Chairperson Ann Duncan convened the Board of Governors Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting at 8:30 a.m., June 23, 2011, in the Gibbons Alumni Center on the University of South Florida campus. The following committee members were present: Michael Long (Vice-Chair), Patricia Frost, Dr. Stanley Marshall, Gus Stavros, and Dr. Rick Yost. Frank Martin and Commissioner John Winn were absent.

1. **Minutes of Prior Meeting**

Chair Duncan presented the minutes from the January 20, 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. **Academic Items from the June 9, 2011 Conference Call**

   a) **Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering CIP 40.1001, Florida State University**

Chair Duncan introduced the proposal from Florida State University. FSU had requested the committee waive the two-meeting program approval process so that the proposal may be considered for final approval by the full Board that afternoon. Chair Duncan confirmed that the state has invested a lot in the science department at FSU and called approval of the program a great opportunity to utilize such an investment. Chair Duncan asked FSU to provide further clarification of the program and Dean Nancy Marcus from FSU’s Graduate School responded to her request.

Dean Marcus explained that this Ph.D. program brings together nine departments from two different schools to support this interdisciplinary program under the Graduate School. Chair Duncan asked for clarification on the resources already in place for the program due to budget concerns. Dean Marcus explained that the expertise already exist in the different departments that will coordinate to offer this degree program and called the investment “modest.”
Chair Duncan asked if there are any questions. Governor Frost asked what kind of students are coming into the program, be they from Bachelors or Masters Degrees, in-state or out-of-state programs, etc. Dean Marcus said students can enter the program from various backgrounds (Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Computing, etc.). Governor Frost asked about the number of students the Dean is anticipating being involved in this program and Dean Marcus replied that the initial goal is bringing in classes of ten students each year. Governor Frost cited an analysis of graduation rates from similar programs which showed that very few students are matriculating from these programs given the budget required. Chair Duncan reminded the committee to consider not just graduation rates but research productivity generated by the program.

Chair Duncan asked if there were any other questions. Seeing none, she asked for a motion. Governor Frost made a motion for approval which was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Ph.D. in Security Studies, CIP 45.0902, University of Central Florida

Chair Duncan explained that this program is the first of its kind in Florida at this level and that there are currently only three other programs of this kind in the nation. Chair Duncan reminded the committee that this proposed program falls into the category of Security and Emergency Services adopted in the State University System’s Strategic Planning Areas of Programmatic Strategic Emphasis as a State Critical Need. Chair Duncan asked for an overview from UCF.

Dean Patricia Bishop from the College of Graduate Studies reaffirmed the limited number of existing programs in the United States offering this level of expertise (schools offering this program are Georgetown, George Washington, and Tufts). Dean Bishop explained that UCF has checked with the University of Florida’s Political Science program, the University of South Florida’s Government program, Florida State University’s Political Science program, and Florida International University’s International Studies and Political Science programs, all of which have offered support of this program’s addition to the SUS Degree Inventory. Dean Bishop explained that the faculty at UCF has impressive credentials for such a program and that UCF has hired three new faculty members who have expertise in security matters to support existing faculty. This program has an Advisory Board that includes Siemens Corporation, Georgetown University, the US Naval War College, the National Defense University, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Chair Duncan asked if there were any questions. Governor Frost pointed out the fact that UCF had already hired three new faculty members in this area before having Board approval for the program and asked how many students Dean Bishop expected to be in the entering class. Dean Bishop said she anticipates five students initially with
stabilization at 20. Governor Frost praised the Advisory Board and Dean Bishop elaborated, stating the majority of the graduates from this program will enter professional careers outside the realm of academia. Governor Frost praised UCF for contacting other universities within the State University System for support.

Governor Duncan asked if there were any other questions. Seeing none, Governor Duncan asked Dean Bishop to clarify if Central Command in Tampa has agreed to collaborate and encouraged ongoing dialogue and coordination between UCF and USF to which Dean Bishop agreed.

Governor Duncan asked for a motion of approval which was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Governor Duncan pointed out that no motion was made to waive the second meeting requirement for FSU’s Material Science and Engineering degree approval. This motion was then made and seconded. The motion carried. Governor Duncan asked UCF if the timeline is sufficient for their Ph.D. program with the second meeting requirement since no one had said otherwise. Richard Stevens explained that UCF was fine with the current timeline and this degree will come back for final approval at the September Board meeting.

c) Public Notice of Intent to Amend Regulation 6.010, Student Affairs Administration

Chair Duncan explained that Regulation 6.010 had been recommended for amendment to ensure alignment with a new Federal regulation related to Financial Aid. Effective July 1, 2011 institutions of higher education need to provide students or prospective students with contact information for filing complaints with the university’s Accrediting Agency and with the Board of Governors. The proposed amendment ensured compliance.

