

MINUTES  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
INNOVATION AND ONLINE COMMITTEE  
September 13, 2022

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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Edward Haddock convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. on September 13, 2022, with the following members present: Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr., Aubrey Edge, Nimna Gabadage, Charles Lydecker, Craig Mateer, and Deanna Michael. A quorum was established.

2. Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes

Governor Lydecker moved that the committee approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 30, 2022. Governor Mateer seconded the motion, and the members concurred.

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

a. Shared Software Purchasing Plans

Chair Haddock introduced Mary Banks, Florida Gulf Coast University's Chief Information Officer, who described existing shared software purchasing plans in the SUS. Ms. Banks is chair of the SUS Information Officers group. She reported that university administrators and faculty continue to collaborate and communicate on technologies and best practices and continue to gain proficiencies and enhance software technologies. Ms. Banks showed a video presentation describing shared services initiatives such as Florida LambdaRail (FLR). Florida LambdaRail is Florida's independent statewide research and education fiber optic network. FLR is owned and operated on behalf of its partner institutions and affiliates, including nine state universities, and provides a cost effective, ultra-high speed, inter-connected, broadband service delivery network that enables Florida's higher education partners to collaborate, connect, utilize, and develop new innovative broadband applications and services in support of their scientific research, education, and 21st century economy initiatives.

Ms. Banks reported that shared services in the SUS continue to focus on Microsoft agreements and cloud services to identify top vendors and request best pricing from market leaders. Moving forward, the focus will be on safety and security. UCF is initiating a pilot project in this area and LambdaRail institutions are conducting research on cybersecurity.

Following discussion, Chair Haddock thanked Ms. Banks for her presentation and for moving these initiatives forward in the SUS.

#### 4. Ensuring Quality in Online Education in the SUS

##### a. Professional Development

Chair Haddock stated that the Committee continues to focus on Quality issues relating to online program delivery and introduced Dr. Julie Golden-Botti, Assistant Vice Provost for Online and Continuing Education at Florida Atlantic University.

Dr. Golden-Botti focused her remarks on professional development initiatives for faculty and emphasized that quality online teaching enables more citizens to pursue educational opportunities and achieve a degree. She highlighted the Teaching Online Preparation Toolkit (TOPkit), hosted by the University of Central Florida. TOPkit is a comprehensive resource for those who are responsible for faculty development, including those who develop relationships with faculty to ensure quality online or hybrid courses. The resources are organized in a three-step process for planning, developing, and evaluating an online program to assist in the creation of innovative and high quality content for online learning.

Dr. Golden-Botti also mentioned the fifth annual Florida Innovation Summit which is being planned for March 30, 2023 at UCF. This conference provides professional presentations and networking opportunities for faculty that highlight digital learning innovations throughout the state and nation.

Chair Haddock thanked Dr. Golden-Botti for her leadership in this area and agreed that intentional efforts to assist professors to hone their teaching skills will further the development of high quality online programs.

##### b. Academic Integrity

Chair Haddock introduced Mr. Robert Fuselier, Director of the Florida State University Office of Distance Learning, for a presentation on academic integrity.

Mr. Fuselier focused on academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and cheating issues as they relate to the delivery of online academic programs. He stated that surveys have found that 60 percent of students admit to cheating and reported that there are now technological advances and techniques that can be employed to promote academic integrity in university classrooms. The use of artificial intelligence technologies are now being explored to advance monitoring and discourage cheating. Mr. Fuselier provided an explanation of campus adjudicatory procedures when a student is caught cheating, which includes clear, standardized due process requirements.

To further discourage cheating and promote academic integrity among the student population, Mr. Fuselier emphasized that it is critical that universities provide adequate access to academic advising, counseling, and tutoring.

Chair Haddock thanked Mr. Fuselier for providing this important information.

### C. University of West Florida

Chair Haddock stated that the Committee is continuing its review of the distance education programs throughout the SUS and introduced Dr. Michelle Horton, Executive Director of the University of West Florida Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology.

Dr. Horton described the online programs and services at UWF and focused on online services for military personnel and families. She stated that many military personnel pursue online learning and must balance work and school within their high demand career fields. UWF has a Veteran Resource Center to assist these students by providing ongoing advising, counseling, and career information. Dr. Horton said that military students have regularly appreciated the targeted support and encouragement provided by the UWF team. The innovative teaching practices at UWF include high-quality program delivery and also provides professional development training for instructors.

Chair Haddock thanked Dr. Horton for providing the information and commented that online learning was a savior during the pandemic.

### 5. Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network

Chair Haddock introduced Mr. Tim Brown, Assistant Vice President for Information Technology Services at Florida State University, to give an overview of the Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network and present the Network's Legislative Budget Request (LBR) for the 2023-24 year.

Mr. Brown's presentation focused on the Network's LBR and he provided a breakdown of categories in the proposed budget. He said that the LBR is annually approved by both the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education.

Mr. Brown highlighted cost savings and efficiencies within the Network and described a new app that is being launched for the Florida Shines program that will enable students throughout the state to access these programs and services. He also provided an overview of new and existing e-resources and explained the reverse transfer portal and additional staffing needs for these programs.

Chair Haddock requested a motion to recommend to the Board's Budget & Finance Committee approval of LBR of \$1,685,347 for the Florida Postsecondary Academic Library Network. A motion was made and seconded and was carried.

## 6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Following concluding remarks, Chair Haddock adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

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Edward Haddock, Chair

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