Chairperson Ann Duncan convened the Board of Governors Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m., January 18, 2012, in the Broadcast Center at the Florida State University’s WFSU Studio. The following committee members were present: Michael Long (Vice-Chair), Patricia Frost, Dr. Stanley Marshall, Frank Martin, Gus Stavros, and Dr. Rick Yost.

1. **Minutes of Prior Meeting**

Chair Duncan presented the minutes from the November 9, 2011 meeting. There were no changes to the minutes. Chair Duncan asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded, and members of the Committee concurred.

2. **Limited Access Status for Bachelor of Social Work at Florida State University**

Chair Duncan provided information with regard to the Bachelor of Social Work program at Florida State University (FSU), including the requirement of an internship. FSU was requesting a higher Grade Point Average (GPA) requirement for admissions and a reduction of students in the major to better align with internship enrollment and prevent students who do not secure an internship from accruing excess hours when changing majors. Chair Duncan entertained questions from the Board. Governor Temple asked if limited access would allow students with lower GPAs to enter the program. Mr. Richard Stevens clarified that the request would increase the minimum entrance GPA from 2.0 to 2.5. The motion to approve carried unanimously.

Chair Duncan asked Chancellor Brogan to speak on inter-sector efficiencies associated with the State University System and the Florida College System. Chancellor Brogan said that, over the last 18 months, the Board of Governors has brought together a group representing public and institutional libraries, including both colleges and universities as well as the PreK-12 system, to work on a business plan reorganizing library systems and creating a single automated system. Chancellor Brogan said that two business plans are currently being developed, one associated with library
automation (Unified Library Services Business Plan) and one associated with electronic information sharing (Alignment and Enhancement of Online Academic and Student Support Web Services) to include a more organized methodology and a governance structure for those services. The second business plan is nearing completion, taking into consideration the removal of redundancies and greater access for the user.

3. Unified Library Services Business Plan

Dr. Nancy McKee stated that Chancellor Randy Hanna, Florida College System (FCS), and Chancellor Brogan appointed a joint task force on the future of academic libraries in Florida in July of 2010. The task force, including library deans, provosts, chief information officers from colleges and universities, representatives from K-12 and public libraries, and representatives from the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida institutions, created a strategic plan with unanimous support. The created structure will be adaptable to the needs of potential new members.

The task force report focuses on the Florida Center for Library Automation (SUS) and the comparable entity serving the FCS. These organizations offer centralized services to all libraries within these systems, including materials catalog services and database licensing. The task force recommended a governance structure for one entity to serve both systems. The recommendation would create this new entity in July 2012, with the two organizations currently serving the SUS and the FCS being phased out at the end of the fiscal year of 2013.


Dr. McKee stated that there are two state-funded student outreach and support initiatives serving both delivery systems: the Florida Distance Learning Consortium and the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support, supporting the Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS.org). The Florida Distance Learning Consortium primarily builds and manages the online distance learning catalog, providing access to courses and degree programs for the SUS, the FCS, and certain private institutions. FACTS.org is an online advising service.

Dr. McKee said this that workgroup was staffed by registrars, admissions directors, and those at the administrative level using the online services to provide for greater efficiency. After reviewing budgetary and process considerations, the recommendation of the workgroup was to create a new organization replacing the Florida Distance Learning Consortium and the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support. The focus would be on providing statewide service, not duplicating services provided by the individual institutions. The new program would be created in July 2012, eliminating unneeded services over the course of two years. In the long-term,
the recommended action is to combine the scope of this new program with the new library services organization. The workgroup has submitted its report to the two chancellors and is awaiting review.

Chair Duncan asked if Dr. McKee needed support from the Board. Chancellor Brogan said they anticipated a legislative response, and that they will report back to the Board when they see the legislative reaction. Chair Duncan thanked Dr. McKee for her time and effort.

5. Student Affairs Updates

Chair Duncan began this portion of the meeting by mentioning the death of Robert Champion, a student at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). She asked Dr. Solomon Badger, Chair of the FAMU Board of Trustees, to provide any updates on the matter.

a) Florida A & M University, Dr. Solomon Badger

Dr. Badger referenced the criminal investigation being conducted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, limiting the detail sharing capabilities, as well as the review being conducted at the Governor’s request by the Board with regard to the processes and procedures associated with the University’s oversight. Dr. Badger assured the Board that FAMU has been in full compliance with all investigations.

Dr. Badger said that the FAMU Board of Trustees has been kept informed by President Ammons throughout the process and has already conducted an anti-hazing workshop and provided information on the judicial process that will follow. The Champion family has filed a wrongful death claim against the University, leading FAMU to hire an outside legal counsel to represent the University. He said that DKC Incorporated had been selected for the long-term crisis management engagement at the University, with FAMU Trustee Belinda Shannon serving as the Board’s liaison. The trustees are creating a Blue Ribbon Campaign to eliminate hazing on campus.

