

MINUTES  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF  
FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA  
JUNE 29, 2022

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And its committees are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu/>.*

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Tim Cerio convened the meeting at 1:26 p.m. with Governors Edge, Diaz, Corcoran, Frost, Gabadage, Haddock, Scott, and Self present. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of the March 29, 2022, Committee Meeting

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the March 29, 2022, committee meeting minutes. Governor Haddock moved to approve, Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer's Report

Chair Cerio recognized the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christy England, to give an update on the activities of the Academic and Student Affairs unit.

Dr. England reported that the Office of Academic and Student Affairs initiated conversations with university staff regarding regulatory changes that would improve efficiencies for the universities. Board staff expects to bring additional proposed regulation amendments in upcoming meetings. Board staff has also continued to support the Articulation Coordinating Committee's work in implementing Senate Bill 366, passed during the 2021 legislative session, which requires the creation of more efficient math pathways for students as they transfer from one institution to another. The team has also worked with System institutions to disburse the Johnson Scholarship Foundation scholarship funds. These scholarships supported more than 500 economically disadvantaged students with disabilities attending a State University System institution during the last academic year.

Dr. England added that staff supported various economic development groups across the state and the ongoing implementation of HB 1507 from the previous legislative session. Board staff offered demonstrations of the My Florida Future website to more than 50 advisors in the Florida College System. A webinar is scheduled for high school advisors in the fall. Finally, Dr. England welcomed Ms. Kirsten Harvey, Director of Student Success and Workforce Alignment, to the staff.

#### 4. Civil Discourse Implementation Update

Chair Cerio said that the next item on the agenda was an update on the implementation of civil discourse recommendations and a follow-up on the Board's Civil Discourse Initiative.

Chair Cerio emphasized the critical role of leadership on university campuses in establishing and supporting civil discourse in the campus community. He reminded the committee of its intent to hold campus leaders accountable for establishing and supporting civil discourse in their campus community.

Chair Cerio explained that Board staff requested an interim update from all 12 universities on the implementation of the recommendations and plans for implementing any outstanding recommendations by July 15. He said the plans must identify key groups/individuals involved, critical milestones, and expected timelines for accomplishing each milestone. Chair Cerio noted the committee would hear an interim update on these plans at its September meeting. He stated the universities would submit a Board of Trustees approved implementation update to Board staff by October 3, which the committee would review in November. Additionally, he noted institutions would need to provide a detailed implementation plan for any recommendation not implemented by that time.

Chair Cerio then asked a few university presidents to highlight how the Board's recommendations have been implemented. He recognized the President of the University of West Florida (UWF), Dr. Martha Saunders, to provide a brief update on the university's progress to date. President Saunders said the UWF Board of Trustees added a new strategic direction called A Culture of Inclusion and Civility to UWF's Strategic Plan. She explained that indicators of excellence for this strategic direction were based on the civil discourse recommendations. President Saunders added that the UWF Board of Trustees appointed a team to oversee this work, and current initiatives were being examined to assess if they were good opportunities to address civil discourse.

Chair Cerio then recognized the President of the University of South Florida (USF), Ms. Rhea Law. President Law said that USF has been providing a module to incoming students called Freedom of Expression on Campus and a best practices module for all employees, which provides a basic understanding of the university's expectations for civil discourse on campus. She noted that the USF Board of Trustees approves of the Board of Governors' position on the issue, and she looks forward to providing the institution's implementation plan in September.

Governor Levine said he is grateful to hear about the universities' work. He commented that he hopes institutions use this as an opportunity to improve campus culture. He thanked Governor Cerio for his hard work on this issue.

Chair Cerio concurred with Governor Levine. He encouraged universities to review the State University System Free Expression Statement and civil discourse

recommendations while working on this critically important issue.

## 5. Academic Program Items

### A. Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, CIP 14.0501, University of Central Florida

Chair Cerio stated the next item on the agenda was a request from the University of Central Florida (UCF) to implement a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, CIP 14.0501. He said the UCF Board of Trustees approved the program on November 18, 2021, and recognized Dr. England for providing an overview of the program proposal.

