

ACFS Minutes January 31, 2020 (BOG conference room Turlington 1706, Tallahassee, FL)

Attendees:

Bill Self, UCF; Keith Koons, UCF; Shawn Felton, FGCU; Anna Carlin, FGCU; Jamie MacDonald, FGCU; Joerg Reinhold, FIU; Erin Ryan, FSU; Ray Thomas, UF; Kevin Wagner, FAU; Gordon Rakita, UNF; Scott Hochwald, UNF; Noel Barenge, FIU; Gary Tyson, FSU; Guest – Janet Owen (UCF)

Introductions around the table

Approval of the minutes – one addendum, add Shawn Felton (Chair) to list of attendees (unanimous in favor of amended minutes)

Legislative Update (Guest from UCF, Janet Owen)

Janet described the unusual case where both budget proposals for the House and Senate have been introduced (week 3). Some line item reductions in SUS budget are present, but likely is a negotiating tool for later in the session. Funding for performance based funding, pre-eminence and 'Univ of Distinction' is the variable going into the session, with differences between the House and Senate. At this time more than \$169 million dollars are allotted for PECO projects for private (K-12) schools with the State Colleges and SUS with less funding in PECO.

Various other bills were discussed (613 House, 72 Senate) on a variety of issues (intellectual freedom, financial aid, etc)

Possibility that an additional metric will be added to PBF on 2+2 success, however that bill is only in the Senate (not yet in House)

Another issue is the naming of facilities, which is present in a bill that might give oversight from the Governor and BOG that does not exist today, possibly limiting the ability of SUS Presidents to obtain naming rights deals with outside entities

Another bill on student athletes compensation is moving through the legislature as well; issues around intellectual property of athletic departments and are critical and the hope is that any legislation will have an 'on-ramp' of time (2022, 2023?) that will allow for the NCAA and conferences to make needed changes to be in line with any state legislation (such as what happened in California recently)

Another bill on President searches is moving forward (public records) that would enable a 21 day window without public disclosure of candidates; there was a short debate on whether that bill would impact current practice

There is a proposal for a 3% raise to all state employees (would faculty get it???)

No indication that a bill endorsing firearms allowed on campus moving forward (recurring issue for ACFS, campus president's and police chiefs)

Discussion with Jason Jones, Chief Data Officer, SUS

Questions raised on recent scandals with Chinese espionage and faculty around the U.S., as well as other data breach information; Jason explained that he is a data officer not a CIO and IT security is not his role

Questions about enrollment data (Koons, Self) and talking about the pipeline for students, and whether it might be shrinking as compared to national trends in reduced enrollment; Florida looks strong for enrollment overall (discussion)

Jason notes that a commonly overlooked metric of 'college ready' is steadily declining in Florida (concerning)

Question raised on whether we have data on food insecurity – answer – we only have waiver information and those numbers are really small (homeless waivers for tuition)

No current data on food insecurity

Discussion on admission data and registrar type data that Jason has access to – and how ACFS can ask questions; answer is Chair of ACFS is a BOG member and can ask for data anytime (and this would be a priority based on BOG member request)

Discussion of HS GPA and SAT scores (HS GPA is best indicator of success in college)

Admin costs and Admin/Faculty ratios is currently being studied; only one school has an admin growing faster than faculty (pending bill to limit admin growth in legislature)

Former Chair Tyson described a situation at FSU that two groups of faculty exist; general faculty (tenure track, standard) inward titles vs outward titles discussion is active at FSU (CBA has language and departments vote on this at FSU currently – what you can claim as a faculty title depending on your HR appointment)

Key items for future work with Jason:

- BOG data request (through the ACFS Chair)
- Admin/Faculty ratios (IPEDS data and other)
- Continuing a study of salaries that began about 3 years ago (data dump)

Discussion with Christy England, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, SUS

New board members starting in 2020; more turnover (including faculty and student) expected by summer

Discussion of BOG's recent discussion on 120 credit hour limit and exceptions (Engineering)

New Academic and Workforce Alignment committee (established by Chair Kitson)

- Emphasizing working with advisory boards
- Chaired by Governor Silagy (FPL CEO)

Suggestion by Self to revisit 1, 5, 10 year dataset on salaries by CIP code (England study previously); new data coming out this year, potentially bring to new committee (or Strat. Plan committee as before)

Discussion of the need to emphasize the value of liberal arts curriculum alongside workforce alignment (skill sets of employers actually match this)

Kognito discussion – brief; rollout this year; concerns raised on the use of this tool for staff (not faculty) given the focused content for faculty (England aware of this issue)

Brief discussion of legislative investigation into outside activities by faculty (PIE committee from the House); high profile faculty at other Universities being implicated in Chinese spying effort; this will likely impact how we do detailed conflict of interest forms in the future

Discussion with Tim Jones, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and CFO, SUS

