

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
June 21, 2023

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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Tim Cerio convened the meeting on June 21, 2023, with the following Governors present: Governors Edge, Diaz, Frost, Haddock, Hitchcock, and Michael. A quorum was established.

Chair Cerio emphasized the importance of the Board's continued work on civil discourse and the importance of the Board's role in maintaining free expression on campuses. He remarked that former Board Chair Kitson had tasked the Board to look at civil discourse and promulgate some best practices and recommendations to the universities. He also mentioned at the August 2022 Board meeting that the Board approved an amendment to Board of Governors Regulation 2.002 requiring each institution to endorse the Board's Statement of Free Expression in the annual accountability plans. Chair Cerio reported that every institution referenced this statement in their accountability plans presented at the Strategic Planning Committee. He added that it is essential for the commitment to free expression on the campuses to remain at the forefront of each university's administration. Chair Cerio referenced that the presidents have endorsed the Board's statement of free expression at the Board of Governor meetings but would like the Chancellor to work with the university presidents to update the document and have all the presidents sign the agreement. He thanked his fellow Board members, the boards of trustees, and the presidents for their support and leadership in ensuring that civil discourse is integral to the mission and values of the 12 public institutions.

2. Minutes of the March 29, 2023, Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the March 29, 2023, committee meeting minutes. Governor Michael moved to approve, Governor Hitchcock seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

3. Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 8.016, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Chair Cerio introduced the next item on the agenda, the Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 8.016, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment. He recognized Ms. Emily Sikes, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Economic Development, to provide a rationale for the proposed repeal.

Ms. Sikes stated that in response to Board Chair Lamb's recommendation to review the Board's regulations for additional reporting requirements, Board of Governors Regulation 8.016, Student Learning Outcomes, was identified for repeal. She explained that this regulation requires institutions to develop articulated, expected core student learning outcomes and regularly assess students to ensure they achieve those outcomes. Ms. Sikes further explained that the regulation also requires institutions to annually provide the Board office with the university-wide regulation or policy and related procedures regarding student learning outcomes, assessment mechanisms, and program evaluation. She explained that the Board staff proposed repealing Regulation 8.016 as these actions are not required in Florida statute and that institutions provide this information to maintain institutional and programmatic accreditation. Ms. Sikes concluded her presentation by explaining that repealing this regulation would reduce the reporting burden on the institutions by eliminating a duplicative reporting requirement.

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 8.016, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment. Governor Michael moved to approve, Governor Frost seconded, and the motion passed.

4. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

Chair Cerio moved to the next item on the agenda, the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions. He recognized Ms. Sikes to provide an overview of the proposed amendment.

Ms. Sikes explained that Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions, outlines the specialized admissions status and monitoring process. She noted that the committee heard many of these requests in the past few Board meetings. Ms. Sikes explained that the specialized admissions status allows an institution to establish additional admission criteria for undergraduate degree programs. She remarked that there was a discussion in the last committee regarding the Programs of Strategic Emphasis Waiver. She indicated that upon review of Regulation 8.013, there was no language regarding the waivers. Ms. Sikes added that this amendment would specify that undergraduate degree programs approved for the Programs of Strategic Emphasis Waiver are not eligible for specialized admissions status. She explained that the legislative intent behind the waiver is to expand student enrollment and access to those programs approved for the waiver.

Governor Deanna Michael expressed concern for programs with space and equipment needs on the waiver list. Ms. Sikes clarified that the Board's staff review of the specialized admissions requests ensured no waiver-eligible programs were approved and reiterated that early education and special education programs specifically do not have specialized admissions status.

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions. Governor Hitchcock moved to approve, Governor Haddock seconded, and the motion passed.

5. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Accelerated Mechanisms

Chair Cerio moved to the next item on the agenda, the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Accelerated Mechanisms. He recognized Ms. Sikes to provide an overview of the proposed amendment.

Ms. Sikes stated the proposed amendment to Board of Governors Regulation 6.006 relates to the proposed repeal of Board of Governors Regulation 6.012 and that she would present them together. She explained that this amendment was also due to the request from Board Chair Lamb to clean up the regulations. Ms. Sikes said Board staff recommended incorporating Regulation 6.006, a stand-alone regulation with a statutory requirement, into Regulation 6.012. She stated that the amendment to Regulation 6.006 adds a section on access to electronic library resources for students pursuing accelerated coursework, which is currently outlined in Regulation 6.012. She added that repealing Regulation 6.012 and moving the content into Regulation 6.006 would ensure that public secondary school students enrolled in articulated acceleration programs have access to electronic library resources. Ms. Sikes concluded her presentation by noting that the proposed changes would not create any noticeable changes for students. She clarified this is an administrative reorganization so that all of the information on acceleration programs is in one regulation.

Chair Cerio stated he would like to approve both motions separately.

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.006, Accelerated Mechanisms. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

6. Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 6.012, Access to Certain Electronic Library Resources by Accelerated Secondary Students

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Repeal Board of Governors Regulation 6.012, Access to Certain Electronic Library Resources by Accelerated Secondary Students. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

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

Chair Cerio proceeded to the next item on the agenda, the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation. He recognized Ms. Sikes to provide an overview of the proposed amendment.

