STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

AGENDA

STEERING COMMITTEE
Innovation and Online Education
Virtual Meeting
May 26, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Chair: Joe Glover; Vice Chair: Michael Johnson
Members: Ellenberg, McKee (non-voting), Patterson, Rieger, Wilcox

1. **Call to Order and Opening Remarks**   **Provost Joe Glover, Chair**

2. **Approval of Minutes**   **Chair Glover**
    Minutes, Steering Committee, March 3, 2022

3. **Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the SUS:**
    Presentations for the Board's June Innovation and Online
    Committee Meeting

    a. Inter-SUS Tele-Counseling Support   **Dr. Mitch Cordova**
                                                                    Florida Gulf Coast University
                                                        Chair, SUS Council for Student Affairs

    b. Human Resources Policies on Work Modalities   **Ms. Renisha Gibbs**
                                                                    Florida State University
                                                Chair, SUS Council of University Human
                                                                Resources Executives

4. **Research Questions for Post-Pandemic World**   **Chair Glover**

5. **Draft 2021 Annual Report for Online Education**   **Dr. Nancy McKee**
    and Related Data Requests   *Associate Vice Chancellor*

6. **Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**   **Chair Glover**

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
STEERING COMMITTEE
Innovation and Online Education
May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

PROPOSED STEERING COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Committee members will review and consider approval of the minutes of the meeting held March 3, 2022.

Supporting Documentation Included: Steering Committee Minutes, March 3, 2022

Facilitators/Presenters: Chair Glover

MINUTES
STEERING COMMITTEE FOR INNOVATION AND ONLINE EDUCATION
VIRTUAL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2022

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

Chair Bret Danilowicz convened the meeting at 2:01 p.m. on March 3, 2022, with the following members present: Provosts George Ellenberg, Joe Glover, Michael Johnson, Mark Rieger and Ralph Wilcox and Associate Vice Chancellor Nancy McKee (non-voting). A quorum was established.

The following invited guests and Implementation Committee members were in attendance: Provosts Jim Clark and Terry Parker; Data Administrators Dr. Rick Burnette (FSU), Masha Galchenko (USF), Dr. Hiselgis Perez (FIU), Dr. Abby Willcox (UNF), James Hunt (FSU), and Troy Miller (Board of Governors); Implementation Committee members Michelle Horton (UWF); David Jaeger (FGCU); Deb Miller (UNF); Cindy DeLuca (USF); Julie Golden-Botti (FAU); Evangelia Prevolis (FIU); Franzetta Fitz (FAMU); Tom Dvorske (Polytechnic); Robby Fuselier (FSU); Tom Cavanagh (UCF); and Mariam Manzur-Leiva (NCF).

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Provost Wilcox moved approval of the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held on February 9, 2022. Provost Ellenberg seconded the motion and members concurred unanimously.

3. **Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World: Next Steps**

Chair Danilowicz described the meeting as a brainstorming session, saying the primary focus would be on data to be collected and analyzed system-wide. Provost Glover stated that one of the worst burdens is the number of reports to the Board of Governors and the Committee needs to be cautious about the burden placed on Institutional Researchers. Data collections should be restricted to critical items which will hopefully be data that we already collect.

Provost Wilcox stated that it might be helpful to first identify categories of data needed, perhaps by tracking categories in the Accountability Plan: Student Access and Success, which could uncover differences in impact of the pandemic on different groups (this could include modalities); changes in space utilization; research; and financial elements.

Chair Danilowicz said the Committee could determine the research that provosts would like to collect, then make research requests of the Florida Distance Learning Research Consortium. Requests could be compiled and prioritized.

Provost Wilcox suggested looking at the impact of the pandemic on students entering the system. While the Florida College System has been impacted more than the SUS at this point, those students will be ours downstream. We should look at them from admissions to graduation to employment, asking different questions than in the past and analyzing data in different ways.

Chair Danilowicz said the Steering Committee may need to create a workgroup, because it may be difficult to get organized in a large group.

Provost Glover suggested analyzing data locally and then aggregating it. For example, each campus could do an analysis on student drop-outs.

Provost Wilcox said the Steering Committee could ask the questions and IR could determine if we have the data. Dr. Perez said that methodologies vary across institutions and some guidance or rules would be helpful.

Provost Parker said this would be another institutional report and to be mindful of that.

Dr. Burnette said if the Committee is interested in looking at persistence, then all information is reported to the Board in the student file.

Chair Danilowicz said the Committee could determine what data would be necessary, what is collected at the system level, and what is reported locally.

Dr. Burnette said that FSU has looked at courses in sequence and the impact of the pandemic. That could be tracked with little differences between campuses.

Provost Glover asked, "Because of the pandemic, has preparation at high schools deteriorated? Do freshmen prepare differently from past years?" Dr. Burnette said there is no direct correlation between preparation and success. The data universities have is after learning. Provost Glover suggested that data could be analyzed from admissions regarding preparation of incoming students, and stop-out rates, rearranged schedules, and transfer could also be analyzed. Undergraduate associate provosts and deans could have a conversation with IR folks.