Tim discusses two handouts with preliminary funding estimates for total appropriations, PBF, preeminence and Univ of distinction; general discussion of PECO projects and changes to how PECO is funded with reference to differences in house and senate

Discussion with Nancy McKee (Associate Vice Chancellor, Innovation and Online Education) and Lynn Nelson (Director, Student Affairs)

Discussion of recent email sent to Presidents on textbook affordability and the letters of commitment from several publishers

Several questions about \$20/credit hour and how it is counted (including no cost courses in denominator?); current bill in legislature may impact how data reporting will be done

Faculty academic freedom discussed around this issue and the concerns that provosts will 'roll this out' as a directive that might make faculty feel compelled to change course materials and not reserve their academic freedom; clear language that this is not the intent though in the materials and BOG discussion (Felton commented at BOG yesterday)

Discussion of Florida Distance Learning repository at UWF and recent issues and audit; still strong support to keep that center at UWF by BOG; there will be a presentation of audit finding at March BOG meeting at USF

New conference this summer for online STEM courses; Med schools will be present to ask questions about specifics and online courses (for admissions) based on discussion in past BOG meetings around this issue

New metrics being measure in course quality and also an announcement of statewide awards for online courses;

Best practice for review of these awards (question to ACFS); peer review (faculty to review faculty) is core suggestion, given that this works well at our institutions for faculty awards (lunch at Andrew's)

Chair's report

Chair Felton gave an overview of upcoming transition in leadership and thoughts on recent BOG activity. Discussion of curriculum intrusion by BOG (120 hours) led to the potential for a resolution to counter this issue; general consensus was to use this only if this continues (if BOG continues to question exceptions with the change in BOG members upcoming)

- Data request idea to Jason Jones – what programs have exception (120 hour)?
- Second idea to propose regulation change to simply exclude those that occur based on accreditation requirements (engineering, accounting, etc)
- Future resolution could address this issue as well to support Reg change or just to state our views on faculty ownership of curriculum
- BOG education on curriculum process also a suggestion (they don't know the process behind all these program requests and the faculty voice and admin included in decisions)

Vice Chair's report

A summary of recent BOG meetings (3) was given and briefly discussed highlights; appreciation given to Vice Chair for attending and reporting

Vice Chair Self went through the current email list to verify ACFS members and their respective positions; suggestion to include general email for faculty senate in list (such as UCF faculty senate email)

Update on Kognito

- Email from faculty senates to support (idea)
- No rollout at many SUS members
- ACFS will continue to support – but need admin to rollout alongside

National Council of Faculty Senates (Joerg Reinhold update)

- Appreciation for Dr. Reinhold attending the recent meeting in Texas

Recent meeting was focused on developing constitution; faculty attending were focused on details and not moving forward effectively (his assessment); consensus was that we appreciate our members attending but that active participation was not warranted at this time given the service workload of our members (BOT active, leading faculty senates at each SUS, etc)

Use of SPOI for Evaluations

- General discussion of the use of SPOI/SPoT for faculty evals (limited in actual potential to evaluate teaching and learning)
- FIU uses both SPoTs and peer review (peer to peer – your choice of who reviews your course)
- UF uses SPoI and rigorous in class peer review of teaching learning
- FGCU converted SAI to SPOI and it is listed in CBA (probably in many CBA)

Need to put SPOI back on ACFS agenda for May meeting to discuss further
Questions for the group for that update:

- 1) What are we trying to accomplish with SPoI?
- 2) How can we better use this and other means to accomplish this?

ACFS bylaws review

Vice Chair Self thanked the members of the by law review committee for their work and opened a discussion of the comments and edits that were sent to members in word program (track changes mode)

Discussed ensued on the potential to clarify the officer's need to be representing a home senate (SUS); general consensus that since being an officer is at least a five year commitment that we can dictate the election/by laws of the member SUS senates and bodies so we should keep most of the existing language the same and support officers that no longer hold Chair positions at their senates; discussion of the conflict that would exist if the ACFS Chair (BOG member) could also be a Senate Chair (BOT member); most members felt that this would represent a significant conflict of interest/commitment to serve both BOT and BOG simultaneously; note that one student does (SGA president, BOT and BOG);

A suggestion to strike section 3.3 was made; it is not necessary given the other sections; we will include as stricken in the version brought back to the subcommittee before we vote on the final changes at the next meeting (May 2020)

Self indicated that a revised bylaws document will be shared with all ACFS members and that the subcommittee would also review this and bring for a vote in May

Campus concerns

Campus concerns can be sent by email to the Vice Chair for distribution to the members

SUS Presidential/Senior Administrator's search updates

UCF president search ongoing; impressed by search firm so far (Pimentel); campus visits likely in March with July start

FGCU provost search moving forward

Next meeting dates:

May 14-15th, 2020, Tallahassee
September 10-11th, UCF (Orlando)
January 28-29th, 2021 Tallahassee

Meeting adjourned