

MINUTES  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
INNOVATION AND ONLINE COMMITTEE  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA  
TAMPA, FLORIDA  
AUGUST 28, 2019

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Ed Morton convened the meeting at 1:24 p.m. on August 28, 2019, with the following members present: Vice Chair Darlene Jordan; Tim Cerio; Dr. Shawn Felton; H. Wayne Huizenga, Jr.; Zenani D. Johnson; Syd Kitson; Eric Silagy (joined 1:53 p.m.); Kent Stermon, and Norm Tripp. A quorum was established.

2. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes

Governor Jordan moved that the committee approve the minutes of the June 13, 2019, meeting, as presented. Governor Stermon seconded the motion, and the members concurred.

3. Textbook Affordability: Plan of Action

Chair Morton reminded the Committee that at its June meeting, the Committee had asked staff to present a plan for developing agreements with publishers at the System level so that students throughout the State may obtain materials at more affordable prices than are currently available.

Dr. Lynn Nelson said that representatives from each institution, including faculty, administrators, and students, met with Chancellor Criser and Board staff to assist in the development of the initiative. She said that components of the initiative include:

- Student cost of course materials, including pricing mark-ups by university bookstore vendors, would be provided for (a) \$20 or less per credit hour or (b) more than \$20 per credit hour, but at a noticeably lower retail cost than students would otherwise pay;
- The format of materials that meet the pricing described would be identified as either print, digital, or both;
- Students would have access to materials on the first day of class and beyond the end of the course and would not pay twice for digital access if the course is dropped and taken at a later time;
- Students would have the option for print-on-demand for digital materials;
- Accessibility for students with disabilities would be available;
- Bookstore vendors would develop mechanisms for capturing and reporting faculty use of open education resources and other no-cost resources; and
- Institutions would have access to data for reporting purposes.

Dr. Nelson described the process and timeline for the Action Plan, saying that signed Letters of Commitment from publishers and bookstore vendors must be received at the Board Office no later than November 22, 2019. By January 20 of each year, beginning in 2020, publishers will have available for faculty review and consideration the list of materials meeting the terms of their commitment.

She said that each institution will report the number of course sections that met the pricing goal of \$20 or less per credit hour for required course materials in the annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability report due to the Chancellor by September 30, beginning with the 2021 report.

Governor Tripp moved that the Committee approve the Action Plan for the Pricing of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials. Governor Huizenga seconded the motion and the members concurred.

#### 4. Affordability Performance Indicators and Goals

Chair Morton reminded the Committee that the Quality Performance Indicators and Goals from the *2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education* had been presented to the Committee at its June meeting; the Affordability ones were being presented at the August meeting; and the Access ones would be presented at the October meeting, at which time a vote would be taken on all performance indicators and goals.

Dr. Nancy McKee said that the four Affordability performance indicators and goals had been reviewed by the Steering Committee, the group of provosts charged with providing guidance on the implementation of the *2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education*:

- The recommendation on the performance indicator and goal related to e-texts and open educational resources is to revise them after two other activities have been completed: (1) the publication of the 2021 Annual Report on Textbook Affordability, which will show how many courses on every campus have materials that cost \$20 or less, and (2) the conversations underway regarding the revision of the Performance-Based Metric on Textbook Affordability.
- The recommendation is to merge the second and third performance measures, which address working collaboratively, because they are very similar. The new performance indicator is proposed to be “SUS institutions collaborate on course design and development” with the goal being “All universities offering online education work collaboratively to share online course development tasks and resources.” Dr. McKee provided examples of collaborative course development tasks and resources underway as a result of the *2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education*.
- The recommendation for the Innovative Strategies performance indicator is to broaden it to include other types of innovative approaches, not just competency-based or adaptive learning. She said the corresponding proposed goal is “SUS institutions will utilize online education or

innovative strategies to enhance student success.” Dr. McKee described innovative strategies that were shared at the System’s first Innovation Summit held in March 2019, and she indicated that some of the partners in the Complete Florida Degree Program have developed competency based courses and programs.

5. Exemplary Online Students

Two graduates of FGCU’s online Master’s program in Public Administration shared their experiences in the program and in employment: Kathleen Smith, Public Defender, 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, and Kristina King, Business Manager, City of North Port’s Department of Public Works.

6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Morton adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m..

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Edward Morton, Chair

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Nancy C. McKee, Ph.D.  
Associate Vice Chancellor