

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY
March 29, 2023

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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Vice Chair Edge convened the meeting with the following Governors present: Governors Edge, Diaz, Gabadage, Haddock, and Michael. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of the January 25, 2023, and February 22, 2023, Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meetings

Vice Chair Edge asked for a motion to approve the January 25, 2023, and February 22, 2023, committee meeting minutes. Governor Diaz moved to approve, Governor Gabadage seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.002, Self-supporting and Market Tuition Rate Program and Course Offerings

Vice Chair Edge stated the next item on the agenda was the Public Notice of Intent to Amend the Board of Governors Regulation 8.002, Self-Supporting and Market Tuition Rate Program and Course Offerings. He recognized Dr. Christy England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, to provide an overview of the proposed amendment.

Dr. England stated that Regulation 8.002 outlines the requirements and processes for universities to offer courses and programs as self-supporting or charge market tuition rates. She explained that the proposed amendment realigns the regulation with section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, which was inadvertently removed during the 2022 amendment. The proposed amendment also further clarifies the requirements for market tuition rate programs and makes technical revisions to the required information institutions must include in market tuition rate program proposals.

Vice Chair Edge asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend the Board of Governors Regulation 8.002, Self-supporting and Market Tuition Rate Program and Course Offerings. Governor Gabadage moved to approve, Governor Diaz seconded, and the motion passed.

4. Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 8.015, Academic Program Review

Vice Chair Edge identified the next item on the agenda was the Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 8.015, Academic Program Review. He recognized Dr. England to provide an overview of the proposed repeal of Regulation 8.015.

Dr. England explained that the proposed repeal aligns with the directive from Board Chair Lamb to increase university efficiencies by reducing reporting burdens. Regulation 8.015 requires institutions to review academic programs every seven years and submit summary reports to the Board office. Dr. England reported that the regulation creates a duplicative assessment and reporting work for universities, as academic programs go through multiple reviews, including specialized admissions, accreditation reviews, and degrees awarded system-wide are reviewed every three to four years. There is also no statutory requirement for the regulation.

Vice Chair Edge expressed his support of the proposed repeal of regulation 8.015 and asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Repeal the Board of Governors Regulation 8.015, Academic Program Review. Governor Diaz moved to approve, Governor Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

5. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.022, Intercollegiate Athletics

Vice Chair Edge reported that the next item on the agenda was the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.022, Intercollegiate Athletics. He recognized Ms. Emily Sikes, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development, to provide an overview of the proposed changes.

Ms. Sikes explained that the proposed amendment aligns Regulation 6.022 with sections 468.453 and 1006.74, Florida Statutes, which relate to using intercollegiate athletes' names, images, and likenesses. She remarked that the amendment clarifies that State University System institutions and their employees are not liable for damages to intercollegiate athletes' ability to earn money for using their name, image, and likeness. The amendment also modifies financial literacy, life skills, and entrepreneurship workshop requirements.

Vice Chair Edge asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend the Board of Governors Regulation 6.022, Intercollegiate Athletics. Governor Diaz moved to approve, Governor Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

6. Specialized Admissions Requests

Vice Chair Edge introduced the next item on the agenda, which was to consider approval of university requests for specialized admissions status for the 2023-2024

academic year. Specialized admissions status allows the institutions to establish additional criteria for admission to undergraduate programs. Vice Chair Edge recognized Dr. England to provide an overview of the specialized admissions requests.

Dr. England stated the three qualifying criteria for specialized admissions are minimal skills, limited resources, and accrediting body requirements. She noted that the Board office initially received 113 requests for specialized admissions, of which 17 were deemed ineligible, three required a more comprehensive review, and 60 requests have been approved. Dr. England reported that 33 specialized admissions requests remained for the Board's consideration, of which three met the minimal skills criteria, five met the limited resources and the accreditation criteria, and 25 met the limited resources criteria. She explained that Board staff identified three primary types of limited resources, which include available clinical and field placements; space for design studios, labs and available equipment; and insufficient numbers of faculty and academic staff.

Dr. England summarized the process that began with 135 programs classified as limited access, which is now referred to as specialized admissions. Initially, the review process for limited access status was somewhat unstandardized, with some programs having retained limited access status indefinitely. Dr. England noted the Board's 2022 amendment to Regulation 8.013 streamlined processes by including concise and consistent criteria and incorporating a re-evaluation requirement. With the approval of the 33 requests presented, the net result would be 93 programs approved for specialized admissions status, approximately 40 fewer programs with specialized admissions status than previously under limited access.

