



Board of Trustees Workshop

WORKSHOP MINUTES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Florida Polytechnic University – Student Development Center

4700 Research Way, Lakeland, FL 33805

I. Call to Order

Chair Don Wilson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Kris Wharton called the roll: Chair Don Wilson, Vice Chair Cliff Otto, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Ryan Perez, Trustee Henry McCance, Trustee Victoria Astley, Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Earl Sasser, Trustee Philip Dur, Trustee Lou Saco, and Trustee Gary Wendt were present (Quorum).

Trustees not present: Trustee Adrienne Perry, Trustee Frank Martin

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Ms. Gina Delulio, Ms. Kathy Bowman, Mr. Rick Maxey, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Mr. David Calhoun, Ms. Michele Rush, Mrs. Kim Abels, and Mr. David Blanton were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Minutes

Trustee Bob Stork made a motion to approve the Board Workshop meeting minutes of September 10, 2019. Trustee Gary Wendt seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. 2019-2020 Operations Plan Update

President Avent began his presentation by stating it is time for the operations plan to become focused on performance and metrics versus transactional tasks. He reviewed changes on the accountability metrics page, then reviewed significant highlights related to each of the annual goals listed in the progress report.

Discussion occurred regarding development of online STEM courses and various challenges that occur with online learning. President Avent and Provost Parker stated the importance of addressing student engagement issues with online learning, noting that virtual technology may play a part in making online STEM learning successful. President Avent stated his desire to stay focused on building the curriculum and student body for the next few years.

At the conclusion of President Avent's presentation, he asked for trustee feedback on the format of the quarterly report. One trustee stated it was too detailed, but most of the trustees appreciated the level of detail. President Avent stated he will continue to work on the format, perhaps providing a high-level executive brief with the detailed report behind it for those who wish to review them. Trustee Dur asked President Avent to focus more on where he is having a challenge or where he needs more resources or trustees' help. Trustee Sasser suggested providing the detailed report ahead of time but briefly sharing the highlights during the trustees' meeting.

V. 2020-2021 Operations Plan Discussion

President Avent proposed a new format for the yearly operational planning process, utilizing a tool called the balanced scorecard. He also discussed the planning and assessment cycle through the academic, calendar, and fiscal years. Trustees agreed President Avent should proceed with a planning schedule that works best for the University but asked him to focus his reports to the Board on the key challenges he faces and how trustees can assist with those challenges. Trustees strongly recommended they spend board meetings focused on key areas that affect the growth and well-being of the University versus lengthy discussion on policies and operational matters.

President Avent then shifted the discussion to plans for 2020-2021. For next year, he recommends focusing on the following five priorities: admissions, student progression, student experience, graduate program, and University advancement. Trustees agreed with these five priorities. Trustee Sasser recommended adding increasing quality faculty. Additionally, President Avent will change "advancement" to "advocacy" and include recommendations for funding the remainder of the Applied Research Center (ARC). In February, President Avent will return to the Board with an operational plan for 2020-2021 that includes these priorities.

VI. Performance Based Funding: BOT Choice Metric

President Avent provided a review of the mechanics of performance-based funding (PBF). He also covered each of the current metrics and where Florida Poly falls within each of them, followed by several options for the trustees to consider for the BOT choice metric. President Avent's top choice is "percent of graduates with workforce experience." Committee consensus confirmed this recommendation.

Trustee Philip Dur made a motion to approve "percent of graduates with workforce experience" as the BOT Choice Metric for Performance Based Funding (PBF). Trustee Gary Wendt seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. University Advocacy

Mr. Rick Maxey asked trustees to meet with key people in Tallahassee to advocate on behalf of the University. Trustee Stork affirmed the importance for Florida Poly trustees to talk with their local state representatives, those in the Governor's office, and with those you know have key relationships with people in Tallahassee. Mr. Maxey and Ms. Kathy Mizereck will contact trustees individually to discuss ways to move forward.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.