FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thursday, July 21, 2016

CONFERENCE CALL ORIGINATED FROM
EDWARDS HALL, ROOM # 309
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Meeting Minutes

Members:
Present: Trustee Dudley Goodlette – Chair (in person); Trustee Thieldens Elneus; Trustee Joe Fogg; Trustee Blake Gable; Trustee Kevin Price; Trustee Robbie Roepstorff (in person); Trustee Ken Smith; and Trustee Christian Spilker (in person).

Not Present: Trustee Shawn Felton – Vice Chair; Trustee Darleen Cors; and Trustee Russell Priddy.

Others:
Staff: President Wilson Bradshaw; Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Toll; Vice President for Administrative Services and Finance Steve Magiera; Vice President for Student Affairs Mike Rollo; Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of FGCU Foundation Chris Simoneau; Vice President and Chief of Staff Susan Evans; Associate General Counsel Lisa Jones for Vice President and General Counsel Vee Leonard; Director of Board Operations, and Special Projects Amber Pacheco; Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Chief of Staff Tiffany Reynolds; and Project Manager Danielle O’Brien.

Item 1: Call to Order, and Roll Call
Chair Dudley Goodlette called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken with 8 of 11 Trustees present, thus meeting quorum requirements.

Item 2: Opening Remarks
Chair Goodlette called on President Bradshaw for his opening remarks.

President Bradshaw thanked the FGCU Board of Trustees (BOT) for taking time to address the previously proposed Master of Science in Engineering. He stated that this meeting shows the commitment of the BOT to getting work done in a timely manner, and the importance of its work.
Item 3: Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee (Includes Public Comment) (Tab #1)

Chair Goodlette called on Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Trustee Christian Spilker.

Committee Chair Spilker thanked the trustees for attending the meeting, and he thanked Chair Goodlette for continuing this item, which had been tabled at the BOT’s June 7, 2016 meeting. He also thanked Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Toll and Dean of the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering Richard Behr for providing a tour of the Emergent Technologies Institute (ETI).

He stated that he was excited about the Master of Science in Engineering degree program, and that he could not imagine anything better for the University than to be expanding in this direction.

New Degree Program: Master of Science in Engineering (TAB #1)

Committee Chair Spilker called on Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Toll to present New Degree Program: Master of Science in Engineering.

Dr. Toll thanked Trustee Spilker for his willingness to tour the ETI facility. He stated that the Master of Science in Engineering would be the first graduate program within the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering. He indicated that there is an emphasis on energy and on water resources within the program. He noted that a general Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code was used because this program is seen as the first of several masters programs to be housed within the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering. He said that there is much more than the study of energy production within this program; there also is the study of energy storage through multiple means, and smart-grid technology.

He stated with regard to future masters programs, possible options include: civil engineering, bio-medical engineering, and software engineering, all of which currently are considered to be undergraduate centers of excellence. He indicated that with this program, there should be an increase in research grant procurement opportunities in direct support of Pillar #4 of the recently-approved Strategic Plan. He stated that it will increase the number of graduate degrees awarded in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), which is in direct support of Metric #8 of the current Performance-Based Funding metrics. He said that the program will be housed in the ETI, which will enrich connections between business and engineering, particularly as relates to entrepreneurialism in support of Pillar #2 of the Strategic Plan.

Trustee Roepstorff made a motion for approval. Trustee Smith seconded the motion.

Trustee Smith stated that he does not want to lose sight of the fact that the space utilization of the ETI needs to be maximized.
President Bradshaw indicated that he will be working with Dean of the College of Health Professions and Social Work Mitchell Cordova and a group of internal and external folks to map out plans of the Emergent Technologies Institute (ETI). Trustee Roepstorff stated that she had spoken with several businesses that wrote letters of support for this program regarding the market need. She said she thinks the first cohort will all be able to get jobs locally, since these companies are sustainable to Southwest Florida and pay high wage salaries.

There was no public comment. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Item 4: Presidential Search Advisory Committee (Includes Public Comment) (Tab #2)
Chair Goodlette called on Chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee Trustee Ken Smith.

Committee Chair Smith indicated that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee continues to work on building the foundation for the presidential search, and that the group is accomplishing this task in a deliberative and open manner.

He noted that the Committee met last week, and unanimously recommended for BOT approval a revised timeline for the search. He stated that the compelling reason for a revised timeline was based on input provided by the consultants from executive search firm Witt/Kieffer, who expressed concerns about the original timeline’s long period of time for applicants’ public candidacy, and also the length of time candidates would not know their status in the search. He stated the revised timeline provides for an FGCU Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting on December 9, in which the Board will select the next President with a start date of July 1, 2017.