Ms. Sikes stated that the Board of Governors Regulation 8.007 relates to articulation and explained that the amendment proposed was to align with statutory changes. She reported that the statutory changes were made in 2021 and 2022, though they required groups to convene and adopt processes, so there was a slight delay in implementation. Ms. Sikes explained that the first change includes the Articulating Coordination

Committee's recommendation that universities advise students entering the State University System in the 2024-2025 Academic Year of the new math pathways, which will ensure a seamless transition across sectors. She further explained that staff had worked closely with the Florida College System and the State Board of Education to ensure alignment with articulation rules on math pathways. In addition, the amendment also addresses changes made in the 2022 legislative session regarding eligible law enforcement officers to earn postsecondary credit across Florida public universities for the education and training they received while serving as law enforcement officers. Ms. Sikes stated that the legislature directed the Articulation Coordinating Committee to convene a workgroup to develop a process for determining course equivalencies and minimum postsecondary credit or career education clock hours. She explained that the proposed amendment adopts the committee's policy for determining the course equivalency lists for law enforcement training and education. Ms. Sikes noted that the policy also outlines the process for universities to award credit for this training and education. She concluded her presentation by stating that the Board of Governors approved this policy at the January 2023 meeting.

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 8.007, Articulation. Governor Haddock moved to approve, Governor Frost seconded, and the motion passed.

8. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.002, Admission of Undergraduate First-Time-in-College, Degree-Seeking Freshmen

Chair Cerio stated that the following three items on the agenda are proposed amendments to the Board's undergraduate admissions regulation based on recent legislative changes. He asked Dr. Christy England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, to present the three amendments together due to the same rationale for the changes. He stated that he would ask for approval for each one separately.

Chair Cerio recognized Dr. England to provide an overview of the proposed changes. Dr. England cited that on May 9, House Bill 1537 was signed into law and revised two sections of Florida statutes. She stated that the legislation authorized school districts to administer the Classic Learning Test in addition to the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the American College Test (ACT). Dr. England reported the Classic Learning Test scores were added as a test option for Bright Futures eligibility. She said that university admissions requirements are outlined only in regulation, not in statute, but to meet the needs of students who may choose to take the Classic Learning Test, the proposed amendment to the admission regulations would allow students to submit scores from this test.

Dr. England reiterated that the rationale applies to the amendments made to the three regulations. She stated that the Board of Governors Regulation 6.002 governs the admission of undergraduate, first-time-in-college students. The amendment to this regulation adds the Classic Learning Test as an accepted standardized test for admission. In addition to this amendment, she noted other proposed clarifying changes unrelated to the Classic Learning Test. First, Dr. England explained the Talented

Twenty Program. She reported that the program guarantees students in the top 20% of their graduating class admission to a System institution. She added that if a Talented Twenty student is not admitted to three System institutions, they can appeal with the Board for admission. Dr. England stated that the proposed amendment codifies a long-standing policy regarding the process for student appeals and also clarifies requirements for the Talented 20 program by including graduates with a Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education, or AICE diploma.

Dr. England added that Board staff are also proposing another amendment to recognize that on rare occasions, students in an International Baccalaureate (IB) program or AICE program may graduate high school without meeting the System's credit hour eligibility requirements for admission. She reported that according to Board Regulation 6.002, a student must complete a certain number of credits in different areas to qualify. Dr. England further explained that the regulation currently states that if IB students don't meet these requirements, they may be admitted as alternative admittances. She noted that the proposed amendment would allow students with an AICE diploma in similar circumstances to be admitted as alternative admits.

Dr. England presented the second admissions-related regulation, Board of Regulation 6.005, which outlines admissions requirements for students graduating high school with an associate of arts degree. She stated that the proposed amendment allows first-time-in-college students with an associate of arts degree to submit scores from the Classic Learning Test for admissions, just as students can with other standardized test scores.

Dr. England presented that Board Regulation 6.008, the third admissions-related regulation, outlines the specific test score requirements for enrollment in college-level courses. She stated that the proposed amendment to this regulation is to specify the equivalent Classic Learning Test scores that System institutions may accept in lieu of SAT or ACT scores, adding that these are the same scores that the Department of Education plans to use for Bright Futures.

Dr. England concluded her presentation of the proposed amendments for Board of Governors Regulations 6.002, 6.005, and 6.008.

Governor Deanna Michael asked about the source of the comparison scores between the ACT, SAT, and the Classic Learning Test and the research that went into the comparisons. Dr. England explained that Classic Learning Test equivalency scores are provided by the company that administers the Classic Learning Test. She added that there are no other equivalencies available. Dr. England further explained that in Florida statutes regarding Bright Futures, there is a requirement that says the Classic Learning Test, SAT, and ACT should work together to develop a joint concordance table, meaning a set of equivalencies. She stated that in working with the Department of Education to implement this, Board staff opted to use the current concordance from the Classic Learning Test organization until other equivalencies become available. Dr. England further clarified amending the regulation if a new concordance table became available and the scores differed.