Dr. Perez suggested that in addition to a profile of students, maybe look at grade distributions, relevant classes students prepare for, fall-to-fall, pre- and post-pandemic, as well as performance from their first year in the SUS. Dr. Burnette said institutions have grades from high school, but there may be grade-padding.

Provost Ellenberg suggested DFW rates. Focus on students.

Dr. Abby Willcox suggested looking at student success, maybe taking the fall 2020 cohort and look at it holistically. Look at inter-institutional mobility, because of uncertainty due to the pandemic, and see if students are successful.

Provost Wilcox suggested looking at student retention and progression by socio-economic status and dependence on financial aid. We need to understand in the context of retention, progression, drop-out, and stop-out. Look also at need-based and merit-based aid. Dr. Burnette said that an association with need-based aid would be the best approach.

Chair Danilowicz suggested analyzing space utilization, saying that campuses may be overbuilt. Provost Glover said with the tendency of the workforce to adopt remote work, it seems inevitable that the Board will ask if universities really need all the space they have. UF is not prepared to answer that question. Chair Danilowicz asked about the number of offices, and Provost Glover said that UF has a complete database and can respond with assignments to all offices. Provost Johnson said utilization will change, that it may not be the office space assigned necessarily, but the time that is spent in it. Dr. Burnette said that square footage is tracked, as well as hours and percentage of space used. Classrooms were designed for past usage, but today half of students may be attending remotely. Provost Wilcox suggested looking

at parking. There may be a link between some categories. Chair Danilowicz said FAU tracks parking permits.

Chair Danilowicz said the goal was to get a list together and prioritize.

He said that research is a key question. Dr. Perez said that post-docs and research assistants were stuck abroad during the pandemic, and there were delayed research projects. He does not know if the financial impact is measurable. Provost Wilcox suggested looking at the foreign influence statute, and Chair Danilowicz said that tying back to legislative action would be difficult. Provost Wilcox suggested looking at the rate or pace of research expenditures. Many PIs struggled during COVID and are not spending at the same rate. That is not to say that full expenditures may not be realized, but the rate is down. Chair Danilowicz said this may have occurred during the pandemic, with a couple of years lag, but will it last? Provost Wilcox said there will be a mid-term impact. Reporting on expenditures has a lag. Chair Danilowicz said CARES funding could figure in.

In terms of Auxiliaries, Chair Danilowicz noted parking. He said that FAU tracks meal card swipes and the rate is way down, even though campus is back to normal. Is it good to track as a system?

Provost Wilcox said the sense is student housing occupancy rates have bounced back. It would be good to determine the impact that homelessness and food insecurity have had on students.

Dr. Abby Willcox said that not much is reported centrally regarding auxiliaries. She said athletic ticket sales, meal swipes, student engagement are tracked on campus and are not reported centrally.

Chair Danilowicz noted that the use of libraries is way down. Meal swipes and parking are also down, and these are all a proxy for engagement.

Dr. Perez noted that there are variabilities in how each campus tracks, and he is not sure if anyone keeps historical information on campus. He said that some people with outdoor events do not bring a card to swipe. Chair Danilowicz said if rates have not changed over time, that may be a good proxy.

Mr. Hunt said that dining services are handled through vendors and he is not sure if that data is reported centrally. Ms. Galchenko said that we will see the total spent on auxiliaries, but we will not know if the rate has changed.

4. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Danilowicz said that he will get these ideas back to the provosts to explore and document to get the most useful data. They would then be sent to other groups for review/feedback.

He adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
STEERING COMMITTEE
Innovation and Online Education
May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the SUS: Presentations for the Board's June Innovation and Online Committee Meeting

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PROPOSED STEERING COMMITTEE ACTION

For Information/Discussion

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the Board's IOC meeting in January, Provost Danilowicz presented the Steering Committee's report on *Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the SUS*. In March, he presented a calendar reflecting the dates when updates would be presented to the IOC on the implementation of each recommendation in the report. During the June IOC meeting, two presentations will be made to the IOC:

 a. Inter-SUS Telecounseling Support   Dr. Mitch Cordova
                   Florida Gulf Coast University
           Chair, SUS Council for Student Affairs

 b. Human Resources Policies on Work Modalities   Ms. Renisha Gibbs
                     Florida State University
        Chair, SUS Council of University Human
                     Resources Executives

Dr. Cordova and Ms. Gibbs will present to the Steering Committee the updates they plan to present to the IOC in June.