Chair Goodlette made a motion for approval. Trustee Spilker seconded the motion. There was no public comment. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Item 5: Old Business
Trustee Roepstorff asked for an update regarding the Master of Physician Assistant (PA) Studies, which was approved by the FGCU BOT at its April 19, 2016 meeting but now is waiting on approval from the Board of Governors (BOG) due to the request for a tuition differential. She stated that it is her understanding that the BOG would like to hold a workshop to determine if this program is becoming too heavily concentrated in the State University System (SUS).

President Bradshaw indicated FGCU recently has heard back from the BOG, and that the BOG has yet to determine how to handle our PA program, or Florida State University’s (FSU) PA program. He noted that both FGCU’s and FSU’s
Chair Goodlette asked if we needed Board of Governors (BOG) approval if we decided to not use a tuition differential.

Dr. Toll indicated there were two pieces to the issue: 1) a new regulation, effective July 1, 2017, which requires BOG approval for tuition differential; and 2) several institutions that were responsive to filling the gap as determined by the gap analysis study performed by the BOG. He stated we have been working on this program since 2012, and we have met every statutory requirement by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). He noted that there is a site visit planned in October, 2016.

Trustee Spilker stated the importance of this program due to FGCU's demographics, and in terms of our centers of excellence. He asked what Trustees could do in terms of expressing this importance to the BOG and if a letter in support of the program could be written from the Chair of the FGCU Board of Trustees (BOT) to the BOG.

Chair Goodlette stated that he would speak with the Chancellor and others regarding the significance of this program to the University. He said that an inquiry or some kind of memorialization of the BOT's concern cannot be delayed.

President Bradshaw indicated that he and his staff will continue to talk with the BOG because FGCU has invested in this program by hiring a director and two to three faculty members, which is required for accreditation.

Trustee Roepstorff asked Dr. Cordova with regard to the timeline, at what point do we need to know that this program can go forward for implementation in 2017.

Dr. Cordova stated that he spoke yesterday with the accrediting body to ask: 1) how not receiving formal approval at this point would impact our application, which is due August 4, 2016; and 2) how it would impact the site visit scheduled in October. He stated he was told that the site visit could continue as planned, and that the ability to render an accreditation decision at their March 2017 commission meeting would not be affected. He said that he was optimistic that as long as we hear back from the BOG before the March meeting then we should be okay, but that he will be receiving confirmation from ARC-PA as soon as possible.

Chair Goodlette asked for an update at the September 13 FGCU Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting on further communications with the BOG regarding the PA program.

Trustee Smith stated that we should not allow this issue to just sit still.
Chair Goodlette asked for clarification regarding the new regulation. Dr. Toll stated that as part of House Bill 7019, language that went into effect on July 1 takes back some of the delegated authority from boards of trustees with regard to approving tuition differential. President Bradshaw stated that there are two takeaways from this discussion: 1) that the Board of Governors (BOG) is considering whether or not to grandfather our program is good news, and 2) that our accreditation is not in jeopardy. He offered assistance in consideration of writing a letter from the Board Chair to the BOG.

**Item 6: New Business**

Trustee Price said he watched the live feed of the BOG meeting for FGCU’s presentation of its Work Plan, including the Dental and Pharmacy Schools also found in the Strategic Plan. Given the BOG feedback, he asked about the direction moving forward.

President Bradshaw stated that the objectives, including the Dental and Pharmacy Schools, within the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan approved by the BOT remain in place. He indicated there is an upcoming meeting scheduled with the Deans to develop specific actions under each of the objectives.

Chair Goodlette stated that there will be a meeting of the Special Committee on FGCU Strategic Plan 2016-2021 on August 17 at 1:00 p.m. in Cohen Center Room 213.

**Item 7: Chair’s Closing Remarks, & Meeting Adjournment**

Chair Goodlette noted the next meeting of the FGCU Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, September 13 starting at 8:30 a.m. He also indicated that Chair Ken Smith will convene various meetings of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee prior to the FGCU BOT meeting on September 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

*Minutes submitted by Tiffany Reynolds, Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Chief of Staff*

Agenda Items:

A. See Tabs # 1 – 2
### Record of Votes
**FGCU Board of Trustees**  
**DATE:** 7/21/2016

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