Dr. England said the proposed biomedical engineering program would train students to apply engineering principles to address various medical issues. She stated the program would prepare graduates for careers in the biomedical industry, such as developing technology to improve diagnostic testing and cancer patients' identification and treatment planning. If approved, Dr. England noted this would be the fifth doctoral program of its kind in the State University System; however, the program would be unique due to its teaching and research focus on bio-fluids and biomechanics.

Dr. England remarked that UCF anticipated 11 students in year one and planned to admit approximately four to five new students each year based on available space in the program. She said the expected enrollment in year five was 27 students. Dr. England commented that Board staff reviewed workforce projections in occupations supported by biomedical engineering and noted that these occupations are expected to grow in Florida by ten percent or more over the next eight years. She said that UCF provided several letters of support from industry partners, all affirming the need for graduates with advanced research skills.

Dr. England reported that the expected year one budget was \$330,013, funded through reallocated E&G dollars, contracts, and grants. She said the institution expected the budget to increase by year five to just over \$626,000. Dr. England reported that UCF would charge the currently approved graduate tuition rates of \$369.65 for residents and \$1,194.05 for non-residents.

Chair Cerio asked how the tuition rates and fees are set and if they are similar to other programs in the State University System. Dr. England replied that these are the rates for all graduate programs at UCF.

Governor Self commented that this would be an exciting opportunity for UCF to continue building quality programs at the graduate level.

Board Chair Lamb asked about UCF's efforts to engage in dialogue with the other four universities with similar programs. Dr. England responded that the program approval process includes review and feedback from a workgroup of staff from each provost's office. She said institutions have opportunities to share ideas and engage in conversations about their respective programs.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve UCF's Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, CIP 14.0501, at the currently approved graduate tuition rate of \$369.65 per credit hour for resident students and \$1,194.05 for non-resident students, with a program implementation date of fall 2022. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Self seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Termination of Ph.D. in Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, CIP 42.2706, Florida Atlantic University

Chair Cerio stated the next item on the agenda was a request from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) to terminate the Ph.D. in Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, CIP 42.2706. He explained that the Ph.D. in Complex Systems and Brain Sciences was merged with the Ph.D. as a track. Chair Cerio said, as a result, there was no need for a separate stand-alone program as students currently enrolled in the program would be able to complete their coursework and graduate. Chair Cerio reported that FAU's Board of Trustees approved the program's termination on February 1, 2022.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the termination of the Ph.D. in Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, CIP 42.2706, at FAU, effective fall 2022, with a phase-out term of fall 2026. Governor Edge moved to approve, Governor Frost seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Board of Governors Regulation 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Student

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Board of Governors Regulation 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Students. Chair Cerio recognized Dr. England to make the presentation.

Dr. England explained that Regulation 6.005 was a new regulation developed from conversations with Florida College System staff. She reported that universities must enroll high school students with an Associate in Arts Degree as first-time-in-college (FTIC) students. Dr. England said this proposed regulation allows universities to admit these students as FTIC students or under the Board's Associate in Arts Degree transfer admission policy based on what is best for the student.

Board Chair Lamb said regulation reviews were intentional and based on feedback from Board staff on how the System can be more efficient.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Adopt Board of Governors Regulation 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Student. Governor Diaz moved to approve, Governor Gabadage seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Acceleration Mechanisms

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Acceleration Mechanisms. Chair Cerio then recognized Dr. England to give the presentation.

Dr. England said Regulation 6.006 defines the acceleration mechanisms available to students to earn college credits before enrollment in a postsecondary institution. She reported the proposed amendment addresses a statutory change from Senate Bill 2524, which exempts any student participating in a dual enrollment program from being charged the cost of instructional materials.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Acceleration Mechanisms. Governor Self moved to approve, Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.003, Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.003, Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability. Chair Cerio then recognized Dr. England to give the presentation.

Dr. England said Regulation 8.003 requires institutions to adopt regulations and policies to increase textbook and instructional materials affordability. She reported Senate Bill 7044 expanded the requirements for what institutions are required to post. Dr. England noted these requirements include posting the list of required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials in a publicly available database that is searchable by the course subject, course number, course title, the instructor's name, the title of each assigned textbook or instructional material, and the author(s) of the textbook or instructional material. Dr. England said the proposed amendment also requires posting all general education core courses' syllabi in a public, searchable database. The effective date of the law and regulation is July 1.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.003, Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability. Governor Haddock moved to approve, Governor Gabadage seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation. Chair Cerio then recognized Dr. England to give the presentation.

