Chair Bill Self opened the meeting at 3:00.

Approval of Minutes from March 26th meeting – Minutes for meeting were deferred until May 21 meeting.

Discussion of idea for ‘organization’ of ACFS to include committee structure: The discussion of creating committees for the ACFS or maintaining the ad hoc committees as needed centered around the need for a committee would change with the issues in the state. Currently, tenure is under scrutiny by BOT members. This could become an issue that will need ACFS attention in the near future. It was decided to maintain the current structure of appointing ad hoc committees to investigate an issue and bring their recommendations back to the body at large for discussion.

Discussion of potential meeting dates and modalities: Because of the continuing concerns about COVID-19 May 21st meeting would be on Zoom. Topics for the meeting would be the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the membership of the BOTs, changes in UF’s retirement, meeting with Chancellor Criser (potentially at 11:00), and UCF lobbyist for 30 minutes.

By the end of summer, it should be possible to meet face-to-face. Most institutions will have 75 to 100% of staff and faculty back on campus. The consensus was that the fall meeting could be held in Orlando face-to-face but that Zoom connection will be available.

Pre-BOG discussion of materials for May 11th BOG meeting: There is very little controversial on the agenda.
1. The Task Force on Work Force Alignment will report on opportunities and degree production in Healthcare.
2. New Honor’s Hall at UF. UF demonstrating the ability to pay for it.
3. Update on PICO projects
4. New Ph.D. program at UF with high industry demand and a strong track record at UF.
5. Regulation change (6.022) reflecting the bill in the legislature on use of name, likeness, and image of student athletes.
6. Legislative update: It is likely that the 6% held by the state will be returned to the universities. There is a bill with a limit of using E&G for only $200,000 of faculty salaries over that amount. The difference can be paid from other sources.
7. Governance committee will focus on legislative appointments and the new bill that will make the search for Presidents at universities open for 21 days.

With the legislature aware of how problematic presidential searches are in Florida, the ACFS members should educate them on how the flow of power works at universities. These conversations would include tenure, qualifications of presidents, and the need for the construction of buildings.

New Business: FSU president’s search is running procedurally correct but is not open to the Sunshine. Names will be announced May 17 and a decision will be made by the BOT on May 23. New College has named Patricia Okker its next president.

The focus of the push back on HB 233 is to add statements to syllabi to help students understand consequences and faculty to understand the law. The Senate bill specified lecture only but the House bill was more vague in its language.

Foreign Influence Bill-DS160 form will be necessary for researchers and faculty from 6 or 7 countries. It could become an obstacle for recruitment for faculty and researchers when other states have fewer hurdles for employment.

ACFS members agreed that we should contact our representatives and meet with them.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.