Supporting Documentation Included: Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the SUS: Recommendations to be Addressed in the Short Term

Facilitators/Presenters: Chair Glover/Dr. Cordova/Ms. Gibbs

Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the State University System:

Recommendations to be Addressed in the Short Term

Delivering a Quality Student Experience

1.   <mark>Expand and sustain digital services for student outreach and engagement for mental health and substance abuse tele-counseling. Develop a mechanism for SUS staff to share counseling support at other institutions in times of crisis.</mark> **(June 2022 IOC meeting)**

2.   Develop, research, and disseminate strategies, standards, and training associated with best practices in remote and multi-modal (i.e. Flex) instruction and student resources to support faculty, staff, and student success. **(January 2023 IOC meeting)**

3.   Address sustainability of financial support associated with federal relief funding, which was necessary to 1) increase the extent of IT resources and software in classrooms and teaching laboratories, although it does not cover the cost of a refreshment cycle, and 2) provide loaner laptops, hotspots, webcams, and other IT support to students without access to the necessary infrastructure for off-campus learning. Develop recommendations for when and how to implement emergency aid for SUS students when the effort is not directed by the Federal Government. **(June 2023 IOC meeting)**

Creation of New Knowledge and Its Application

1.   Develop and deliver system-wide professional development programs for faculty, student researchers, and technical staff utilizing digital platforms to enhance their skills in grant writing, equipment use, and other skills transferrable across institutions. This should be an ongoing effort given the rapidly changing technology available to researchers. **(March 2023 IOC meeting)**

2.   Identify opportunities, then build and support statewide, interdisciplinary research communities, networks, and clusters with a focus on grand challenges and global problems affecting Florida. The SUS ExpertNet should be updated accordingly (https://expertnet.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.home). **(March 2023 IOC meeting)**

Operating an Efficient Enterprise

1. <mark>Each university should update policies and practices to support in-person, fully remote, and/or hybrid work and instruction options based on market forces along with department service needs and demand.</mark> **(June 2022 IOC meeting)**

2. The SUS should continue to leverage volume contract savings on software and technology to create efficiencies across institutions. **(September 2022 IOC meeting)**

3. In concert with plans being discussed with key stakeholders, explore easing statewide restrictions on the use of carryforward fund reserves permanently to enable a nimble response to research and student financial needs by universities. **(January 2023 IOC meeting)**

Planning for Additional Post-Pandemic Analyses

1. It would be prudent for the SUS to determine what additional data beyond that collected for SUS accountability reports should be collected and analyzed to provide strategic guidance on performance improvement in a post-pandemic Florida. **(November 2022 IOC meeting)**

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
STEERING COMMITTEE
Innovation and Online Education
May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Research Questions for Post-Pandemic World

PROPOSED STEERING COMMITTEE ACTION

For Discussion

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following statement was in the Steering Committee's report *Preparing for a Post-Pandemic World in the SUS*:

> It would be prudent for the SUS to determine what additional data beyond that collected for SUS accountability reports should be collected and analyzed to provide strategic guidance on performance improvement in a post-pandemic Florida.

The CAVP reviewed the attached questions at its May 9, 2022, meeting, and a presentation is scheduled to be made to the Board's Innovation and Online Committee concerning implementation of this recommendation at its November 2022 meeting.

The Steering Committee needs to discuss its expectations for deliverables and timelines.

Supporting Documentation Included: Research Questions for Post-Pandemic World

Facilitators/Presenters: Chair Glover

Possible Research Questions for Post-Pandemic Tracking in the SUS

GOAL- *Minimize additional reports or collection of data beyond what is necessary to track critical changes in operations for the SUS.*

Questions to consider:

Teaching and Learning

- By themselves, or through interaction with other factors, how do delivery modalities in courses influence student success in subsequent courses? *Note: this is to explore how the shift toward non-in person deliveries impact student learning in subsequent courses; it is not intended to solely explore the consequences of the emergency implementation of remote modalities.*
- Has the two years of increased remote instruction in high schools altered the preparedness of students by socio-economic status (need-based aid: e.g., Pell) or first-generation status? If so, how might that change be mitigated?
- Did the required use of remote education during the pandemic result in any sustained change in modality distribution on campuses?
- Has mobility among SUS institutions and/or between SUS and FCS institutions changed during the pandemic? If so, how should this be accounted for in measures of student success at institutions?

Operations

- How have the demands or use of physical space on campus changed, if at all? Is there a change in demand for on-campus parking (e.g. % spaces free at peak time, # parking permits purchases)? Can this be used as a proxy for change in campus use? How might this alter space needs planning?
- If there is a sustained change to the number and percent of employees with remote work assignments by university division, how might this alter how space is used on campus and space planning?

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STEERING COMMITTEE
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May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Draft 2021 Annual Report for Online Education and Related Data Requests

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PROPOSED STEERING COMMITTEE ACTION

For Information

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Each year since the *2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education* was adopted in 2015, the Board has produced an *Annual Report for Online Education*. The draft 2021 report will be presented to the Board's Innovation and Online Committee at its June meeting and will be shared with the Steering Committee beforehand. This year's report will be focused on performance indicators and the status of the System in reaching its goals for online education. For those performance indicators for which there is no data at this point, the Steering Committee – and, subsequently, the IOC - will be provided a plan to collect it.

Supporting Documentation Included: Draft 2021 Annual Report for Online Education (to be submitted separately)

Facilitators/Presenters: Dr. McKee