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.002, Admission of Undergraduate First-Time-in-College, Degree-Seeking Freshmen. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Haddock seconded, and the motion passed.

9. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.008, Postsecondary-College-Level-Preparatory Testing, Placement, and Instruction for State Universities

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.008, Postsecondary-College-Level-Preparatory Testing, Placement, and Instruction for State Universities. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Haddock seconded, and the motion passed.

10. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Students

Chair Cerio asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.005, Admission of Associate in Arts High School Students. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Hitchcock seconded, and the motion passed.

11. Academic and Student Affairs Updates

A. SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP)

Chair Cerio moved to the next item on the agenda, an update on the activities of the Council of Academic Vice Presidents. Chair Cerio recognized Dr. Michael Johnson to provide the update.

Dr. Johnson stated that the Council of Academic Vice Presidents has met regularly. He explained that the council had discussed various issues since the last Board of Governors meeting in March, including the processes being developed at the various universities regarding post-tenure review. He added that policy changes have also been discussed with the most attention to Senate Bill 266, specifically diversity, equity, and inclusion issues in the state core general education courses. Dr. Johnson concluded his report by citing other topics discussed, such as the possibility of a central library facility, alternative credentials, retaining productive faculty, accreditation, licensure test scores, and common prerequisite courses.

B. SUS Council for Student Affairs (CSA)

Chair Cerio moved to the next item on the agenda, an update on the Council for Student Affairs activities. Chair Cerio recognized the Council for Student Affairs Vice Chair, Dr. Kathryn Miller, to provide the update.

Dr. Kathryn Miller stated that the Council for Student Affairs has worked on key initiatives throughout the spring and early summer terms. She said she was pleased all

12 universities participated in hazing prevention education. Dr. Miller noted that each university sent a senior-level professional to the hazing prevention symposium hosted by the National Hazing Prevention Network. She added that the University of Central Florida sponsored hazing investigation training for the State University System. Dr. Miller reported that the council has been very active in working with the respective university leadership to help prepare for the implementation of new legislation. She stated that through on-campus orientations, each campus prepares to welcome the incoming classes noting that this year the State University System is welcoming the class of 2027.

C. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Chair Cerio welcomed Governor Hitchcock to the committee and the Board as the new chair of the Florida Student Association.

Governor Hitchcock explained that the Florida Student Association is a nonprofit corporation advocacy group comprised of the 12 student body presidents from each State University System institution. He thanked each member of the Florida Student Association and urged university administrations to lean on their respective student body presidents for anything they may need. Governor Hitchcock recognized all 12 student body presidents. He mentioned that during this term, the association would emphasize fundraising by expanding the annual rally and tally to Washington, D.C. Governor Hitchcock added they were excited to work with the Florida legislature and possibly Congress for the betterment of all students, especially the 400,000 within the State University System. He noted that the association's role is to work towards bettering all students and to address the Board of Governors when the association has concerns. Governor Hitchcock stated the association is expressing deep concerns about recent actions in the past legislative session that they consider overreach within the institutions. He said that while the association appreciates the care that the legislature has shown with the content of House Bill 931, the association is concerned about whether or not the government has the authority to regulate what a nonprofit corporation can and cannot have within its by-laws. Governor Hitchcock expressed further concern with the threat of removal from the Board of Governors if the Florida Student Association does not comply.

D. Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS)

Chair Cerio introduced the last item on the agenda, an update on the activities of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates. Chair Cerio recognized Governor Deanna Michael for providing the update.

Governor Michael stated that the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates met at the University of South Florida the day before the meeting. She noted that the council is grateful for the funding coming to the universities through the legislature. Governor Michael reported that the council discussed several concerns. She stated the first

concern is that the communication within the shared governance structure isn't always complete. Governor Michael added that, at times, the faculty senates do not have access to the university's leadership, though, at other times, they do. She explained that there is a need for more predictable and scheduled university access for the elected representatives of the faculty. Next, Governor Michael stated that the implementation and regulations from this Board for the requirements of Senate Bill 266 were concerning to the council because the faculty did not know what to believe. She noted that the faculty read what is in the bill, see what is in the media, hear what is being said by administration, and feel confused. Governor Michael asked that the Board be clear about what is allowed and what is not as the Board works through making a series of regulations regarding this bill. Governor Michael said the final concern was regarding research. She said questions have arisen about faculty communication, what is supported and what is not, and that there are reports of pushback on research. She noted that research will continue as the grants have been written and as required by federal and private agencies.

Governor Michael concluded by recognizing the newly elected chair of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, Dr. Amanda Phalin of the University of Florida. She added that Dr. Kim Dunn of Florida Atlantic University was elected Vice Chair of the council. Governor Michael announced this would be her last meeting.

Board Chair Lamb recognized Governor Michael for her advocacy and thanked her for serving the State University System and the Board of Governors.

12. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Cerio adjourned the meeting.

Tim Cerio, Chair

Erica Vander Meer
Assistant Director for Academic and Student Affairs