

MINUTES  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
COMMITTEE ON TWO+TWO ARTICULATION  
NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA  
September 12, 2018

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and its Committees are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu>.*

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Wendy Link convened the meeting on September 12, 2018 at 4:27 p.m. with the following members present and answering roll call: Governors Link, Levine, Lautenbach, Patel, Stewart, and Tripp. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting

Chair Link asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 28, 2018 committee meeting. Governor Patel moved to approve and Governor Levine seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Strategy 1: Recommendation for a Web-Based 2+2 Advising Tool

Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Christy England's presentation focused on summarizing the 2+2 Articulation Implementation Plan, and the efforts and recommendations of the workgroup towards meeting Strategy I.

Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated that the members of the workgroup conducted a review of various websites containing information for 2+2 students. After the review, it was determined that the Florida Shines website, administered by Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC), was the most comprehensive website in existence at the time. The Florida Shines website did not meet all of the criteria identified by the workgroup, but it did meet nearly half and the workgroup felt it was the best starting place. The workgroup has recommended that the Board of Governors Office staff develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FLVC in collaboration with the Florida Department of Education and the Florida College System. This MOU would charge the FLVC with developing a portion of the Florida Shines website that would be specifically focused on transfer students, and meet the criteria established by the workgroup, including criteria such as: primary users; twenty content areas; and also

include a list of features and functionality the workgroup felt were important for the tool to have.

The workgroup also recommended a two-phase implementation for the new tool. This is based on a conversation from the end of July with staff from FLVC regarding the mission of the Florida Shines website. Phase 1 of the project will involve the development of a transfer focus page linking users to critical content areas, many of which are already in existence on the Florida Shines website. This phase will also incorporate the finalization of the ongoing modifications to the Common Prerequisite Manual, which has been an ongoing project since the beginning of 2018. Professional development for advisors and enhancement for program staff on how to use the website and find resources will also be part of Phase 1.

Phase 2 of the project is the longer term and more ideal solution. It will guide the user based on their individual need and unique situation. As part of this phase, Acting Vice Chancellor England highlighted the importance of developing a marketing plan for the new website, ensuring that targeted users know it exists. Phase 2 will also include a plan for continuity and future development of the website.

During the presentation, Chair Link asked if the colleges and universities would have the opportunity to review and approve the product before it goes live. Acting Vice Chancellor England explained that there would be an opportunity for user testing, and explained that part of the recommendation was to establish an advisory board or executive committee responsible for signing off on the content. Acting Vice Chancellor England shared that she would work to extend an opportunity for all 12 State University System institutions and all of the Florida College System institutions to review the tool before it goes live. Chair Link explained that she wants to make sure the tool provides accurate information to the students. Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated she would be happy to work that into the process.

Acting Vice Chancellor England highlighted some of the benefits of the proposed website. First, the proposed website enhances an already existing student-focused resource, Florida Shines. Second, the recommendation has an accountability component through the MOU and an advisory board to oversee implementation. Third, there is no cost for the development of this website.

Following her presentation, Acting Vice Chancellor England submitted the recommendation for the creation of a Web-Based 2+2 Advising Tool to be developed by the FLVC, along with collaboration from the Florida Department of Education and the Florida College System to the committee for approval. Chair Link inquired about marketing the tool. Specifically, would links be available on the Board website, as well as on the individual universities' websites? Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated

that all workgroup members agreed it was important to make the information available and visible and to connect users to the resource.

Chair Link asked for a motion to approve the 2+2 Articulation Workgroup recommendation for implementing Strategy 1 of the Board's Improving 2+2 Articulation plan. Governor Patel moved to approve and Board Chair Lautenbach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 4. Update on Data Related to 2+2 Transfer Students in the State University System

Chair Link reintroduced Acting Vice Chancellor, Dr. Christy England, to provide information regarding Florida College System transfer students entering the State University System.

Acting Vice Chancellor England began by reminding the members of the committee that this had been an agenda item previously scheduled for the June meeting, but was postponed until this meeting. She indicated that the postponement allowed Board office staff to gather additional data for the update. Acting Vice Chancellor England highlighted the collaboration between the Board's Chief Data Officer, Jason Jones, and the Florida College System Chief Data Officer, Eric Godin, to collect the additional data. Acting Vice Chancellor England then began her presentation regarding the snapshot of transfer student data to the committee.

Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated that the additional data came from the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP), which is the state's K-20 data warehouse. FETPIP links education data to employment data, and they specifically provided data regarding Associates in Arts (AA) graduates in Florida. Their data showed that of roughly 56,700 students, 65% were employed after finishing their AA degree, some of those students may be enrolled and working simultaneously. Seventy percent of the students continued their education. Acting Vice Chancellor England acknowledged that there is some data overlap. Eleven percent of the students were not able to be tracked. This does not necessarily mean that the students are not working, but the data was not available. In total, this amounts to just under 40,000, or about 70% of students who continue their education after completing their AA, leaving about 17,000 students who did not continue their education.