Chair Duncan asked if there were any questions or discussion about this regulation amendment. Seeing none, Chair Duncan asked for a motion for approval which was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

d) Public Notice of Intent to Amend Regulation 6.017, Criteria for Awarding the Baccalaureate Degree

Chair Duncan explained that this proposed amendment would align with key action taken by the 2011 Florida Legislature in section 8 of CS/HB7151 which deleted the requirement for undergraduate students to achieve a certain minimum score on a nationally standardized examination or grade point average and specified postsecondary coursework prior to graduation. The elimination of this particular
Chair Duncan asked if anybody needs further briefing on this amendment. Seeing none, Chair Duncan asked for a motion of approval which was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **CAVP Academic Coordination Project**

Chair Duncan asked Provost Wilcox to come forward to speak on the Academic Coordination Project the College Academic Vice Presidents have been working on for the past year. Chair Duncan first explained that the intent was to look at effective resource usage, low enrollment, and duplication issues. Due to the complexity of the issue there would be no solution applicable to all universities within the system. Rather than implementing policies and procedures that would not apply to every university the Academic and Student Affairs Committee reached out to the Academic Vice Presidents at each institution to look at the possibility of coming up with a rational way to look at coursework as a system and making sure appropriate decisions are being made. Chair Duncan stated that the CAVP had made great progress in formulating a way in which the system could coordinate.

Dr. Wilcox explained that the CAVP had drafted a white paper titled “Accountability in the Academy: Framing the Future of the State University System.” Though this paper was not yet complete it did present an optimistic outlook for the SUS focused on the recruitment and retention of student and faculty talent, enhanced student success, the development and support of world class academic and research programs, along with a generation of new knowledge and a highly skilled competitive workforce leading to sustained economic growth and new job creation for Florida. The white paper was guided by the SUS’ four strategic goals and explored strategies such as spending reduction without diminishing access and equality, opportunities to generate new revenues in lieu of diminishing public investment, and focused on the need for an appropriate and predictable source of funding to strengthen the system. The paper also addressed the provosts’ major initiative which was Articulation Coordination and coherence in the delivery of Academic Programs across the State University System.

The CAVP wanted to develop an annual review process for the SUS. This annual review had been detailed in part in Draft Regulation 8.004: Academic Program Coordination. The possible outcomes of the annual review would be termination of programs, placement of programs in inactive status, continuation based upon specific rationale, or corrective action which includes joint delivery across multiple institutions. The provosts met last month, as they will annually, to discuss all Degree Programs. This white paper also investigated geographic access, statewide collaborative initiatives to
greater coordinate distance learning, high performance computing, and joint degree programs. The white paper will conclude with several recommendations for the Board of Governors to consider: identifying peer state and/or national systems of higher education against which the SUS of Florida will benchmark performance on input, throughput, output, and outcomes; establishing differential yet appropriate and predictable levels of funding based upon institutional mission and classification; carefully assessing the cost to universities of unfunded mandates; rewarding collaboration between universities; enhancing student success and graduation rates; accelerating the national mean by institutional mission and classification through a high-tuition, high-aid funding model; continuing to evaluate low-producing programs and units; supporting the managed expansion of the market-based tuition model beyond state subsidized enrollment; considering elimination of the state-wide 10% cap on non-subsidized, non-resident students; and continuing with strong advocacy for the restoration of private fundraising incentives. Dr. Wilcox concluded by pointing out that statewide from 2007-2010 state funding for higher education fell 17%, enrollment grew 7%, degrees awarded increased 14%, and research funding climbed 20%. Dr. Wilcox claimed the provosts think nothing is more important than the selection of system peers to which our SUS could compare itself.

Chair Duncan said that though much of what was presented was not applicable to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee a strong argument has been made for this review process. Chair Duncan stated this Committee would benefit from the summary of how to accomplish the goals of the white paper with a suggested timeline to see the results of this effort. Chair Duncan asked if there are any questions for Dr. Wilcox or the other attending provosts and thanked the provosts for their time and effort on this project. No questions were presented.

4. Additional Information

Chair Duncan asked Dr. Maribeth Ehasz from UCF for a quick update from the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs who met yesterday. Dr. Ehasz made mention of the successful completion of the work of the Health Insurance Consortium and thanked Dr. Mike Rollo from Florida Gulf Coast University for leading that project. There were five institutions involved in the consortium and they aimed to add more. There was a summary in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee packet on this Consortium. Dr. Ehasz also thanked USF for pursuing the background administrative work on this project. Dr. Ehasz pointed out the successful Threat Assessment Conference held at UF several weeks ago at which a review of threat responsiveness and anticipation took place. Dr. Ehasz said the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs looked forward to the opportunity to participate in the Strategic Planning process and that the group had been preparing some briefs to share with the Strategic Planning Committee. Dr. Ehasz closed her presentation by mentioning that the University of West Florida won the Division II
National Baseball Championship and thanked Chair Duncan for the opportunity to speak to the Committee.

Chair Duncan requested the Vice Presidents for Student Affairs provide the Committee with feedback on campus safety practices and enhanced facilitation of those practices system-wide. Dr. Ehasz assured the Committee that this group puts great emphasis on this subject and they will continue to do so and provide a report to the Committee.

Chair Duncan asked if there were any other questions for Dr. Ehasz.

5. **Adjournment**

Chair Duncan asked if there are any suggestions from Committee members, provosts, or presidents as to how the Committee would proceed. Chair Duncan thanked the Committee for their work and having no further business adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.