1. Call to Order

Chair Norman Tripp convened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. on January 21, 2015, with the following members present and answering roll call: Wendy Link; Richard Beard; Stefano Cavallaro; Patricia Frost; and Katherine Robinson. A quorum was established.

2. Meeting Minutes

Governor Link moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the November 5th meeting, as presented. Governor Cavallaro seconded the motion and the members concurred.

3. Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer’s Report

Dr. Ignash reported on the following activities that the ASA unit has been engaged in:

- responding to requests for data and information from legislative and the governor’s office staff;
- legislative bill analyses;
- making a presentation to the House Higher Education and Workforce Subcommittee;
- talking with universities regarding budget requests and the proposed Data Analytics Research Initiative;
- developing goals to establish targets for percentage of undergraduates engaged in research;
- attending the January 15th UCF downtown campus presentation;
- providing input to the FSU/FAMU engineering study consultants.
Future staff activities will include:

- a workshop at UF to discuss developing a shared IRB to be more competitive and respond quickly to federal and state grant applications.
- a CAVP coordination project workgroup meeting to review new program proposals.
- collaborating with the Florida Department of Education and the Florida College System to plan and coordinate the February Sunshine State Scholars conference.

4. **SUS Title IX Workshop**

Chair Tripp introduced Ms. Vikki Shirley, Board of Governors General Counsel, to provide an update on the November 18th Title IX SUS Workshop. Mrs. Shirley reported that the workshop was held for university key stakeholders to discuss issues related to Title IX and to develop a system-wide approach for Title IX issues when they arise. Topics of focus were disclosure of information, confidentiality requests, prevention and awareness, and the Board’s conduct code regulations. Workshop outcomes included recommendations to:

- Amend section 794.024 F.S. which prohibits public employees from disclosing identifying information about alleged victims of sexual assault to any person not involved in an investigation or prosecution of an alleged offense. The statute has served as an impediment to the exchange or flow of information on Florida campuses among departments and staff that is integral to the investigation of potential violations.

- Develop a system-wide definition of consent for universities to use when defining, interpreting, communicating, and evaluating consent in campus disciplinary proceedings. A workgroup is currently developing a system-wide definition.

- Revise the definition of a responsible employee because the current definition per the U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Office is open-ended and allows for a subjective interpretation. A consistent definition used within the SUS would help students more easily identify a responsible campus employee to whom to report Title IX issues. A workgroup is currently reviewing definitions adopted by universities outside of Florida.

- Revise Board of Governors Regulation 6.0105, Student Conduct and Discipline, that provides a framework and due process protections for student disciplinary proceedings and serves as a minimum threshold for universities’ conduct code regulations. The regulation needs to be revised to align with the best practices
recommended by the Association for Student Conduct Administration, specifically as related to handling disciplinary proceedings arising from complaints of sexual misconduct, harassment, or sexual assault.

5. ExpertNet/TalentNet – Legislative Budget Request

Chair Tripp introduced the item and reminded the committee that all proposed legislative budget requests are to be reviewed in the appropriate policy committee and approved before going to the Budget and Finance Committee to be included in the SUS legislative budget request. This item is for the 2015 legislative session.

Chair Tripp provided historical information about the Clearinghouse for Applied Research which is managed and maintained at FSU. The prominent component is ExpertNet, an online portal for university research and expertise, and includes TalentNet (a statewide inventory of post-secondary programs across all sectors). The Clearinghouse has been operating without receiving additional funding. Additional funding in the amount of $222,644 ($175,200 recurring and $47,444.00 non-recurring) is requested by FSU to maintain and enhance the Clearinghouse.

Dr. Ignash explained the proposed legislative budget request and reported that ExpertNet and TalentNet provide a major economic development strategy for the SUS and the recurring funds will be used to fund two staff positions to maintain and update the portals. Rebecca Augustyniak, project director for the Clearinghouse, reported that 25,000 unique individuals visit the site annually. Chair Tripp mentioned that usage would likely increase with improved marketing efforts.

Governor Robinson moved to recommend the 2015-2016 Legislative Budget Request for the ExpertNet/TalentNet - Clearinghouse for Applied Research to the Budget and Finance Committee. Governor Beard seconded the motion and the committee passed the motion.

6. Bright Futures Scholarship for Summer Term

Chair Tripp stated that discussion of the use of Bright Futures scholarships for summer terms as a legislative budget request began at the committee’s last meeting. Committee action was postponed to allow staff to research the topic.

Dr. Ignash reported on ASA research regarding the impact of a proposed policy change, using university survey information and system-wide data. The research found that 50% of students in spring 2014 who received Bright Futures scholarships took 24% fewer credit hours during summer 2014 compared to the preceding spring semester.
Projecting from this finding, if proportions remain constant, the cost would be $29.7 million. Dr. Ignash suggested that if Bright Futures becomes available to students in summer semesters, students might be encouraged to take more credit hours. A 10% increase in summer credit hours could potentially result in a cost of $41.6 million, and a 20% summer enrollment increase could result in a cost of $53.5 million. The status-quo estimate of $29.7 million is within the $32 million saved by increasing Bright Futures eligibility requirements. Dr. Ignash confirmed the $32 million cost savings estimate applies only to the SUS and does not include the Florida College System.

Additional research found that Bright Futures summer funding could enable universities to serve students more effectively, to promote faster time-to-degree completion, and to use campus facilities more fully during summer semesters. A survey of the universities conducted by Board staff also revealed different preferred methods that universities would implement Bright Futures funding. Several universities noted the importance of promoting time-to-degree by first serving those students closest to graduation. Several other universities noted the greater impact on time-to-degree if incoming freshmen were to be encouraged to pursue summer enrollment and Bright Futures awards.

