USF Board of Trustees
Academics and Campus Environment Committee

Tuesday August 20, 2024 – Microsoft Teams meeting

Trustees: Chair Oscar Horton, Suryakanth Gottipati,
Lauran Monbarren, Rick Piccolo, Melissa Seixas, David Simmons

Chair Horton welcomed everyone and called the ACE committee meeting to order. He asked Brittany Dix to call the roll.

Trustee Suryakanth Gottipati – Did not participate
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Lauran Monbarren – Did not participate
Trustee Rick Piccolo
Trustee Melisa Seixas
Trustee David Simmons

Having no request for public comments, Chair Horton proceeded with the meeting.

New Business - Action Items

a. Approval of Previous Minutes for May 21, 2024

Having no changes to the May 21, 2024 minutes, Chair Horton requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Seixas, seconded by Trustee Callahan, and 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. In order 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.

Provost Mohapatra and Sr. Associate Vice President Javier Cuevas presented.

A list of qualified candidates was presented.

David Blackwell - Muma College of Business- Professor - Kate Tiedemann School of Business and Finance

Ron Dulaney Jr. – College of the Arts - Professor and Director School of Architecture and Community Design

Andrew Scott Ross – College of the Arts - Professor, School of Art & Art History

Elizabeth Spiller – College of Arts & Sciences - Professor, English

Tingting Zhang – Muma College of Business – Associate Professor - School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Robert Gallo – Morsani College of Medicine – Distinguished Professor – Internal Medicine

Chair Horton questioned if full employment is ever reached. Provost Mohapatra explained that there is a constant change due to retirement and transferring to other institutions.

Trustee Simmons commented that the professors listed for Tenure as a Condition for Employment are very difficult hires and that this is a massive accomplishment for USF. Trustee Simmons commented on the aggressive hiring of faculty members. This moves USF in the right direction of where we're trying to go as it relates to research expenditures, as well as top 25 status.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve item b. Tenure as a Condition of Employment. A motion was given by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Seixas, and approved.

c. USF Textbook & Instructional Materials Affordability Annual Report

The State University System of Florida "Textbook & Instructional Materials Affordability and Transparency Annual Report" documents USF; 1) compliance with the 45-day textbook adoption requirement; 2) compliance with five-year, rotating syllabi and textbook lists; 3) institutional policies relevant to the issue; and 4) efforts to reduce costs to students.

Dean Todd Chavez and Director Alexander Neff presented.

A PowerPoint was provided - USF Textbooks & Instructional Materials Affordability Annual Report. The PowerPoint highlighted the following:

- Data Highlights - USF
- Benefits of Buy–In from Faculty
- $43,833,806 Cumulative Savings 2010 To Date
- Updates and Initiatives

Mr. Neff concluded his presentation and opened the floor to questions.

Chair Horton had a question concerning USF's ranking among other SUS universities in terms of cost for textbooks.

Very few universities have been known to track or share textbook affordability information. It's very difficult to compare without having a national average. The information presented was based on what USF undergraduates are paying.

Trustee Seixas commented that more than likely this topic is a favorable talking point among prospective students' parents in terms of costs.

Detailed information on the USF Textbook Affordability Project can be found on the USF Website. We have received positive feedback from students.

Trustee Simmons commented on his personal experience as an engineering student at another university in Florida. The textbook rates at USF are considerably lower.

Chair Horton had comments pertaining to e-books. Dean Chavez reported that the USF Library has a host of technology resources available for students who don't have access.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve item c. USF Textbook & Instructional Materials Affordability Annual Report. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Callahan, and approved.

d. BOG Regulation - Self-supporting and Market Tuition Rate - College-Credit Programs Annual Report

Board of Governors Regulation 8.002(4)(c) stipulates that the annual report must be approved by each institution's board of trustees prior to submission to the Board of Governors (BOG) by October 1, 2024.

Associate Vice President Christine Brown presented. A PowerPoint was provided that highlighted the following:

- An Overview of the Annual Report
- Data Collection and Reporting Process
- Number of Active Programs by Degree Type
- Enrollments by Program/Degree Type
- Degree/Program Completions by Program/Degree Type
- Revenues and Expenditures by Program/Degree Type

Vice President Brown ended her presentation and opened the floor for questions.

