

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 5, 2014

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

1. Call to Order

Chair Tom Kuntz convened the meeting at 3:48 p.m. on November 5, 2014, with the following members present and answering roll call: Wendy Link and Edward Morton. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes

Governor Morton moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 17, 2014, as presented. Governor Link seconded the motion, and the members concurred.

3. Florida Polytechnic University Implementation Update

Chair Kuntz began by stating that the Committee continues to be focused on completing requirements set forth by the Florida Legislature by December 31, 2016. Chair Kuntz then recognized the President of Florida Polytechnic University, Dr. Randy Avent, to provide a progress update.

Dr. Avent noted that, of the six statutory requirements, Florida Polytechnic was making progress on all the requirements and has completed two thus far. For the STEM academic programs, the institution has hired 23 full-time faculty members, and is planning on an additional 30 positions next year. Spring registration is now open and Florida Poly is offering 45 different courses with 132 course sections.

With regard to student enrollment, headcount as of the end of October 2014 was 540 students, with 518 at the undergraduate level and 33 at the graduate level. Florida Polytechnic is also expecting an additional 75 students for the spring semester. In

response to a question from Chair Kuntz regarding 2016 enrollments, President Avent said that the institution expects 1,244 FTE, which translates to approximately 1,700 headcount. Chair Kuntz asked President Avent how confident he was that FTE projections would be met, and President Avent responded that he felt that the institution was on track to meet its projections. He said that Florida Polytechnic had 16,000 inquiries from graduating seniors, 16,000 from juniors, and 7,000 from sophomores. President Avent noted that most of the students were coming from Polk County and surrounding areas but that out-of-state inquiries have increased and are coming from states such as California, Georgia, and Texas.

Regarding administration of the University, Dr. Avent noted that the institution has established required functions in-house as well as through outside contracts. In terms of accreditation, he stated that activities are proceeding on schedule. Florida Polytechnic has finished the fourth draft of a partial application, which it plans to submit in December 2014. The draft has been submitted to the institution's SACS consultant with a focus on assessment and documentation.

Dr. Avent noted that Florida Polytechnic is also focused on discipline-specific accreditation, which is granted by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). ABET evaluates degree programs, unlike SACSCOC which is focused on the institution. The ABET application is a two-year process that begins after SACS regional accreditation is achieved, but Florida Polytechnic is trying to reduce that number to a year.

For facilities and construction, President Avent noted that six buildings have been completed on campus. Florida Polytechnic submitted a capital improvement plan at the last Board meeting and discussed its top priority, which is the applied research center. The institution is following a ten-year strategic growth plan, which will assist in determining how many dorms and beds are needed, as well as how much space will be needed in future years for program offices, research labs, and administrative functions. President Avent also stated that student capacity for classrooms is 2,600 and that it is possible the institution will run out of classroom space in five to six years. Before that happens, however, the institution will run out of space for faculty. Governor Hosseini requested clarification about whether the existing facility would cover enough space for the amount of professors needed for 2,600 students. Dr. Avent responded that 70 offices and administrators are currently housed off-campus. The institution will hire 50 faculty members next year, and another 25 in 2016. Chair Hosseini said that Florida Polytechnic could use classroom space for the faculty and Dr. Avent agreed that this might provide a solution.

Chair Kuntz said that by the end of 2016, the Board expects Florida Polytechnic to have fulfilled the statutory requirements and to be able to report to the Florida Legislature that each milestone has been achieved.

Governor Morton asked for clarification on what Florida Polytechnic meant by a partial application for accreditation. President Avent described that a partial application is submitted to SACS before the full application is submitted to ascertain whether the institution is on track in its quest for accreditation.

4. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Kuntz thanked the members for their participation and adjourned the Select Committee meeting at 4:01 p.m.

Tom Kuntz, Chair

Karen Dennis, Executive Assistant