Dr. England said Regulation 8.007 outlines articulation requirements, and the proposed

amendment addresses two recent statutory changes from recent legislative changes. She reported House Bill 1507, from the 2021 session, requires students who enroll in an Associates in Applied Arts program to complete at least one general education course in each subject area to facilitate transfer into baccalaureate programs. Dr. England commented that the general education course credit will now transfer and count towards the baccalaureate degree for these students beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year. Additionally, she reported that House Bill 7044, from the most recent legislative session, requires that transfer credit first be applied toward meeting general education credits before being applied as elective credit.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation. Governor Self moved to approve, Governor Edge seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### 10. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites. Chair Cerio then recognized Dr. England to give the presentation.

Dr. England explained the proposed amendment was a technical change to ensure consistency for students across the state. She explained Regulation 8.010 established expectations for curriculum-related policies relative to lower division prerequisite courses. Dr. England stated that to facilitate transfer among the postsecondary institutions in the state, the Articulation Coordinating Committee considers and approves lower-level division prerequisite courses for all bachelor's degree programs for all universities and the Florida College System.

Dr. England said institutions might require students to achieve a particular grade in a prerequisite course before advancing to other courses in a program. She noted there are some differences in the way universities grade. Dr. England reported that, based on this amendment, universities could not use a plus/minus requirement on a prerequisite course, ensuring students are treated more equitably as they transfer between postsecondary institutions. She said this is consistent with conversations from the Articulation Coordinating Committee and staff recommendations. In addition, she noted statutory requirements for institutions to recognize and accept any of the approved common prerequisites or their alternatives as posted in the Common Prerequisite Manual.

Governor Levine asked whether institutions could or could not grade with a plus or minus for prerequisite courses. Dr. England clarified that the institutions could not require a plus or minus on prerequisite courses when determining the prerequisite grade. Governor Corcoran then asked whether a student earning a B- in a course transferred to another institution that required a B or higher would have to repeat that course. Governor Levine commented that the proposed change was that the B- would be recognized as a B. Dr. England stated that the process Governor Corcoran

described was the problem the proposed amendments would address and prevent if approved.

Chair Cerio presented an example of the requirement in practice. Dr. England confirmed that the prerequisite requirement would recognize a plus or minus as a simple letter grade. Governor Levine concurred with Dr. England and stated there would be no plus or minus for transfer purposes. Governor Corcoran asked if this change would make grade requirements uniform across the State University System. Governor Levine commented that he believed each university sets its prerequisite grade requirements for admission. Governor Self remarked that university curriculum committees and faculty were in the best position to determine the major's admission requirements.

Board Chair Lamb requested that the Board office confirm whether the proposed amendments to the regulation would still allow institutions to determine entry requirements. Dr. England clarified that each university would still set individual entry requirements.

Chair Cerio suggested that the committee pass the notice and look closely at the language before it is considered at the full Board meeting. Dr. England stated that the agenda item is for consideration of approval to post the amendment for public comment, not approval of the final regulation. She thanked everyone for the questions and said she would provide clarity on the language.

Chair Cerio entertained a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.010, Common Prerequisites. Governor Corcoran moved to approve, Governor Self seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

## 11. Specialized Admissions Next Steps

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, which was an overview of the process for transitioning from limited access to specialized admissions. Chair Cerio then recognized Dr. England to give the presentation.

Dr. England said that during the March Board meeting, the Board approved a public notice of intent to amend Regulation 8.013, Limited Access, with final amendments to be considered at the June 30 Board meeting. She said that, if approved, one of the amendments is to change the name from limited access to specialized admissions. Dr. England reported that an institution might seek this status if an upper-division program needs to use additional admission requirements beyond the regular admission requirements for entry into the university.

Dr. England showed the proposed timeline for transitioning from limited access to specialized admissions. She said that a guidance document, an initial application, and a reaffirmation application for the specialized admission program would be distributed to the institutions after the full Board meeting if the revised regulation were adopted. All institutions must submit an initial application by October 1, 2022.

