

**Board of Governors, State University System of Florida**  
**Strategic Planning and Academic and System Oversight Committee**  
**Academic Programs Team**  
**May 13, 2009 – 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

**NOTES**

**Attendees:** Governor Stanley Marshall, Governor John Temple, Governor Tico Perez, Governor Frank Martin, Marcie Driscoll (FSU), Cheryl Bieler (FSU), Jeff James (FSU), Angel Kwolek-Folland (UF), Mark Rieger (UF), Mikey Bestebreurtje (BOG), Dottie Minear (BOG), Nancy McKee (BOG), Richard Stevens (BOG), Jon Rogers (BOG), Kristie Harris (BOG), Danielle Duffourc (BOG)

**1. Call to Order and Opening Comments**

[Gov. Marshall welcomed everyone, asked Mikey to call the roll for Academic Programs Team members, and asked if any other BOG Members and university staff were on the conference call.]

**2. Fast-tracking approval and termination requests**

**Gov. Marshall:** Although the State University System as a whole came out of this Legislative Session with close to the same level of funding as last year, that level of funding includes some rather large amounts of targeted funding, including medical education and expansion of the USF branch campus in Lakeland. For this reason, several of the universities will still see serious budget reductions and all of the universities will likely have to make adjustments to their operations and instructional offerings.

In order to respond more quickly to budget reductions, universities may need to fast-track program approval and termination requests through their boards of trustees. The universities are requesting that the BOG remain flexible over the next few months by allowing such items that must be approved at the state level to follow parallel tracks through both the university boards and BOG, or to be taken up outside the cycle established in the BOG work plans.

Are Academic Programs Team members in agreement with granting this request, and further recommending to the full Strategic Planning and Academic and System Oversight Committee that it do the same?

**Gov. Temple:** If we're going to do this, it is fine with me. Whatever we approve should also have to be subject to Board of Trustees approval.

**Gov. Perez:** I'm not averse to parallel approval tracks either, but I think that the challenge there is that it is going to put a lot more burden on staff to make it clear that if something is just not acceptable, it doesn't get too far down the line where we get a board of trustees vote and then just have one week or something of that nature

to give a final approval. I think it's going to be important that staff be more engaged and we be more engaged throughout the process as things may change when it reaches the trustees. We would not be looking at a finalized proposal until they approve it and we could be well along the line with preconceived notions which may have changed later. I'm alright with it, I think it creates some efficiency, but I think it will burden staff.

**Gov. Marshall:** That is a legitimate caution and a good point. Staff has been listening and has heard that. We have a good and competent staff and I think they've gotten the message. So, I hear a yes to that and we expect the staff to work with their university colleagues who need to fast track approval and termination requests over the next 6 months. Now we will turn our attention to the Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences at the University of Florida.

### 3. Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences, University of Florida

**Gov. Marshall:** The University of Florida is seeking to elevate the existing Nutritional Sciences concentration in the Ph.D. in Food Science and Human Nutrition program to become the Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences. Funding will be reallocated from the Food Science and Human Nutrition program, and expenses will be minimal as the program continues to utilize faculty and facilities currently used for the concentration. This program was approved by the UF Board of Trustees at its June 15, 2007 meeting and originally submitted to the BOG in that year, but was withdrawn from consideration by the university before being taken up by our Board. The program has now been resubmitted for consideration. Let me look to the UF representative to see if you have anything you can say to help us understand what is needed.

**Angel Kwolek-Folland:** Good morning, this is Angel Kwolek-Folland. I am the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs standing in for Joe Glover and I have with me Mark Rieger, who is the Associate Dean of Academic Programs and he'll be able to answer any questions you have about this proposal.

**Gov. Marshall:** Okay, I'd like to turn this over to members of our team then and see if they have any questions. Do you folks have anything to add to what we have already received?

**Angel Kwolek-Folland:** We got into the call a little bit late, so just to let you know that we have complied with all of the issues that were listed in the staff assessment report.

**Gov. Marshall:** Yes, the chancellor's office has kept us pretty well informed I think. So, let me ask members of our team if there are questions or comments?

**Gov. Temple:** You put in your report how this meets workforce goals, but I still think that our criteria is so wide open that any Ph.D. request could be justified on that basis. Our strategic planning committee needs to review all of this language because it is too open. I happen to not see how the Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences meets a critical state concern, but it's been approved by the UF Board of Trustees and I'm not going to second guess that.

**Gov. Marshall:** Yes, your concern is a legitimate one and Frank Martin is on the call so I suspect that he has heard what you said.

**Gov. Temple:** Frank, we've talked about this before and I don't want to let it go because it's just too broad, and I have the same comment on the next item - Sport Management.

**Gov. Martin:** Certainly, I concur. I agree that it is very broad and I think we need to tighten it up a bit.

**Gov. Marshall:** If there are no other comments or questions, is there is a motion to recommend the Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences to the full committee for its consideration?

[Gov. Perez made a motion to approve, Gov. Temple seconded.]

