

**Board of Governors, State University System of Florida**  
**Strategic Planning and Academic and System Oversight Committee**  
**Academic Programs Team**  
**October 30, 2008 - 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

**NOTES**

**Attendees:** Governor Frank Martin, Governor Stanley Marshall, Governor John Temple, Governor Judy Solano, Governor Gus Stavros, Chancellor Mark Rosenberg (BOG), President Judy Genshaft (USF), Provost Ralph Wilcox (USF), Provost Ron Toll (FGCU), Provost Ron Berkman (FIU), Provost John Pritchett (FAU), Dorothy Minear (BOG), Richard Stevens (BOG), Danielle Duffourc (BOG), Mikey Bestebreurtje (BOG), R.E. LeMon (BOG), Jon Rogers (BOG), Tim Jones (BOG), Bill Edmonds (BOG), Michele Childers (BOG), Gary Perry (FAU), Diane Alperin (FAU), Charles Finkl (Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc.), Jennifer Buchanan (FSU), Lisa Plowfield (FSU), Kevin Sneed (USF), Eric Eisenberg (USF).

**Call to Order and Opening Comments**

Governor Martin welcomed everyone. A roll call of team members was conducted, and all other attendees were asked to identify themselves. Governor Martin spoke briefly about the intent of the BOG Strategic Planning and Academic and System Oversight Committee (SPASOC) and the mission of the Academic Programs Team to take a deeper look at the issues surrounding the academic programs that would go before SPASOC.

**New Degree Program Proposal Review**

Governor Martin announced that the Academic Programs Team would be reviewing six new degree proposals and one program termination. He provided background information on BOG program approval and termination processes and asked that the members remain mindful of the budget constraints that the State University System is facing as they review each proposal.

In the interest of time, each university was given 5 minutes to present and discuss its programs. After all six programs were presented to the Academic Programs Team, Governor Martin allowed the team to begin a question and answer session. (For readability and clarity of these notes, questions and comments about each program have been placed to follow the university presentation of the program).

**FAU PhD in Geosciences:**

***Presentation***

Dean Gary Perry stated that this will be a professionally driven PhD program that will provide jobs and increase access to and production of degrees. He explained that the Department of Geosciences combines Geology and Geography. The Geosciences degree will be highly technical and interdisciplinary, with 30 faculty from 5 different colleges. The program will be of little cost because it takes advantage of currently existing University resources, including a shift in emphasis from the existing master's program to the proposed Ph.D.

### ***Discussion***

Governor Temple acknowledged that this program was unique in Florida and asked if there were any others outside Florida. Dean Perry answered that there was nothing quite like this in the U.S.

Governor Temple followed up by asking who would hire a graduate from this program. Dr. Charles Finkl, a geosciences practitioner at Coastal Planning & Engineering, Inc., and program consultant, stated that Boca Raton will require geoscientists at the Ph.D. level to work on the complex problems inherent to coastal planning and renewal efforts. Typical employers in Florida might include the Department of Environmental Protection and private firms such as his that are hired to work on Florida's coast. Outside of Florida, he said that companies aimed at coastal preservation on the east and west coast would take an interest in program graduates.

Governor Marshall asked how this program would draw on the local community. Dean Perry responded that the program is expected to attract practitioners in the Boca Raton area, and will use the resources of the Everglades Restoration Project and Harbor Branch to offer students hands-on experience.

Governor Marshall asked how the University came to combine the fields of Geography and Geology. Dean Perry said that it was difficult initially, but the two fields seem to have blended well.

### **FSU Doctor of Nursing Practice:**

#### ***Presentation***

Dean Lisa Plowfield acknowledged that the program is not new to Florida, but this will be the first DNP offered in northwest Florida. The DNP will help provide Advanced Practitioner Nurses to northwest Florida. The program was developed in response to demand from working alumni and area healthcare providers. Resources will be reallocated from the MS Advanced Practitioner program to the DNP. The program will also help to build up the nursing faculty ranks in Florida.

#### ***Discussion***

Governor Marshall asked for more detail about the reallocation of resources. Dean Plowfield explained that, by 2013, FSU expects to offer all advanced nursing practitioner degrees as DNP, phasing out the MS advanced practitioner program.

### **USF PhDs in Government, History, and Sociology:**

#### ***Presentation***

President Judy Genshaft introduced the USF PhDs in History, Sociology and Government by stating that USF is a research university with \$360M in contract and grant funding. As such, she felt there was a need to offer more doctoral programs. Failure to offer these programs will result in a loss of Ph.D.-level faculty to universities where a Ph.D. is offered in their discipline.

Provost Ralph Wilcox added that the programs are linked by an interdisciplinary curriculum, and focus on sustainable communities in a globalized world. The faculty and resources have built up over time and these programs will be critical to retaining their talent. These programs are also essential to USF's ability to compete for federal grants. The baccalaureate programs will benefit from the additional faculty in these fields. The programs are not asking for additional investments at this time – many faculty are already in place in the departments.

### ***Discussion***

Governor Temple asked if these programs are part of USF's goal to become an AAU institution. As a follow-up, he asked what else would be needed in addition to these programs. President Genshaft stated that USF's goal is to move towards AAU eligibility, which has clear accountability measures in place. The University is very close to meeting AAU benchmarks in the student profile, already there in the research profile, and is now looking at the programmatic component, of which doctoral students are a key part. Governors Temple and Martin asked that USF follow up with specific numerical information about what else is needed, what else is coming to the BOG, and how much this will cost down the line. President Genshaft agreed to provide the additional information.