Dr. England said that given the expected volume of applications, the Board would consider applications for approval over multiple meetings starting in November. She reported that if a program is currently approved for limited access status and is not approved for specialized admissions status, the program would be allowed to maintain its limited access status for the 2023-2024 academic year, which would be the last year to utilize limited access status. Dr. England clarified that if an institution did not request specialized admissions status for a program currently approved as limited access, the limited access status would expire at the end of the 2023-2024 academic year. Dr. England stated that any institution could request a program's limited access status be removed at any time.

## 12. Academic and Student Affairs Updates

### A. SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP)

Chair Cerio recognized the Council of Academic Vice Presidents Chair, Dr. Maurice Edington, who provided the following updates.

Dr. Edington reported the Council of Academic Vice Presidents provided Dr. England and her team with feedback on the post-tenure review process during the development of the forthcoming regulation and discussed how the changes to the Board regulation might affect each institution. Dr. Edington said CAVP met with their Chief Finance Officers colleagues, as Dr. England has formed a workgroup with representation from both groups. He commented that CAVP receives regular updates on the accreditation issue and has had conversations on how to respond to this issue. Dr. Edington noted that CAVP has been discussing HB 7 and some of the planning and training activities they will implement this summer to prepare faculty and others for this legislation.

### B. SUS Council for Student Affairs (CSA)

Chair Cerio then recognized the Council for Student Affairs Chair, Dr. Mitch Cordova, who provided the following updates.

Dr. Cordova reported campuses had been working hard to provide meaningful experiences to help students persist and work towards graduation. He said campuses had been focused on delivering new student orientation programs, summer camps, and other summer programs for new and returning students and planning for fall welcome events.

Dr. Cordova reported that the CSA held its biannual Health and Wellness Summit, attended by over 120 student affairs professionals, with breakout sessions to discuss best practices.

Dr. Cordova said that the CSA and counseling center directors collaborated on creating a plan for the four action steps identified by the steering committee for innovation and online education. He said the CSA was asked to address the short-term initiative of expanding and sustaining digital services for student outreach and



engagement for mental health and substance abuse telehealth counseling. Additionally, the CSA was asked to develop a mechanism for System staff to share counseling support at other institutions during a crisis. Dr. Cordova noted that the CSA developed a plan with completion dates, which will be presented in greater detail during the Innovation and Online Committee meeting.

Dr. Cordova noted that the CSA had been actively working with campuses on implementing the Board's civil discourse recommendations and collaborating with Academic Affairs on implementing the recommendations from the Taskforce on Academic and Workforce Alignment, HB 7, and HB 1044.

#### C. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Chair Cerio recognized the Chair of the Florida Student Association, Governor Nimna Gabadage, who provided the following updates.

Governor Gabadage reported that the Florida Student Association welcomed its new administration and the new student body presidents from each institution. He said the FSA is working on its legislative priorities and planning for the coming year.

Governor Levine remarked on the national hazing stories and asked Governor Gabadage for his thoughts on what steps student leadership is taking to prevent this from happening in Florida. Governor Gabadage emphasized the importance of anti-hazing education before students arrive on campus as a preventative measure and expressed his interest in delving into this issue more in upcoming meetings. Chair Cerio remarked that this culture of hazing needs to be addressed and said he looked forward to discussing it in more detail.

#### D. Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)

Chair Cerio recognized the Chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, Governor William Self, who provided the following updates.

Governor Self reported the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates held elections in May, electing Dr. Deanna Michael, from the University of South Florida, as chair-elect and Dr. Ann Marie Cavazos, from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, as vice chair-elect. He said the ACFS discussed having input on the post-tenure review regulation and how faculty senates would address civil discourse, both logistically and moving forward. Finally, Governor Self expressed his gratitude to Chancellor Marshall Criser, Board staff, and his colleagues for their support during his time serving on the Board.

Board Chair Lamb thanked Governor Self for his service and contributions to the Board.

### 13. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Cerio adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

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Tim Cerio, Chair

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Disraelly Cruz, Director of  
Planning and Policy