Vice Chair Edge stated that the specialized admissions initiative is important and builds on Chair Lamb's commitment to access for students and ensuring universities equitably provide access. Vice Chair Edge asked for a motion to approve the 33 specialized admissions requests. Governor Gabadage moved to approve, Governor Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

7. Academic and Student Affairs Updates

A. SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP)

Vice Chair Edge recognized Dr. Michael Johnson to provide an update on the activities of the SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents. Dr. Johnson shared that the CAVP has met regularly to discuss topics such as foreign influence, licensure exam pass rates, change in accreditors, data requests, the post-tenure review regulation, prospective legislative changes, faculty hiring and retention, a library storage facility, and alternative credentials.

B. SUS Council for Student Affairs (CSA)

Vice Chair Edge recognized Dr. Mitch Cordova to provide an update on the SUS Council for Student Affairs activities. Dr. Cordova reported that CSA met biweekly throughout the spring semester and has worked on end-of-academic-year activities, such as commencement, finalizing new student summer orientation programs, and preparing summer camps and programs to support incoming students. The CSA has worked closely with university staff to assist students in meeting degree requirements and with academic affairs colleagues to implement recommendations from the Taskforce on Academic and Workforce Alignment to equip students with career readiness skills and prepare them for post-graduate employment.

C. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Vice Chair Edge recognized Governor Nimna Gabadage to provide an update on the Florida Student Association. Governor Gabadage reported that the FSA conducted the Rally in Tally, working to address student food insecurity across the System. He stated that the role of FSA is to uplift students and inform the Board of their concerns. He commented that students in Florida from varying political perspectives had expressed concern about House Bill 999, its effect on diversity, equity, and inclusion programs on campus, and its potential negative impact on students' ability to engage in civil discourse and the free exchange of ideas. Governor Gabadage also reported students' concern over the outcomes of House Bill 999, which could negatively affect recruiting and retaining talented students and faculty. He noted that FSA supports the position that no one system of political thought should take priority over another in higher education.

D. Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)

Vice Chair Edge recognized Governor Deanna Michael to provide an update on the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates. She stated the ACFS met with House and Senate members on March 27, 2023, to discuss legislation and processes for effectively discussing potential legislation. Dr. Michael provided examples of SUS successes related to faculty work, such as increased graduation rates and increased grants. She thanked the Board for its recent acknowledgment of the importance of faculty community engagement.

Dr. Michael explained that surrounding the Board's Regulation 10.003, Post Tenure Review, faculty's perspective of their role in the success of the System has shifted from faculty seeing themselves as an integral part of the success of the System to seeing themselves as being pushed away. She expressed that faculty are concerned over misperceptions that they are not being held accountable for their work and provided examples of existing faculty evaluation processes. Dr. Michael commented that while faculty are praised in

accountability reports, there remains doubt about their achievements, resulting in faculty having diminished faith that funding rewarding their work will be provided. Dr. Michael reported that faculty are asking for respect from the Board, boards of trustees, and colleagues, and they want an evaluation process that better outlines expectations. She thanked the Board for its support of the faculty.

Governor Levine commented that the Board members meet with faculty before the beginning of Board meetings and listen to faculty concerns. He noted that the success of the System is due to the faculty and the Board celebrates their accomplishments. He thanked the faculty for their feedback.

8. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Vice Chair Edge reminded universities of the Board of Governors Regulation 8.004, Academic Program Coordination. This regulation requires universities to provide the Chancellor and the Chair of the Board of Governors a letter of intent to expand program offerings as soon as practicable when an institution intends to offer a college credit degree program, certification program, or significant parts of a program, that requires a substantial physical presence in Florida at a location other than its existing main campus.

Vice Chair Edge explained that Regulation 8.009, Educational Sites, describes the processes for establishing, reclassifying, relocating, or closing education sites apart from a university's main campus. In the initial part of the process related to educational sites, each university president shall consult with the Chancellor. Vice Chair Edge gave an example of information circulating in the media about the University of Florida's (UF) plans to expand and build a downtown graduate campus in Jacksonville, of which the Chancellor was unapprised. Vice Chair Edge stated that the regulations allow the Board to consider potential impacts on other institutions, factor in system-wide strategic planning, and vet institutions' plans.

University of Florida Board of Trustees Chair, Mori Hosseini, commented that requiring universities first to apprise the Board of expansion plans is untenable due to the volume of requests universities receive. Chair Hosseini explained that he previously spoke about UF's potential Jacksonville plans with the Board Chair, the Governor's office, the former Chancellor, and the University of North Florida President, all of whom were advised about UF's potential plans. He stated that when UF determines that all necessary criteria are met, the plan will be formally presented to the Board for consideration.

Vice Chair Edge thanked Chair Hosseini for his comments and stated that there were no records of UF's conversations or intentions regarding expansion into Jacksonville. He noted that the process of communicating plans needs to be more formalized.

Having no further business, Vice Chair Edge adjourned the meeting.

Aubrey Edge, Vice Chair

Catherine Oakley, Ph.D.
Director for Academic and Student Affairs