Dr. Ammons thanked Dr. Badger for his efforts and reaffirmed the focus of the FAMU administration on student well-being. Dr. Ammons reminded the Board of FAMU’s anti-hazing regulation since legislation was passed in 2005. He noted that, during the fall semester of 2011, FAMU had 20 workshops on anti-hazing for student organizations prior to Robert Champion’s death.

Chair Duncan mentioned that the Board had gathered the SUS Vice-Presidents of Student Affairs after the death of Robert Champion to discuss best practices on campus to maintain a safe environment.
b) Council of Student Affairs, Dr. Maribeth Ehasz

Dr. Ehasz said that all universities have policies in place to ensure safety and well-being of all students on campus and that the Council of Student Affairs is currently creating an inventory of best practices with regard to the prevention of hazing. Dr. Ehasz also mentioned that all campuses are entering election season, creating a dynamic environment.

Chair Duncan mentioned the ongoing communication between Board staff and the Governor’s office with regard to hazing. Dr. Jon Rogers briefed the Board on university efforts in providing information and outreach to address anti-hazing initiatives. Governor Colson asked Dr. Ammons if FAMU needed help in the coming weeks. Dr. Ammons said resources are being stretched thin, that the university would report back to the Board on any help it could provide, and thanked the Chair for the offer. Governor Hosseini asked Dr. Badger if he believed FAMU’s Board of Trustees is receiving all necessary information. Dr. Badger said he was extremely comfortable with the flow of information being provided to the Board of Trustees. Governor Stavros mentioned the importance of respect being imparted to current students. Governor Parker asked Dr. Badger to further clarify the flow of information coming to the FAMU Board of Trustees. Dr. Badger mentioned the two outside legal entities—private counsel and the crisis management team—to which each trustee has access. Governor Martin asked about the timeframe for any crisis management recommendations. Dr. Badger said he expected the crisis management committee to get started within a few days.

c) Florida Student Association, Governor Michael Long

Governor Long asked FAMU Student Body President Breyon Love to speak on the student body’s reaction to Robert Champion’s death. Mr. Love asked the room to take a moment of silence for Robert Champion. Mr. Love mentioned the anti-hazing pledge students have been signing in light of the tragedy, and that FAMU’s Student Government Association is brainstorming oversight ideas for smaller organizations on campus to offset hazing. FAMU’s Student Government Association has been bringing in crime-stoppers and implementing a statement all students will have to sign, beginning in the fall of 2012, recognizing their awareness of FAMU’s anti-hazing policy.

Governor Long alerted the Board that the Rally in Tally will take place January 26th at which the Florida Student Association will announce its legislative agenda for the year. He said that the Florida Student Association opposes any change to legislation with regard to student representation on the Board of Governors. Governor Long highlighted FAMU and FSU’s upcoming community service partnership. Governor Long mentioned the statewide Florida Student Alliance for Action, which is concerned with tuition and student representation on the Board.
6. **2012 Academic Program Coordination Project**

Governor Duncan said the current challenge to the provosts is to look at collected information in a statewide framework and that there will be more to report after the next meeting with the provosts.

7. **Update – Adult Degree Completion Pilot**

Dr. Pam Northrup from the University of West Florida identified the five SUS institutions involved in the pilot program with the Board and the Florida Distance Learning Consortium. The purpose of the project is to increase the number of Floridians holding baccalaureate degrees aligned with workforce demands. The model for reentry into the SUS includes military veterans. Curriculum innovation and degree completion are foci of the program, including additional advising support and a variety of classes offered to reentering students. Dr. Northrup mentioned the importance of advertising the program in innovative ways considering that the intended audience is currently not in school. Evaluation is a critical component of the model during the two-year pilot, as well as administration and collaboration. The goals are single point of access for reentry, guidance, and creating a network of support services. The pilot begins in the fall of 2012 at the University of South Florida and the University of West Florida; with the University of North Florida, the University Florida, and Florida International University offering specializations aligned to workforce demands. The process is to select a degree program, select a specialization, and complete the degree with significant guidance and support. Advising, admissions, and student credit hours are to be administered through the degree-granting institution. The program will collect data throughout the process for the purpose of evaluation. Dr. Northrup said the planned cost is $1.6 million annually.

Chair Duncan said that a return on investment analysis would be helpful for the Board to have while considering funding. Chancellor Brogan said the Legislature has been responding very positively to this issue.

8. **Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

Chair Duncan thanked the Committee for their work, and having no further business adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.