



## **Board of Trustees Academics and Campus Environment Committee**

Monday, February 21, 2023  
Time: 9:00am  
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

### **MINUTES**

Chair Oscar Horton welcomed everyone and convened the ACE Committee meeting. He asked Kiara Guzzo to call the roll.

#### **Kiara Guzzo called the roll**

Trustee Oscar Horton  
Trustee Jenifer Jasinski Schneider  
Trustee Luran Monbarren  
Trustee Nithin Palyam  
Trustee Fredrick Piccolo  
Trustee Melissa Seixas

#### **New Business – Action Items**

##### **a. Approval of November 21, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Chair Horton requested a motion for approval. It was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Jasinski Schneider. The November 21, 2022, Minutes were approved.

##### **b. Tenure as a Condition of Employment**

Administrators such as the President, Provost, Deans, Chairs, and senior faculty who are recruited to USF are normally awarded tenure as a condition of employment. These highly qualified individuals usually have earned tenure at their previous institutions, which makes them attractive candidates to USF. To attract them, USF must provide a package that is competitive with other nationally and internationally ranked institutions. Tenure upon appointment for qualified candidates, among other things, is a term and condition of the employment package that makes USF an institution of choice.

Sr. Associate Vice President Hayward Brown and Interim Vice Provost Elizabeth Bell presented the item.

Dr. Brown reported that Dr. Dena Evans will be the new USF Vice Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Nursing.

**Dena Evans, Ed.D., MPH, MSN, RN, CNL, CNE**

Dr. Dena Evans, Ed.D., MPH, MSN, RN, CNL, CNE, joined the College of Nursing (CON) on January 9, 2023, as Vice Dean for Academic Affairs. Previously, she served as Associate Academic Dean and Director of the School of Nursing at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Charlotte where she was a tenured Associate Professor. Dr. Evans earned her Ed.D. from North Carolina University at Charlotte (2010), focusing on higher education in the health professions. Her leadership training includes Master of Science degrees in Nursing Science and Public Health Nursing, Policy, and Leadership from UNC, Chapel Hill, the Price-Babson Fellows Program for Entrepreneurship Educators, and the Wharton Fellow's Program. Dr. Evan's teaching excellence was honored with the Mary Adelaide Nutting Award for Outstanding Teaching or Leadership in Nursing Education, the Outstanding Teaching Award at the University of North Carolina, Pembroke, and nomination for North Carolina Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award.

Interim Vice Provost Elizabeth Bell reported that Dr. Prasant Mohapatra is a dedicated servant to his discipline in several capacities. He is the incoming Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs.

**Prasant Mohapatra, Ph.D.**

Dr. Mohapatra will join the USF College of Engineering on March 1, 2023, as a Professor with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE). Dr. Mohapatra is an internationally recognized researcher for his work in mobile computing and wireless networks. He is a Fellow of AAAS and a Fellow of IEEE. He comes to USF from the University of California, Davis, where he served as Vice Chancellor for Research and a tenured Distinguished Professor in the Computer Science Department. He previously served in positions including Dean of Graduate Studies, Associate Chancellor, Interim Vice Provost and CIO at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Mohapatra earned a B.S. degree from the National Institute of Technology in Rourkela, India, in 1987, an M.S. from the University of Rhode Island in 1989, and a Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University in 1993.

Chair Horton requested a motion for approval. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Jasinski Schneider. The motion was approved.

**c. New Degree Proposal**

**B.S. Business Analytics & Information Systems. CIP 52.1301**

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics and Information Systems (BAIS) is an undergraduate STEM degree designed to prepare graduates for high-demand, high-paying jobs in Florida, the USA, and throughout the world.

Interim Dean GJ de Vreede presented the item.

Interim Dean GJ de Vreede commented that over time, the needs of the workforce have changed, companies are looking for a different set of skills out of our students. There is now a much stronger focus on management science analytics and data science. The program is offered at the Tampa and St. Petersburg campuses as well as the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

Chair Horton had a question regarding program elimination and the students who are currently in the program.