Chair Horton thanked Vice President Brown for her presentation and requested a motion for approval. The motion was given by Trustee Seixas, seconded by Trustee Piccolo, and approved.

e. BOG Regulation 8.005 - General Education Course Offerings

Per BOG Reg. 8.005, "Each State University System institution's board of trustees and president must annually review and approve, at a public meeting, the courses offered by the institution that meet general education course requirements in accordance with sections 1007.24, 1007.25 and 1007.55, Florida Statutes."

Assistant Dean Kyna Betancourt presented. A PowerPoint was provided, which highlighted the following:

- General Relationship between SB 266 & BOG 8.005
- SB 266 and General Education
- BOG 8.005 General Education
- Current State

The official list must be submitted to the BOG by September 1, 2024. The Dean ended her presentation and opened the floor to questions from the Board members.

Chair Horton had a question concerning the changes to the preliminary General Education list and whether there will there be major changes.

Because of our Enhanced General Education curriculum, many of our courses were flagged as being too narrow and may have to be removed. If a course doesn't align with the current Regulation, it can still be taught, just not under the General Education umbrella.

Provost Mohapatra commented that some colleges may be impacted more than others, such as the Honors College.

Trustee Simmons discussed the impact that General Education has on students. These fast-moving regulatory changes put the university in a position to make updates outside of the normal deliberative process for curriculum development.

Trustee Mike Carrere questioned if students were required to take General Education courses outside of their major.

Dean Betancourt commented that students are required to take 36 hours of General Education courses.

This list of courses will be voted on during the Governance Committee meeting scheduled for August 27, 2024.

General Counsel Gerard Solis recommended a motion request to approve the preliminary General Education course offerings. The motion was made by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Seixas, and approved.

f. Bachelor of Science in Design, CIP Code 50.0401

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Design degree program will instill a participatory design model that focuses on the designer's ability to craft systems and teams that are uniquely adept at including the voices of all constituencies. The proposed curriculum encourages creative problem-solving, critical thinking, data literacy, basic programing, adaptability, and collaboration, all grounded in an interdisciplinary mindset. At the core of the proposed degree program is an investigation into the formative role of design in shaping human values and experiences, conceptualizing digital and physical products, services, brands, and experiences for numerous industries.

Dean Chris Garvin presented on the new program - Bachelor of Science Degree and Design Studies. He commented on the tremendous growth within the College of the Arts over the past five years and said that USF is one of the few SUS universities to offer this distinctive degree. This degree allows us to bridge the idea of technology, thinking, and creative skills all together under one curriculum.

Dean Garvin announced that there are plans to rename the USF College of the Arts to the USF College of Design Arts and Performance. A public announcement will be made on October 24, 2024.

Having no questions from the committee members, Chair Horton requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Seixas, seconded by Trustee Simmons, and approved.

g. Tampa Campus Master Plan Amendment

Pursuant to Section 1013.30(3), Florida Statutes, and Florida Board of Governors Regulations, Chapter 21, each university board of trustees shall prepare and adopt a campus master plan for the university to address the development needs for a ten-year span.

This Campus Master Plan Amendment amends the 2020-2030 Campus Master Plan previously adopted by the Board (June 13, 2023) to reflect the addition of the On-Campus Stadium and future development on the former credit union site.

This Amendment continues to build upon the foundation of the USF Strategic Plan 2022-2027 and reinforces the USF Mission and Goals.

Prior / Pending Reviews:

- USF Campus Development Committee: August 12, 2024
- USF ACE Advisory Committee: August 13, 2024
- USF BOT ACE Committee: August 20, 2024
- USF Board of Trustees: December 10, 2024

Vice President Carole Post presented the item. She provided an inventory of documents that reflect the evolution of USF. The amendment presented today is intended to address three key areas of growth and expansion on the Tampa campus. Vice President Post commented that there are unique master plans for each of our campuses. A PowerPoint was provided which highlighted the following:

- 2020 – 2030 Tampa Campus Master Plan
- Tampa Campus Master Plan Proposed Amendment
- Item 1 - On Campus Stadium
- Item 2 - The Crew Building / Former USF Credit Union
- Item 3 - Update to Existing Land Use
- Master Plan Amendment Impacts

Vice President Post opened the floor for questions from the committee members.

Chair Horton thanked Vice President Post for her presentation and commented on the impressive changes in the past 20 years. The Chair inquired about the groundbreaking for the on-campus stadium.

Vice President Post commented that the groundbreaking will be October 18th. President Law encouraged everyone to attend the huge celebration planned for October 18th.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Seixas, and approved.

Having no further business Chair Horton thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the ACE Committee meeting.