

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
September 16, 2020

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

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Darlene Jordan convened the Academic and Student Affairs meeting at 11:35 a.m. with the following members present: Governors Lamb, Cerio, Frost, Schneider, Self, and Tripp. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of July 21, 2020, Committee Meeting

Chair Jordan asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020, committee meeting. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Lamb seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer's Report

Chair Jordan recognized the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christy England, to give an update regarding activities of the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) unit.

Dr. England shared that staff in the Office of Academic and Student Affairs are well and keeping up with all the system's important work. Dr. England also recognized the outstanding performance of the entire ASA staff.

Dr. England shared the collaborative effort between ASA and staff in the Board's Information Technology unit to develop a new online application to streamline the academic program approval process. The system is called the Academic Review and Tracking System (ARTS) and is available to all SUS institutions via the Board of Governors' portal. The ARTS application's purpose is to streamline the program approval process and tracking by housing the major components of the process in a single location.

Dr. England also mentioned that the Legislature passed HB 171, which established a new workgroup on Postsecondary Credit for Military Courses and Occupations. The effort is being coordinated by the Florida Department of Education's Office of Articulation and the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC). The ACC is chaired by Dr. William Hudson Jr. from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Staff

in Academic Affairs provide support and ensure the workgroup can meet the deadlines and requirements outlined in the legislation.

Dr. England shared that the first two weeks in October are Disability History and Awareness Weeks. Dr. England noted that these awareness weeks were created to highlight the efforts, significant contributions, and achievements of individuals with disabilities. During the 2019-20 school year, there were over 22,000 students with disabilities enrolled in the State University System.

Dr. England also highlighted Mr. Roger Strickland's appointment to the Talent Development Council's new Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code to Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Code Crosswalk Workgroup. The workgroup will be examining how credentials align with workforce needs in Florida and developing recommendations for a Florida-specific crosswalk between the CIP codes used for program classification, and the SOC codes.

Dr. England continues to meet weekly with the Council for Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP) and the Council for Student Affairs (CSA) to discuss shared initiatives and challenges and ensure collaboration between the groups. Dr. England highlighted the strong commitment and support between the two groups.

4. 2020-2021 Limited Access Program Updates

Chair Jordan recognized Dr. Traki L. Taylor, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, to summarize the Limited Access Reports for the 2020- 2021 academic year.

Dr. Taylor explained that Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Limited Access, grants authority for the Board of Governors to consider for approval requests for Limited Access Status for baccalaureate programs. The regulation provides that baccalaureate programs may be approved as limited access for one or more of the following reasons: the number of qualified applicants exceeds resources and capacity, special skills or talent is required to be successful in the program, and higher academic achievement is necessary to be successful in the program.

Dr. Taylor reported that there are a total of 135 programs designated as limited access in the SUS Academic Degree Program Inventory. Of those programs, the top three two digit-CIP program areas reported are: Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services with 30 programs; Health Professions and Related Programs, with 26 programs; and Visual and Performing Arts, with 26 programs. Dr. Taylor noted that Florida Polytechnic University and New College of Florida do not have limited access programs.

Dr. Taylor listed the top justifications provided for requesting Limited Access Status. The top three reasons provided were: an insufficient number of faculty, inadequate instructional resources, and a higher minimum grade point average required to

determine success in the program. Dr. Taylor highlighted the top reasons for the request for limited access for Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services as insufficient faculty. Programs in Health Professions and related programs cited insufficient instructional facilities and minimum GPA requirements as the primary justification for requesting limited access status.

Dr. Taylor noted that the total number of programs approved or requested decreased from 67 programs in 2000 to nine programs approved between 2016 and 2020. Dr. Taylor stated that this is an 87% decrease in the number of requests and approvals for limited access status.

Dr. Taylor stated that from 2010-2014, 20 programs were approved in the Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services CIP. From 2015-2019, there were a total of 11 programs approved. These programs were primarily in the areas of Health Professionals and Related Programs and Communication, Journalism and Related Programs.

Dr. Taylor explained to the Board that Regulation 8.013(2) requires that each limited access program undergo a review every seven years to determine if the designation is still needed. The review is part of the university's cyclical program review process. The review should align with discipline-specific accreditation requirements and analyze ways the degree program provides high-quality education for students. The program review should also emphasize and assess student learning outcomes and consider possibilities for continuous program improvement. Dr. Taylor also noted that, in addition to the requirements of the regulation, the Board of Governors has requested that as new programs are approved for limited access status, the institutions should report back to the Board every two or three years and provide an update on the progress of the program.

5. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 2.003 Equity and Access.

Chair Jordan announced that the next item to consider is approval of a Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 2.003 Equity and Access. She recognized Dr. Taylor to make the presentation.

Dr. Taylor explained that Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access affirms that discrimination is prohibited in the State University System of Florida and requires campuses to establish policies, procedures, and reporting mechanisms that prohibit and address unlawful discrimination. The regulation ensures equity and accountability in employment and intercollegiate athletics, encourages collaboration between the campus level representatives and Board staff and also requires reporting and monitoring at the campus level, annual review of guidelines for updates, and submission of a campus report to the Board annually.

Dr. Taylor stated that the proposed amendment to the regulation would change the institutional submission deadline from July 1 annually to September 30 of each year. The purpose of the proposed change is to provide campuses with additional time to gather and analyze data, work with campus constituents to finalize the report, and obtain Board of Trustees approval.

Chair Jordan asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 2.003, Equity and Access. Governor Tripp moved to approve, Governor Frost seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Notice of Intent to Amend Board of Governors Regulation 6.0105, Student Conduct and Discipline.

Chair Jordan recognized Ms. Vikki Shirley, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, to present the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Regulation 6.0105, Student Conduct and Discipline.

Ms. Shirley stated that the proposed amendment to Regulation 6.0105, Student Conduct and Discipline is the result of a May 2020 change by the United States Department of Education to the Title IX regulation. The change resulted in all universities reviewing their regulations and policies to ensure compliance with the new regulatory requirements.

The changes to Title IX now require an advisor to be present during a live hearing involving a Title IX sexual harassment complaint. The advisor must now cross-examine the parties and witnesses during a live hearing. This change is a departure from the previous practice. Ms. Shirley noted that institutions have always allowed an advisor to be present during live hearings in order to advise students, should the students want an advisor to be present. Previously, advisors were not permitted to participate in questioning witnesses or interpreting proceedings.

Ms. Shirley explained that the new regulations require every question asked during a live hearing involving a Title IX complaint undergo a relevancy determination by the decision-maker presiding over the live hearing. She provided an example of the process of a relevancy determination. Additionally, Ms. Shirley noted that the new procedure might result in increased expenses associated with handling Title IX complaints as well as conducting live hearings. She has been working with university general councils to discuss ways to effectively and efficiently conduct the live hearings. These included the possibility of hiring retired judges to determine the relevancy of proposed questions during a live hearing. She also shared that utilizing current panels may prove to be untenable given their make-up. All SUS Institutions were in compliance by the deadline of August 14, 2020.

Governor Jordan asked if all SUS institutions were in compliance with the new Title IX requirements and revised regulation prior to the August 14, 2020 deadline. Ms. Shirley confirmed and noted that the Board staff also developed an emergency regulation to ensure that all institutions and the Board office also met the August 14, 2020, deadline. Ms. Shirley also stated that SUS institutions took their regulations through the emergency procedure to ensure compliance.

Governor Jordan stated that the new proceedings are more in line with a trial model and a panel could spend hours determining the relevancy of a question. Governor Jordan proposed the idea of having a system-wide policy to ensure consistency in the entity that would be involved in determining relevancy during a hearing.

Ms. Shirley noted that in her discussions with general counsels, the institutions wanted flexibility in determining if there would be a single decision-maker or a panel. Ms. Shirley noted that paragraph A of the regulation provides institutions with the discretion to determine this. Governor Jordan agreed that institutions should have the latitude within their own legal departments to make the decisions but expressed concern regarding handling them on a case-by-case basis.

Governor Cerio requested clarification regarding the alignment of the amended regulation with the Title IX requirements. Ms. Shirley stated that the institution's discretion related to the use of a single entity or a panel in the relevancy determination is the only new addition outside of what is required. Governor Cerio requested confirmation that the addition is not prohibited by Title IX. Ms. Shirley confirmed that the addition is not prohibited and is explicitly stated in the regulation. Further, students will receive notification that it is at the discretion of the institution. Governor Cerio further inquired about the internal appeals process. Ms. Shirley explained that appeals are typically conducted at the institutional-level when related to an individual disciplinary case.

Chancellor Criser acknowledged Governor Jordan's inquiry regarding consistency at the institutional-level and stated that this could be discussed further.

Governor Jordan asked for a motion to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Amend Regulation 6.0105, Student Conduct and Discipline. Governor Tripp moved to approve, Governor Cerio seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Academic Program Item

Chair Jordan presented on the following academic program request.

- A. Termination Request for Ph.D. in German, CIP 16.0501, University of Florida

Chair Jordan reported that the University of Florida is requesting termination of its Ph.D. in German. The program has been suspended since 2008, and there have been no students admitted or enrolled since that time. Chair Jordan also stated that the UF Board of Trustees approved the program's termination on June 5, 2020. If approved by the Board of Governors, UF will terminate the program effective spring 2021. She explained that there is no phase-out term identified for the program since there has been no enrollment since 2008.

Governor Silagy inquired about the cost to maintain a program and the reason for the delay in terminating the program. Provost Glover stated that there was a reorganization of all Modern Language offerings to place them under a more general umbrella. The program could not be terminated before the completion of the reorganization. Additionally, he stated that the termination of this program was the last step in the reorganization process.

Governor Jordan asked for a motion to approve the request for termination of the Ph.D. in German, CIP 16.0501, at the University of Florida, effective spring 2021. Governor Frost moved to approve, Governor Lamb seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. Academic and Student Affairs

A. SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP)

Chair Jordan recognized Dr. Kenneth Furton, Chair of the CAVP, who provided the following updates.

- Dr. Furton acknowledged Dr. Sally McRorie as the outgoing chair.
- Dr. Furton thanked Dr. England for facilitating the weekly TEAMS meetings with the CAVP group. Topics discussed during the weekly meetings include the following.
 - Reopening plans and the mode of delivery for courses during the pandemic.
 - The DEI Task Force focused on listening and feedback processes, learning and training processes, recruitment and talent development and advancement, and supplier diversity.
 - Complete Florida operations.
 - Strategies to manage the reduction in international student enrollment and travel restrictions due to the pandemic.
 - Management of the admissions process related to students who have experienced delays in taking various SAT/ACT exams.
- The University Press of Florida ended the year with a break-even budget with a slight deficit due to switching to a new warehouse reducing costs. This year marked the University Press's 75th anniversary, and it has sold close to 90,000 books and 10,000 e-books around the world.

Chair Jordan acknowledged Dr. Furton and CAVP for their work in getting the SUS back up and running during such difficult times. She then asked the committee if there were any questions or comments.

Governor Self affirmed that the universities are focused on mask enforcement and stated that it is critical to maintaining the restrictions. He requested Dr. Furton's feedback regarding the progress made related to mask enforcement. Dr. Furton shared that many institutions have student ambassadors working to remind students about mask compliance. He also stated that this has been effective in maintaining compliance, and he has received a positive response to the effort.

Chair Jordan acknowledged the SUS community effort and stated the importance of consistency as it relates to mask compliance and sanitation requirements.

Chair Jordan asked the committee if there were any additional comments or questions regarding the update. None were expressed.

B. Council for Student Affairs (CSA)

Chair Jordan recognized Dr. William Hudson Jr., Chair of the CSA, who provided the following updates.

- CSA continues to meet weekly to discuss the collective management and response to COVID-19 concerns.
- A reservation system for a modified student residence hall check-in and a modified version of student welcome week activities with consideration for social distancing guidelines were implemented.
- Student codes of conduct were amended. COVID-19 self-reporting mobile applications were developed, and de-escalation ambassadors and respectful responders volunteered to help the campus communities assimilate to the new campus expectations.
- Student support services continue to be available to students through a shift model to comply with social distancing expectations.
- Institutions continue to leverage social media platforms and other technology such as Microsoft TEAMS, Zoom, and Canvas to reach out to students and deliver course content.
- The CSA collaborated with CAVP and the Council for Human Resources to continue to offer the Kognito Mental Health training module for faculty and staff. Data related to Kognito Mental Health Training module completion will be provided at the November Board meeting.
- The CSA has provided feedback to the Chancellor's Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- He acknowledged the comradery that exists System-wide during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Hudson also acknowledged the weekly

updates from Board of Governors' staff. He thanked Dr. England for engaging with the CSA.

Chair Jordan thanked Dr. Hudson for his report.

C. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Chair Jordan recognized Governor Schneider, Chair of the Florida Student Association, who provided the following updates.

- The FSA has been conducting all meetings remotely.
- The FSA is currently working on developing its legislative agenda for the current year through various committees made up of individuals from different institutions and covering various topics.
- The FSA plans to schedule a meeting with the Chancellor to discuss their input in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force.
- The students in the SUS are interested in a test-optional model for admissions. She acknowledged the reservations regarding the option and noted the COVID-19 pandemic had brought this issue to the forefront.
- She also acknowledged the intellectual capacity and creativity the state of Florida system possesses in addressing this topic for the future.

Chair Jordan thanked Governor Schneider for her report.

9. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Jordan thanked Dr. England and her team for the work with the committee materials.

Having no further business, Chair Jordan adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Darlene Jordan, Chair

Brittanian K. Gamble
Assistant Director for Academic
Affairs