Governor Temple also asked how these programs are really different from the others currently offered in the state. Provost Wilcox explained that these programs are linked through their curricula and focused on Globalization and Sustainable Communities, whereas similar programs in other institutions are discipline based. As a result, the base of knowledge provided will be different. Students from these disciplines will take classes together relating to globalization. These programs would be of interest to organizations with a global focus, including the U.S. military.

Governor Marshall supported these programs on the basis that such PhD's should be expected at a comprehensive research university.

### **USF Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD):**

#### ***Presentation***

President Genshaft stated that the PharmD is important to the University and the community. The PharmD is aligned with the other health programs on the USF health campus. The University has already raised start up money to support the PharmD.

Dr. Kevin Sneed spoke on behalf of the College of Pharmacy and PharmD program. He pointed out the shortage of pharmacists in Florida and nationally. Pharmacists are in especially high demand in Florida because it has the largest population of elderly adults in the nation. USF's program will train both retail and hospital pharmacists. The program is important to USF Health because all core health programs have a pharmacy component. Florida has not established a public school of pharmacy in a long time. Graduates will be highly sought after by Tampa area pharmaceutical companies, pharmacies and health

providers. He also pointed out that there were an abundance of applicants for each existing pharmacy school.

### ***Discussion***

Governor Temple asked if USF was in fact creating a new School, not just a new degree program. President Genshaft said yes, but that the School is not seeking facilities at this time. Provost Wilcox compared the program to USF's Physical Therapy School, which is housed inside the USF College of Medicine. He said that the same arrangement would be made for the Pharmacy School. Governor Temple asked that USF be more explicit in laying out the cost of starting a new school.

Governor Marshall asked if this program would increase the number of pharmacists in stores. Dr. Sneed said that it definitely would, but the current shortage is so great that Walgreens also could not fill all of their vacancies if they hired all of the pharmacy graduates in Florida. Dr. Sneed added that this program is about access. There are 3 private universities in Florida that offer pharmacy degrees, but may be cost-prohibitive to many students. USF proposes to offer a high-quality program at a lower cost to their students. He also pointed out that pharmacy is a high wage profession, with a starting salary near \$100,000.

Governor Marshall asked for an explanation of the term nuclear pharmacy. Dr. Sneed explained that it is a special kind of pharmacy where the pharmacist needs to mix injections, such as dye injections, for hospital and outpatient use.

Governor Martin asked if there was a residency requirement. Dr. Sneed said that there was not a residency requirement to sit for the exam and become a licensed pharmacist, but students may choose to enter a post-doctoral research program.

### **General comments about all programs reviewed:**

Governor Temple asked for all programs, what the projected tuition costs would be, and how does it compare with other programs in the state and nationally. Universities were asked to respond to this as follow-up.

Governor Temple said that there may be some need to review what qualifies as a workforce degree in the SUS strategic plan because the current parameters are so broad that any program could be justified using them.

Governor Stavros stated that these programs were important for the retention of faculty and students in Florida.

Governor Marshall said that he felt that the universities did a good job making the case for all of these programs.

### **Termination of the FIU PhD in Industrial and Systems Engineering:**

Provost Ron Berkman stated that this termination was part of a much more comprehensive reorganization at FIU where 24 programs were eliminated at various levels. This degree was found to be the weakest in terms of enrollment and graduation rates.

### **Board of Governors Regulations**

Governor Martin asked the Board of Governors staff to present regulation revisions to the Team.

#### **Revised BOG Regulation 6.017 - Criteria for Award of the Baccalaureate Degree**

Richard Stevens explained that this regulation was revised to remove references to the Department of Education's articulation regulations while remaining aligned with the general education requirements used by all public institutions of higher education in Florida. The regulation outlines the general requirements for the award of a baccalaureate degree, allows the Board of Governors to grant exceptions as needed, and includes language to reflect the special criteria for the award of a baccalaureate degree in place at New College.

#### **Revised BOG Regulation 3.006 - Accreditation**

Jon Rogers explained that this regulation would require the university boards of trustees to develop regulations on accreditation. In addition, the original requirement that the university President notify the Chancellor of SACS accreditation visits has been preserved, but the reporting requirement has changed to allow universities to produce accreditation documentation at the request of the Board Office. A section has been added on discipline-specific accreditation, stating that universities are encouraged to seek specialized accreditation when available or to provide the Office of the Board of Governors with the rationale for not doing so as part of the State University System Accreditation Survey.

#### **Revised BOG Regulation 3.004 - Honorary Degrees**

Richard Stevens explained that the amended regulation delegates decision-making authority for the award of honorary degrees to the University Boards of Trustees and requires universities to develop policies and procedures for recommending candidates for honorary degrees.

Governor Temple asked how many honorary degrees have been awarded in the past few years to determine the magnitude of this issue before delegating the responsibility to the Trustees. BOG staff was asked to collect this information as follow-up.

### **Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

Governor Martin thanked everyone for helping to make the first meeting of the Academic Programs Team a success. He adjourned the meeting.