Of the 70% of AA graduates who continued their education, Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated that nearly 67%, or about 25,000 of those students enrolled in a State University System institution. Twenty-eight percent of the students enrolled in a Florida College System institution, and 5% enrolled in a private or other institution to continue their education.

Of the AA graduates, the data shows that about 61% applied to a State University System institution. From that 61%, 84% (about 30,500) of those students were admitted, and of the 84% of students admitted, 83% (25,000 students) actually enrolled in the institution. Overall, the State University System institutions received about 45% of AA transfers.

Acting Vice Chancellor England provided an overview of some of the students who were not admitted to the State University System. The most outstanding difference was the GPA between the two groups of students. The students who were admitted had an average GPA of 3.09, while the students who were denied admission had an average GPA of 2.93. This has not been verified for statistical significance.

During the presentation, Chancellor Criser asked for clarification regarding AA transfer students who were denied admission to a State University System institution. Particularly, Chancellor Criser wanted clarification regarding if the admissions data was based on the university in which the student applied to, rather than all universities. Acting Vice Chancellor England highlighted previous data that most AA transfer students only applied to one university. While students are guaranteed admission to one of the state universities, they may not get the institution of their choice. Chair Link highlighted that prior research has shown that most students only apply to one institution because they are location-bound. Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated the Florida College System is going to work with Board office staff to get a better understanding of this issue going forward.

There were roughly 4,200 AA graduates who were admitted to a State University System institution, but did not enroll. Of these students: 33% enrolled in a Florida College System institution; 30% did not enroll anywhere; 27% enrolled at multiple institutions (non-SUS); and 3% chose to enroll in an ICUF institution.

Associate in Arts transfer students make up about 25% of all undergraduate students enrolled in the State University System. Eighty-five percent of the applicants are admitted. The demographics of the AA transfer students are similar to native State University System students; however, there is a slightly higher number of female students, and a higher number of Hispanic students. The 4-year graduation rate for AA transfer students is similar to the 6-year graduation rate of first-time in college students.

Board Chair Lautenbach asked if the Board office had the data available by college. Acting Vice Chancellor England believed that it was possible to do so. Board Chair Lautenbach indicated that this data would be helpful in identifying which institutions are being successful and if there was something other institutions could learn from them. Chair Link said the Florida College System might be able to provide some of that data. She also highlighted that colleges close to state universities might see a higher number of students enrolling who were not admitted to State University System

institutions. Both Chair Link and Board Chair Lautenbach agreed the data would be helpful and might provide valuable insight on 2+2 pathways.

Acting Vice Chancellor England also reminded the committee that Strategy 3 is focused on developing a data toolkit, and the comments from this Committee would be incorporated. The workgroup has identified a few areas that will be included in the strategy.

Acting Vice Chancellor England concluded her presentation and asked if Board members had questions.

Governor Felton encouraged the Committee to consider looking into what is happening to the students who complete the AA and do not apply to enter the State University System. He also asked the Committee to consider if there was more that could be done.

Governor Levine congratulated Chair Link and staff for implementing the work plan. He indicated that one thing the Committee needed to be made aware of was the number of jobs being created in Florida, and the need to fill the workforce. He noted that the Rise to 55 initiative that started with the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) is becoming a statewide initiative to get all working age adults in Florida a postsecondary credential. He encouraged members to look at what HECC has done. He noted that Chancellor Madeline Pumariega of the Florida College System is leading the Rise to 55 Initiative. He said the 2+2 Committee should monitor this because it is a direct partnership between the State University System and the Florida College System. He noted Florida's future high workforce demand, and the shortage of qualified individuals to fill the positions.

Governor Tripp asked if it would be possible to get the data regarding the number of students enrolled in courses for AA degrees where there is no intention by the student to seek further education beyond the AA. Governor Tripp explained that this would prevent the Board from focusing on unrealistic objectives. Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated she would check with staff in the Florida College System. She indicated that in past conversations she learned that the Florida College System does collect some data about intent, but it is not always reliable or usable. She also reported that the Florida College System is planning to do a wage analysis looking at both pre- and post-credential. She said she would go back to the Florida College System staff for more information. Governor Tripp said in his discussions, many students choose to enroll in a private for-profit institution because they are directing the students toward jobs. Governor Tripp said it would be helpful to know if there are areas students are enrolling in and have no desire to go further with their education, but instead are focused on getting a job.

Governor Patel asked if the State University System is still having an issue with getting institutions to participate in 2+2 agreements. Acting Vice Chancellor England cited an updated 2+2 list presented at the March 2018 Board meeting showing that all 28 Florida College System institutions had an agreement with at least one State University System institution. Additionally, all 12 State University System institutions had an agreement with at least one Florida College System institution with the exception of Florida Polytechnic University (POLY) and New College of Florida. She indicated that she believed POLY was in the process of establishing 2+2 partnerships.