Governor Cavallaro moved to recommend to the full Board that the Chancellor work with the universities and other stakeholders to further define the benefits of summer Bright Futures. Governor Beard seconded the motion, and the members concurred.

7. The Climate for Research Today and Faculty Roles and Responsibilities

Chair Tripp introduced the item and emphasized the university tripartite mission that includes teaching, research and services. He noted that the research component sets universities apart from other post-secondary institutions.

Dr. David Norton, University of Florida Vice President for Research, highlighted the role and purpose of university research and discussed recent changes and new challenges. He stated that innovation is now occurring globally and securing grant funding from national entities is extremely competitive. Other countries are funding research at a faster pace than the U.S., and Florida ranks 14th in the nation in total R&D funding.

Recommendations to meet the challenges are:

- to support statewide initiatives in research areas of health, data science, advanced manufacturing, and marine science, and
- to invest in recruiting and hiring faculty that bring with them highly funded projects and cluster hires in strategic areas.
Dr. Norton also stated that higher end computation ability that can share data across systems is a key to being competitive. He recommends investing in collaborative networks of data centers with computing capacities and storage that will provide information and a network to collaboratively compete for large grants.

Chair Tripp stated that he wants to continue discussions regarding university collaborative efforts to hire superstar faculty into the SUS and invited Dr. Norton to return next year to update the committee on this topic.

8. SUS Developmental Research Schools 2013-2014 Annual Report

Chair Tripp stated that the developmental research schools are housed at FAMU, FAU, FSU, and UF. Each school is affiliated with its host university’s college of education and provides a laboratory for educational research, curriculum innovation, and educator training and development.

Dr. Lynda Fender Hayes, director of the UF P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School provided a summary of the projects, research activities and outcomes in the four schools. The four DRS schools partner with university faculty in STEM related fields, allied health, physical therapy, pharmacy, public health, science education, and math education, as well as outside agencies. The schools’ projects include:

- Developing strategies to improve literacy and testing reading interventions;
- Testing virtual immersion on problem solving and communication skills, and instructional models to engage science students in argument driven inquiry;
- Improving middle school science, math pipeline, and technology integration;
- Adopting and using blended approaches to instruction using technology, management systems and the internet;
- Testing the link between the state teacher observation model and student achievement, and creating a model to support teacher learning practices;
- Participating in efforts to link STEM to art initiatives;
- Building and testing electric vehicles; developing the first robotics team.

These projects provided for numerous service and outreach opportunities, including:

- Collaboration resulting in the planned launch of an E publication;
- Hosting the annual best practices drive-in conference;
- Giving presentations to the FDOE and for state and national conferences;
- Being featured in a national magazine;
- Availability of the Florida Astronaut Challenge in Florida’s schools;
• Development of a new AP statistics course;
• FAU high school students in STEM who partnered with university faculty graduated from high school with 90+ college credits;
• FSU high school students graduated from high school with health science workforce certifications;
• Student interns learned classroom management skills using a teach-live simulator.

9. **Updates on TEAm Grant Program**

The 2013 legislature provided $15 million to the Board of Governors to address the targeted program areas identified in the Commission on Florida Higher Education Access and Degree Attainment gap analysis. In March 2014, the Board selected four partnerships to receive $15 million in funding for TEAm grants.

Dr. Christopher Mullin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy & Research, provided an update on the TEAm grant program. He reported that the four projects include:

• CSIT, an urban university coalition to respond to Florida’s computer and information technology workforce needs;
• A collaborative approach to increasing the supply of quality accounting graduates in Florida;
• FITC Alliance, expanding North Florida’s IT career pathways;
• CAPTURE, developing a computer accelerated pipeline to unlock regional excellence.

The TEAm grant dashboard provides an accountability and monitoring system that focuses on four program metrics: upper division enrollments, grant outcomes, performance, and bachelor’s degrees completers. In 2013-2014, enrollments were 149 more than expected and completers were 5 more than expected. Dr. Mullin reported that grantees are currently collecting data of graduates as they have one year post graduation to identify workforce outcomes. These data will be reported July 2015.

Board staff monitors approved budgets and spending allocations and all grant funding must be spent by December 2015, with institutions subsequently responsible for providing requisite funding to sustain programs. Grant money spent through December 2014 is $4.9 million, or 33% of TEAm grant funding.
10. **Academic and Student Affairs Updates**

Dr. Kevin Bailey, Chair of the SUS Council for Students Affairs (CSA), provided an update on anti-hazing initiatives. The Council is proposing changes to the annual anti-hazing summit, which is a day conference focused on anti-hazing programming, and will hold the summit every other year in the future. The Council is also doing a pilot launch with Alivetech which is an online anti-hazing tool.

Chair Tripp recognized student board member, Governor Stefano Cavallaro, to provide an update on activities and issues of interest to the Florida Student Association and SUS students. Governor Cavallaro reported that students are currently focused on making academic progress this semester, graduating and pursing their professional and career goals. Students are mindful of the cost of college and possible debit incurred. The FSA is meeting at FIU to finalize their legislative agenda with items that include gaining bonding approval for the capital improvement trust fund to improve student life facilities, no tuition increases, summer bright futures scholarships, tax break on textbooks, and creating a need based aid program.

11. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

Chair Tripp thanked members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

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Norman Tripp, Chair

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Richard P. Stevens,
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs