



Steering Committee Meeting

Minutes

August 31, 2023

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

ZOOM

Members Present: Kim Dunn, Bruce Arneklev, Bill Trapani, Charles Duke, Joy Longo, Meredith Mountford, Kevin Wagner and Paul Peluso.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm by Chair, Dr. Kim Dunn.
2. The UFS Steering minutes from April 13, 2023 were **approved by the committee.**
3. President's Report
 - Dr. Dunn announced awarded Faculty Emeritus:
 - Dr. Kenneth Orbach – College of Business
 - Dr. Jerome Haky – College of Science
 - Dr. Carol McGuirk – Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
 - Dr. Charles Carraher – College of Science
 - Dr. Dunn gave an update on the presidential search, the university's presidential search is suspended until investigation by the Inspector General from the Board of Governor's is complete. The next steps will be determined then by the BOG.
 - Dr. Dunn gave an update on the Post Tenure Review.
 - Dr. Dunn gave an update on HB999 and SB266. A Frequently Asked Questions document was shared today with faculty and administrators.
 - Dr. Dunn announced that the next Board of Trustees meeting will be on September 11.
 - Dr. Dunn reported that the Board of Trustees held a meeting on August 15 in which they voted to amend FAU Regulation 5.002, Faculty Evaluations, to comply with recently enacted Board of Governors' (BOG) Regulation 10.003. Another item of interest is that the BOT approved our legislative budget request for Artificial Intelligence Across The Community Health Continuum / Enrollment Expansion totals \$30.6 million (\$23.8 million in recurring operational funds and \$6.8 million in nonrecurring funds).
 - Dr. Dunn reported that we would like to engage two specific committees, the Academic Freedom Due Process committee and the Policies and Procedures

Committee, with new legislation that has come forth and bylaw revisions. The Policies and Procedures Committee is charged with reviewing the Senate bylaws and making recommendations for changes as appropriate. Steering did not have any specific charge for Academic Freedom and Due Process Committee.

- Dr. Dunn reported on possible speakers for Senate and Steering made recommendations for the September Senate meeting
 - President Report – Stacy Volnick – on agenda for Senate for September
 - Artificial Intelligence – Dan Meeroff - delayed
 - Campus Security Campus Security – Chief Brammer – on agenda for Senate for September
 - Faculty Athletics Representative Report – Steve Engle - delayed
 - QEP and Faculty Development: Jennifer Bebergal, Associate Dean for Academic Support and Student Learning – on agenda for September or October pending PTR
 - HB266 – TBD – to be included in Provost’s report in September
 - Post Tenure Review – Steve Engle – on agenda for September unless request to delay from Steve.

4. Guest Speakers

- President Welcome and Update: Interim-President Volnick
 - Interim President Volnick gave a welcome and update.
 - FAU welcomed the largest class ever, 4400 freshmen.
 - Washington Monthly has ranked Florida Atlantic University as the No. 46 university in the nation – among both private and public universities.
 - Fundraising update, we raised \$68.1 million last year and our goal for this year is even higher; in addition to an increase in donors.
 - To strengthen external university engagement, President Volnick is currently serving on the Research Development Authority Maintenance Board
 - President Volnick was recently appointed to the CareerSource Broward board which will provide FAU an opportunity to really understand that the employment needs, in addition to employment needs in Broward County, and how we can match internships and other opportunities for our students.
 - President Volnick gave an update on the budget redesign process.
- Campus Safety: Chief Brammer
 - Chief Brammer reiterated some of the university safety protocols that we have in place.
 - Part of what the University Police Department builds from is community collaboration; staying informed from the early stages is essential.
 - Police training includes Crisis Intervention Training.
- [QEP and Faculty Development](#): Jennifer Bebergal, Associate Dean for Academic Support and Student Learning

- Jennifer Bebergal and Brittanney Adelman presented on Supporting Students with the Learning Assistant (LA) Model – FAU’s Quality Enhancement Plan.
- The Quality Enhancement Plan is required by all SACSCOC institutions as 50% of their reaffirmation of accreditation (every 10 years)
- Must focus on student learning and/or student success.
- This QEP will work closely with faculty to implement the Learning Assistant (LA) model of their courses.
- The LA model is a form of peer-led team learning in which faculty redesign courses to include opportunities for students to engage in active and collaborative learning during class.

5. Committee Reports

Academic Planning and Budget, Kevin Wagner

- Dr. Wagner presented APBC approved the proposed SPOT dates and recommended that Steering refer to Policies and Procedures the question of validity and timing of the SPOT instrument.
- Moved to present only approved and proposed SPOT dates at Faculty Senate. Motion carries.

6. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

- Sent forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

7. [UPC Action Agenda](#)

- Sent forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

8. [UGC Consent Agenda](#)

- Sent forward with a positive recommendation by steering.

9. [UGC Action Agenda](#)

- Sent forward with a positive recommendation by steering with change.
 - Remove COM tabling item from agenda.

10. Old Business

- Role of advisors in student major changes
 - Dr. Dan Meeroff gave an update on the role of advisors in student major changes.
 - Process must be initiated by advisor because of financial aid and major implications.
- Graduate faculty requirement to serve on thesis committee.
 - Dr. Robert Stackman gave an update on graduate faculty requirement to serve on thesis committee.

- Still working on streamlining the process.
- Previously, during Provost Danilowicz time, the process was streamlined in which the need for background check was removed. However, these individuals are still loaded into Workday and are required to have some personal identifying information collected. About a year and a half ago, the Graduate College and the Office of the Provost developed a more secure way to collect that information but, unfortunately, that form is no longer available.
- [Faculty participation in student recruiting events](#)
 - Dr. Kim Dunn gave an update on faculty participation in student recruitment events.
 - Deans are charged with soliciting volunteers to participate. Any faculty member who's interested in participating in recruiting events should contact the appropriate Dean in their college.
- Human social factors outside STEM not included in course work
 - Dr. Dan Meeroff gave an update on Human social factors outside STEM not included in course work.
 - Some possible options include creating or enhancing existing certificates of minors related to ethics across the curriculum.
 - Looked at embedding ethics in coursework as assignment level.
 - Talked about creating the learning community with expert faculty that can assist faculty interested in embedding ethics into their course.

11. New Business

- None

12. Open Forum with the Provost

- Interim Provost Ivy reported that our largest FTIC class of 4427 were enrolled as of Monday, in addition to, 1824 transfer.
- Interim Provost Ivy reported on partnership with Study Group, a leading provider of international education – selected as Florida Atlantic University's trusted partner of choice to recruit international students to a range of programs except those that have limited admission such as nursing and architecture. This is our second year with Study Group, and we have over 700 international students.
- Overall, with Study Group partnership and Center for Global Engagement, there are about 1500 international students (includes new and returning).
- Interim Provost Ivy, reported on fall retention; our approved goal for this year was 81.9% on our accountability plan approved by the Board of Governors but our current rate is 84.25%.
- Interim Provost Ivy announced FAU's Amazon Career Choice program partnership.
- Interim Provost Ivy gave an update on the SACSCOC reaffirmation report.
- Interim Provost Ivy gave an update on PTR.

13. Good of the Steering Committee

- None.

14. **Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.**