Chair Link wanted to clarify that 84% of AA transfer students who applied to State University System institutions were admitted to a university. She asked about adding information in rejection letters encouraging denied applicants to apply to other State University System institutions. Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated that the Board Office is still looking into that. Chair Link asked about the 30% of students who did not enroll anywhere, and if they chose not to enroll due to funding concerns. She asked if there was any way to research why they chose not to apply or enroll anywhere. Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated she would likely need to work with staff in the Florida College System to get more information and perhaps conduct a special study. Acting Vice Chancellor England said she would be happy to follow up and attempt to gather more information, perhaps taking into account demographics and age.

President Donald O'Shea, New College of Florida, said they have executed an agreement, and are working on others. Chair Link noted that this would mean 100% of the State University System institutions have enhanced transfer agreements.

##### 5. Financial Aid for Transfer Students

Chair Link introduced Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management and Planning Ms. Billie Jo Hamilton from the University of South Florida. Ms. Hamilton thanked the committee for the opportunity to provide an overview of the financial aid process.

Ms. Hamilton's presentation included information highlighting the types of aid that are available to transfer students; methods financial aid officers use to determine what aid students qualify for; identifying some of the challenges that exist for transfer students; and answering any questions from the Board members.

During the presentation, Board Chair Lautenbach asked how it is possible for there to be a cost variance among institutions. Ms. Hamilton explained that the variance could be due, in part, to the type of institution the student chooses to attend.

Chair Link asked Ms. Hamilton for clarification regarding the transfer students missing the institutional priority deadlines for financial aid. Specifically, Chair link asked if Ms. Hamilton noticed that the transfer students seemed to be more likely to miss the deadlines, or if there was something in the system that would prevent them from being able to meet these deadlines. Ms. Hamilton responded by indicating that there was nothing in the system that would prevent them from meeting the deadlines. She also indicated that most transfer students apply for admission later than freshman students do. Chair Link asked if it was possible that by the time some of the transfer students were admitted to the university, they had already missed the priority deadline. Ms. Hamilton indicated that it was possible, and in some cases those students might miss out on some limited funding available at the institution. Ms. Hamilton shared that students are still awarded the federal aid they are eligible to receive.

Chair Link thanked Ms. Hamilton for her presentation and asked if any committee members had any questions.

Board Chair Lautenbach asked if Pell Grants have the same eligibility criteria as other types of aid. Ms. Hamilton indicated that federal programs fall under the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy and criteria.

Chancellor Criser asked Ms. Hamilton if she had come across any income sharing agreements (ISAs). Ms. Hamilton responded that they seem to be utilized at higher cost institutions. She indicated that, because of the low cost of tuition in Florida, there has not been much student interest in those agreements.

Chair Link expressed some concern regarding students who begin their education in the Florida College System who may have financial need as a factor in why they choose to attend a particular institution. Chair Link asked if there was a way to consider improving communication with students attending Florida College System institutions to inform them of the deadlines. Ms. Hamilton indicated that the University of South Florida was working with partner institutions in the FUSE agreement to improve communication. She also encourages students to research the institution they are looking to transfer to at least one year early. Ms. Hamilton also indicated that students are able to list ten institutions on their FAFSA form.

Chair Link thanked Ms. Hamilton for her presentation.

## 6. 2018-2019 2+2 Committee Work Plan

Chair Link called upon Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christy England to review the 2018-2019 2+2 Committee Work Plan. Acting Vice Chancellor England began her presentation to the Committee with plans for the January 2019 Committee meeting.

Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated the January 2019 meeting would include a presentation on dual enrollment; an update on Strategy 1; and an update of the progress of the workgroup related to Strategy 2. The March 2019 meeting will include final recommendations from the workgroup for Strategy 2, as well as an implementation update for Strategy 1. By September 2019, Acting Vice Chancellor England indicated she hopes to have a recommendation ready to present to the committee regarding the data tool kit, updates on Strategies 1 and 2, as well as an update on the AA transfer data presented at this meeting.

Following the presentation, Chair Link asked Acting Vice Chancellor England about inviting the Chancellor of the Florida College System, and the Chair of the Florida College System Counsel of Presidents to attend every 2+2 Committee meeting. Additionally, Chair Link suggested inviting local Florida College System institutions to attend the committee meetings. Acting Vice Chancellor England also suggested inviting Florida Polytechnic University and New College of Florida to present on their new agreements.

Chair Link asked for a motion to approve the 2018-2019 Work Plan for the 2+2 Articulation Committee. Governor Patel motioned and Board Chair Lautenbach seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

## 7. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Link adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

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Wendy S. Link, Chair

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Jeremy Hudak  
Assistant Director for Academic and Student Affairs