**Gov. Marshall:** Are there any further questions or comments?

**Gov. Perez:** Has staff raised any concerns regarding this program? None have been raised to me.

**Richard Stevens:** I'll speak to that. This is a program that UF has been running as a concentration under another degree for close to 10 or 15 years and they have been graduating students. They have all of the faculty and everything in place. We never had a real issue with the costs associated with this program because it was all reallocated. The issues we had with the proposal were more technical in nature, getting the proper signatures and responses to some of the criteria. They have addressed those issues and sent us a revised proposal which is the one that you now have.

[The team unanimously voted to approve this program for review by the SPASOC committee and the full BOG.]

#### **4. Ph.D. in Sport Management, Florida State University**

**Gov. Marshall:** Florida State University is seeking to elevate the existing Sport Management specialization in the Ph.D. in Physical Education program to be a Ph.D.

in Sport Management. Funding will be reallocated from the physical education program, and expenses will be minimal as the program continues to utilize faculty and facilities currently used for the specialization.

This request by FSU is also an example of the type of fast-track flexibility needed for universities to respond to current budget reductions. Due to a need to shorten the timeline for implementation, FSU has asked that the Board of Governors consider a parallel approval process for this program. The program was submitted for review to the Academic Subcommittee of FSU Board of Trustees on May 5, 2009, and will be considered for approval by the FSU Board of Trustees at its June 17 and 18, 2009 meeting. So, now I would like to recognize the FSU Representative to say anything they would like about the proposed program and why it is important to fast-track its approval.

**Marcie Driscoll:** I'm Marcie Driscoll and I am the Dean of the College of Education at FSU. I have with me the department chair, Cheryl Bieler, and program representative, Jeff James. Approximately a year ago, we initiated a restructuring in the college to create a school of teacher education where we are bringing together all of the teacher education programs. The physical education program is a teacher education program, but the sport management concentration within it is not. The two programs have really operated independently pretty much from the beginning when the sport management program was created more than 10 years ago. At this point, it is a separate field from physical education. It prepares different sorts of folks, doesn't have the same concentrations, so we're looking to separate the two in order to move P.E. into the teacher education unit where it better fits, and leave sport management as an independent program.

**Gov. Perez:** I don't know that I understand the urgency of seeking our approval before their board of trustees' approval from that explanation.

**Marcie Driscoll:** I have spoken with members of the administration this morning who indicated that the Board of Trustees has been reviewing the proposal and will approve it at their June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Eric Walker, the chair of the faculty senate has already signed off on the proposal.

**Gov. Perez:** So, the problem is that your trustee meeting is against our BOG meeting and if you approve it at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, we won't get to it until July or August?

**Marcie Driscoll:** Right.

**Gov. Perez:** I don't have any problem with the program. Procedurally, it troubles me that we would approve a program before the University Board of Trustees does. We rely on the trustees to do the math and make certain that budgets and numbers

that we are looking at are accurate. We rely on the trustees to make these decisions, and we chime in if we believe there is a problem with their decisions. It is counterintuitive to reverse that order. If we moved this forward to the strategic planning committee and then the full board, we could possibly approve the program before the trustees do. So, procedurally it gives me an issue. If there is some urgency, I can certainly live with it, but I think its bad practice.

**Gov. Marshall:** I take it that you would prefer to have the Board of Trustees take their action first and then have the BOG act on it at our next meeting in August.

**Gov. Perez:** Procedurally, yes. I don't want to set back the university though. I don't think that it is precedentially binding if we do this today that we're going to do this in the future. These are difficult times and we are facing difficult challenges. I don't understand how if this program approval process started a year ago, that it comes down to two meetings on the exact same day to garner approval. I'd love to hear from staff on this as well.

**Richard Stevens:** We spoke to FSU staff about this program and also had the same concerns. We've been trying to work closely with the university to run what is essentially a parallel approval process. I agree that it's not a good precedent to set. The rationale' that the university gave to me was one of needing to reorganize some of their schools and departments to be in a good position to respond to budget cuts, which is why I agreed to bring it to your attention and see if it would be okay to put on this agenda. I have the same concerns as Governor Perez with regard to this running parallel. We're going to need to work closely with FSU to pull this off. The fact that the trustees meeting and the BOG meeting are on the same day is also troubling, but I would also like to advise the Team members that the FSU Board of Trustees has an academic review team that reviews the proposals and makes a decision on them in advance of the Board of Trustees meeting. Such items then go on the Board of Trustees consent agenda. Unless there is a real issue at that point, it's pretty much an accomplished thing. I would ask the university to speak again to that because this is really a favor to them to be able to move this along this quickly.

**Marcie Driscoll:** In response to that, the information that I had this morning is that the some members of the subcommittee of the trustees have already approved this proposal and signed. Others are expected to do so possibly today, but no later than Friday.

**Gov. Martin:** In terms of process, are we saying that certain members of the team have approved this request and others haven't? Do they meet to discuss this or is it one-on-one? I'm not sure I understood that internal approval process.

