

MINUTES  
FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
STRATEGIC PLANNING/EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
MARCH 23, 2006

Mrs. Roberts, Chair of the Board, convened the meeting of the Strategic Planning/Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Governors at 10:50 a.m., in the Turnbull Center for Professional Development, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, March 23, 2006. Mrs. Roberts explained that Mr. Dasburg was not able to be present as he was with his critically ill father. The following members were present: Jorge Arrizurieta; Dr. Akshay Desai; Ann Duncan; Charles Edwards; Joe Goldberg; Dr. Stanley Marshall; Sheila McDevitt; Lynn Pappas; Ava Parker; Dr. Martha Peláez; Tico Perez; John Temple; and Dr. Zach Zachariah.

1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held January 26, 2006

Ms. Duncan moved that the Committee approve the Minutes of the Meeting held January 26, 2006, as presented. Dr. Paláez seconded the motion, and members of the Committee concurred.

2. Discussion/Consideration: Doctor of Nursing Practice

Dr. R.E. LeMon said the proposal to implement the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) was not an easy proposal. He explained that the movement for this new DNP was occurring nationally, but it was important that Board members understand the proposal and the implications for moving to the doctorate. He said there were advantages and disadvantages to this proposal. One clear advantage was the opportunity to educate new nurse educators who could become faculty in community college programs. He said Dr. Desai had been asked to take the lead in developing the resolution on this program for consideration of the Board of Governors.

Dr. Desai said he had worked closely with Dr. LeMon and Mr. Richard Stevens to understand the issue and to recommend an appropriate course of action. He said in its discussions of nursing, the Board had heard from the universities that one problem in educating more nurses was the lack of qualified faculty, thereby turning away hundreds of potential nursing students. He said this proposal for a Doctor of Nursing Practice helped highlight the different alternatives to address the nursing shortage, both in academia and in clinical settings.

Mr. Stevens said Board members had received copies of the letters of support for the DNP. He said he had also distributed a proposed Resolution on the implementation of DNP programs in Florida, as well as several suggested revisions. He said the DNP was expected to be the only degree for advanced practice nursing by 2015, but it was important for the Board to consider carefully whether the DNP was the appropriate direction for nursing education. He said there was general support for the program among Florida stakeholders, but also a concern about the impact of the DNP on other

graduate nursing programs and the production of graduates with the Masters degree. He said a positive impact was the potential for more clinical faculty and better healthcare. He noted that universities with the doctorate in nursing have the faculty and the resources to make the transition to the DNP. He said that proposals from UF and USF to implement the DNP were ready to go forward.

Mr. Stevens described three policy options for the Board. Option One would be a recommendation that no DNP programs be offered in the SUS, because it might not become the only credential for the ARNP and because of the possible negative impact on MSN programs. Option Two was the status quo and would require the universities to complete a DNP proposal for Board consideration, would limit the DNP to the ARNP programs, and would require the other MSN programs to remain in place. Mr. Stevens noted that the Legislative Budget Request issue addresses nursing, and key to that issue was increasing enrollment in the current masters and doctoral level nursing programs. He said that Option three presented the best opportunity to move forward with the DNP in a deliberative fashion. He said universities that currently offered the Ph.D. in nursing could implement the DNP with approval of their University Board of Trustees. The DNP would be limited to ARNP programs; other MSN programs would be required to remain until the Board had a better sense of the direction of these programs. Universities that did not offer the doctorate in nursing would be required to submit a full proposal for approval to implement the program by the Board of Governors. Last, the Board staff would monitor the impact on MSN enrollments as the DNP programs were implemented.

Dr. Desai said Board members had seen the proposed Resolution. He said revisions had been proposed to paragraphs b. and c. Paragraph b. was revised to require universities which did not currently offer the doctorate in nursing that wished to offer post-baccalaureate DNP programs would need to secure the approval of their own Boards of Trustees, and then provide a plan to the Board of Governors staff for phasing out existing master's programs, over a period of not less than two years. Paragraph c. was revised to require universities that currently offer a master's program to prepare nurse educators to maintain that program, unless otherwise permitted by the institution's Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors. In addition, nurse administrators and clinical nurse specialists were added as a part of the DNP program.

Dr. Doug Barrett, Dean, UF Medical School, said Dr. Machen sent his regrets, but had a prior scheduled commitment. He said he supported proposed Option Three. He said the DNP proposal had received extensive review, both nationally and in Florida. He said the proposed Resolution was a good solution and would keep Florida in tune with the progress of the program nationally. Dr. Desai noted that UF's Dean of Nursing, Dr. Kathleen Long, had been helpful in the discussions.

Dr. Desai moved that the Committee approve the proposed Resolution, as amended. Ms. Duncan seconded the motion, and members of the Committee concurred.

3. Developing a Methodology for Determining Costs, Capacity, Efficiency, and Quality

Mrs. Roberts said this agenda item was of particular interest to Mr. Dasburg and would be postponed for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m., March 23, 2006.

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John Dasburg, Chairman

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Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,  
Corporate Secretary