic year 2019-2020. President Avent stated if the budget is not used for faculty hiring, it is moved to carry forward. Trustee Martin also stated his concern about diversity, to which Provost Parker stated in terms of women in a STEM institution, Florida Poly's numbers are very good. There were no African American hires this year. Trustee Martin stated that he would like to see some type of effort to increase diversity. Trustee Philip Dur asked what size faculty will the Environmental Engineering program need and when. Provost Parker stated that the department will need at least two new faculty next year and approximately four the year after. The rest would depend on the demand of the degree.

Student Affairs

Provost Parker stated Dr. Kathryn Miller and her team began to establish values and traditions for University students over the summer. A wide range of community outreach was recently completed, including summer camps led by various Florida Poly staff and faculty. Dr. Miller also piloted an advising program over the summer which had an 89 percent success rate.

Degree Program Additions

The committee was briefed by Provost Parker on the degrees the University currently offers. Trustee Otto asked if receiving the accreditation for Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering accelerated the pace to get accreditation for the other degrees. Provost Parker stated that Data Science and Business Analytics does not fall under the ABET umbrella, therefore

the University will not seek accreditation for those degrees. Environmental Engineering, Engineering Mathematics and Engineering Physics do fall under the ABET umbrella, however there are still rules that need to be followed. One requirement is to have a graduate from each of those programs before you can start the process. Provost Parker informed the committee that there are two new National Science Foundation (NSF) awards being granted to faculty, one to Professor Grisselle Centeno in the amount of \$600,000 and one to Professor Arman Sargolzaei in the amount of \$200,000. Professor Sargolzaei's award has not yet been awarded, but all signs state that it will be.

Accountability Plan

Provost Parker presented selected slides from the Accountability Plan that was recently presented to and approved by the Board of Governors (BOG). He addressed performance-based funding (PBF) and metrics, noting difficulties common to all universities as well as those unique to Florida Poly. He also reviewed how the plan was revised and listed key take-aways from this experience. Trustee Astley asked Provost Parker to elaborate on the movement of budget funds. Provost Parker stated he moved funding from certain buckets to Admissions to assist with enrollment growth and offered to meet with Trustee Astley separately if she wanted to review this more in-depth.

For each area of concern with the Accountability Plan, the University identified opportunities for improvement. Trustee Dur would like to note for the record that he thinks the critical variable is the quality of the applicant and the person that is admitted. He also recommended sending faculty into the schools to recruit. Mrs. Powell stated Admissions does target specific high schools and students who have what the University is looking for in an applicant. Admissions recruiters speak directly to high school students in STEM-based classes that align with Florida Poly's degrees. Trustee Dur asked for more granularity on what Admissions is doing to recruit new students. Both Trustee Dur and Committee Chair Richard Hallion stated the University needs to better target underrepresented counties around Florida Poly and increase the outreach efforts.

The committee briefly conversed about faculty research and space needs. Provost Parker reviewed the University's five-year goals which include increasing campus enrollment to 2,000 students. Trustee Ryan Perez expressed his concern for housing needs if enrollment grows to 2,000. President Avent stated that beds in the dorms may have to be doubled up, but there will also be an increase of new apartments in the area. He also stated that as the University grows, more investors will see more opportunities. Forty-six percent of students currently live on campus.

Approval of Additional Space in the Applied Research Center (ARC)

Provost Parker stated in order to move forward with adding additional space to the ARC, Board approval is needed. The additional 8,000 square feet will support labs for a prototype shop, vehicle bays, student project space, and research space for FIPR Institute. Formal approval for funding is within the Finance Committee Meeting.

Trustee Mark Bostick made a motion to support the approval of the addition of approximately 8,000 square feet in support of labs for a prototype shop, vehicle bays, student project space, and research space for FIPR Institute. Trustee Adrienne Perry seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

BOT Choice Metric

The committee discussed the funding given to universities based on metrics. President Avent stated the University needs to choose a metric that highlights the University's uniqueness. Trustees engaged in discussion on what their choice metric might be; they focused discussion on undergraduate selectivity.

Approval of Textbook Accountability Plan

Forty-five days before the start of the fall and spring semester, the campus must show that 95 percent of course sections have adopted textbooks. The intent is to provide suitable notice to students so that they can minimize their textbook costs. The University is compliant.

Trustee Mark Bostick made a motion to recommend approval of the Textbook Accountability Plan. Trustee Ryan Perez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Regulation Revision: English Proficiency Requirement

Provost Parker reviewed changes in this regulation that simply align the University with standard practice across the SUS. All background information on the regulation was included in the materials provided to the committee.

Trustee Adrienne Perry made a motion to approve the revised regulation FPU-2.005 Admission of International Students. Trustee Mark Bostick seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.