**Marcie Driscoll:** To the best of my knowledge in conversations with Provost Abele, the committee has approved the proposal, but we are still in process of acquiring the signatures.

**Gov. Perez:** I have no qualms about getting on the phone again in a week. I am troubled by the idea of approving something that has not obtained final approval from the review committee of the board of trustees, nonetheless the trustees themselves. This is not a parallel process, we're leading this process and that is a little troubling for me. Again, I'm prepared to vote yes for the degree – that is not the issue. I'm prepared to get on the phone in a week once we receive formal notice from the reviewing committee that they have adopted the proposal.

**Ann Blankenship:** This is Ann Blankenship. If I may, let me give you a little more information regarding the approval of the academic subcommittee. The majority of the committee members have approved. They wanted to get the faculty members approval first before they gave their final approval, which they have gotten. We should have that by Friday, but they have given their verbal approval. The board of trustees' approval will be done on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Richard Stevens:** Dr. Marshall, the Academic Programs Team can approve this program contingent upon approval. We can pull it from the agenda of the full committee if the trustees do not approve it and we do not get the paperwork we expect to see.

**Mikey Bestebreurtje:** Our board meeting is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, so we are meeting on the same days as FSU's Board of Trustees.

**Gov. Temple:** Well, if they're going to approve this on the 17<sup>th</sup>, why don't we just defer this until the 18<sup>th</sup>, when we have our board meeting?

**Gov. Marshall:** Our team could meet again after we receive word from FSU and before we forward it to the strategic planning committee.

**Gov. Martin:** I concur with this procedurally.

[The committee decided to table this proposal until the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors and the strategic planning committee].

##### **5. Request for Exemption from 120 credit hours to degree, Bachelors in Music Education, University of West Florida**

**Gov. Marshall:** The University of West Florida is requesting approval for the Bachelor of Music Education to be 134 credit hours to degree in order to meet requirements for professional teaching certificate eligibility and accreditation. All

currently existing Bachelors in Music Education programs in the state university system are approved for 134 credit hours to degree. Are there any comments or questions?

[Gov. Perez moved to recommend to the full committee the approval of the University of West Florida Bachelors in Music Education to be 134 credit hours to degree, Gov. Temple seconded, there were no comments or questions. The motion was unanimously approved.]

## 6. Administrative split of research and professional doctorates for IPEDS reporting

**Gov. Marshall:** I am recognizing Richard Stevens to explain this item.

**Richard Stevens:** This is really a technical change to our academic program inventory. Universities must report to the IPEDS database their degree completions and enrollments, and other information for each degree program, to remain eligible for federal financial aid. Several years ago, the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) decided to pull together a technical review panel to take a look at the categories that institutions were reporting the doctorates in. At that time, and still, there are 2 categories that you typically see: the professional category, which includes law, medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, etc., and the doctoral category, which includes a range of different programs including research programs and programs geared towards occupations and professions.

Over the years, a number of programs have moved towards the doctorate level for professional licensing. This has happened with physical therapy, audiology and pharmacy. They all wanted to start reporting under the professional category and it started to raise questions at the national level about how to reorganize reporting categories. So a group came together to review the issue and NCES decided to revise the categories to include three categories of doctorates:

- Research doctorates, including your typical Ph.D. and other degrees that require a dissertation for completion;
- Professionally-oriented doctorates, including former professional degrees such as medicine, law, etc., but also doctorates that either meet a professional requirement or were designed for professionals in the workforce who needed to move on to the doctorate level and the type of advanced education that is associated with that level; and
- Other doctorates which do not fit into either of the first two categories.

So, in order to be able to report this fall, we need to be able to reorganize our state university system academic program inventory to align with these new categories that the universities will have to report under.

The issue that we have run into is that universities typically run tracks under approved programs. In some cases, a program may have both a research track and a professional track operating under that particular program. This leaves everyone wondering whether these programs would be considered research or professional. So, we're asking the team and the Board to allow us to make a one-time administrative change to align the degree inventory with the new reporting categories, allowing universities to split out their tracks to a separate degree on the inventory without coming through the proposal process. In this case, we are talking about programs that are running as a track under an existing program. We're not talking about adding new resources - it's primarily a data collection effort. I'm happy to try to answer any questions related to this.

**Gov. Marshall:** Well stated, Richard. Do any members of the team have questions or comments for Richard? Hearing none, I will ask if there is a motion to recommend to the full committee that Board staff be allowed to make administrative changes to the SUS Academic Degree Programs Inventory, as described in the agenda item, in order to implement new requirements for IPEDS reporting.

[Gov. Temple moved, Gov. Perez seconded, team unanimously approved]

## 7. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

**Gov. Marshall:** I have no further comments and believe we are ready to adjourn, but I would like to thank the team members, Temple and Perez, and also to Gov. Martin for joining us this morning. He is chair of the parent committee and it is important that they be informed about what the team is doing. Are there any further comments or questions? If not, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you all very much.