Students who were in the original program are allowed to finish. There is a Teach Out.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve the B.S. Business Analytics & Information Systems CIP 52.1301 Program. The motion was given by Trustee Monbarren and seconded by Trustee Jasinski Schneider. The item was approved.

## **New Business Information Items**

### **a. Accreditation Reaffirmation Timeline Update**

University Accreditation Liaison Officer & Director of Decision Support, Christopher Combie provided an update.

SACSCOC approved USF in late fall 2022 for a modified compliance certification report due to stable leadership, stable enrollment and the absence of sanctions or monitoring in the past 5 years. In lieu of responding to 74 accreditation standards. USF will respond to 40.

Dr. Combie commented, as a campus community we are laser focused on ensuring compliance on all accreditation standards that have served USF well.

A power point was provided which highlighted the following items:

- Accreditation Reaffirmation Timeline update
- Modified Compliance Certification Document
- SACSCOC 2025 Reaffirmation Timeline
- Narrative Drafting Timeline – Spring 2022
- Narrative Drafting Timeline - Summer 2023
- Narrative Drafting Timeline – Fall 2023
- Narrative Drafting Timeline - Spring 2024
- Narrative Drafting Timeline – Summer 2024
- Internal / External Review Protocol
- Reaffirmation Website
- Accreditation Contact

Chair Horton asked how often will USF have to repeat this process. It's every 10 years.

President Law and Dr. Combie's comments were about complying with the requirements under state law to change accreditors as of July 2022. Dr. Combie shared USF's plan moving forward.

Assistant Vice President for Government Relations Mark Walsh made comments concerning a bill that was enacted in 2022 by the State Legislature. It's regarding the State University System moving to a different accreditor.

Trustee Jasinski Schneider clarified the difference between SACSCOC and the different accreditations as it relates to other programs.

#### **b. State of Admissions Update**

Vice President for Student Success Cindy DeLuca provided an update on the current situation in the office of Admissions. The following were the topics of discussion:

- Staffing
- The Dean of Admissions recently resigned
- Assistant Vice President of USF World, Sean Gilmore will serve as Interim Director of Admissions for 6 months. Mr. Gilmore has served in this capacity in the past and is familiar with the systems and the team.
- There are plans to integrate team members from other areas in Student Success to assist Mr. Gilmore and the Admissions leadership in identifying efficiencies.
- We are working with Vice President and CIO Sydney Fernandes to find technology solutions.
- Working with the Vice President for HR Angie Sklenka and her team to launch a search and identify candidates for a new Director of Admissions.
- Retained Ruffalo Noel Levitz (RNL) to build our Strategic Enrollment Plan including recommendations for reorganization.
- RNL was invited to USF last fall to conduct an opportunity analysis. They assessed USF's readiness, to do challenging work necessary.

A power point was provided which highlighted the following:

- State of Admissions
- Strategic Enrollment planning – Building a new model for sustainable success
- Enrollment Funnel
- Summer/Fall 2023 Admission Funnel: FTIC

Trustee Horton had a question concerning the increase in the number of admits for the African American, Asian and Hispanic students.

There was an increase in the number of students applying as well as an increase in the percentage of yield. USF had a marketing campaign about 5 years ago.

Interim Director Sean Gilmore comments were on the marketing campaign, the process of applications and students who are admitted.

Trustee Jasinski Schneider comments were on having a strategic approach. Our diverse student and faculty population is our strength, as well as our location.

Dr. Brown commented on the competitiveness in the state of Florida for students to meet the admission requirements.

**c. Round Table Discussion**

Trustee Jasinski Schneider's comments were on the pros and cons of three major issues which are very important to the faculty: Tenure upon Hire, Accreditation and Enrollment.

Chair Horton had a question concerning the definition of DEI as it relates to the USF students.

Sr. Associate VP Brown comments were concerning the definition of DIA and Economic Diversity and all that USF has accomplished in those areas.

Interim Provost Eisenberg commented on the misperception of faculty at USF. Dr. Eisenberg made it clear that the faculty does stand for an inclusive environment.

Chair Horton thanked all the presenters and commented on the great job everyone did describing who we are.

Having no further business Chair Horton adjourned the ACE Committee meeting.