



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

### **NOTES**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2020  
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting**

#### **I. Call to Order and Comments**

Chair Charles Tokarz welcomed and thank those in attendance, and called the meeting to order with a quorum confirmed by Vice President and Assistant Corporate Secretary Cindy Visot with the following committee members present:

Trustee Tim Boaz  
Trustee Stephanie Goforth  
Trustee Michael Griffin  
Trustee Oscar Horton (joined later in the meeting)  
Trustee Claire Mitchell  
Trustee Byron Shinn  
Trustee Charles Tokarz

Chair Tokarz welcomed Faculty Senate President Dr. Tim Boaz as the newest member of the Board of Trustees ACE Committee. He also recognized the importance of having a faculty voice from Trustee Boaz, as well as a student voice from Student Body President Claire Mitchell, on the Board of Trustees and the ACE Committee specifically.

#### **II. Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure**

Chair Tokarz confirmed there were no requests for public comment.

#### **III. New Business – Action Items**

- a. Approval of Previous Minutes
  - i. May 14, 2020

Chair Tokarz asked the committee if any edits needed to be made to the minutes and the committee confirmed there were none. A motion for approval was made by Trustee Griffin with a second from Trustee Shinn and was approved unanimously by the committee.

- b. Tenure as a Condition of Employment

Chair Tokarz called on Senior Vice Provost Dwayne Smith to present the item and highlighted the importance of continuing to use tenure as a powerful recruitment tool in attracting world-class faculty. Dr. Smith presented the candidates: Professor Chris Garvin, dean of the College of The Arts; Dr. Thomas Frazer, dean of the College of Marine Science and Dr. Lucian Lozonschi, professor in the Morsani College of Medicine.

A motion for approval was made by Trustee Boaz with a second from Trustee Shinn and was approved unanimously by the committee.

c. USF Textbook & Instructional Materials Affordability Annual Report

USF Libraries Dean Todd Chavez introduced the item and provided an overview of the work that has occurred across the entire university to achieve such great success in creating more access for students via lower material costs. Textbook Affordability Project Director Alex Neff took the committee through a presentation highlighting key achievements:

- Cost per credit hour of \$23.69 for USF students in spring 2020 compared to a \$54.10 national average
- Spring 2020 compliance rate of 96.8% in spring 2020, exceeding the benchmark of 95%
- \$27,235,668 cumulative savings to students since 2010

Chair Tokarz thanked Mr. Neff for his work, as well as the faculty and staff from the entire university for their buy-in to making this program a success and assisting students in this important endeavor. Trustees had questions about audits from the Board of Governors and were informed that USF has always been rigorous in data integrity and that the university was the first in the state to have as part of its contract with the Bookstore management company to have access to data.

A motion for approval was made by Trustee Goforth with a second from Trustee Shinn and was approved unanimously by the committee.

d. SUS Equity Report

Vice President for Institutional Equity Haywood Brown introduced the item and provided a background of the Equity Report and its requirement to be submitted to the state. Associate Vice President Cecil Howard took the committee through a presentation (available online) highlighting the university's progress in achieving equitable outcomes for student success, as well as new faculty and new administrator recruitment. Dr. Brown closed the presentation with recommendations for continued improvement, such as enhanced recruitment for Black and Brown students, as well as continuing to support male students via mentorship programs.

A motion for approval was made by Trustee Goforth with a second from Trustee Boaz and was approved unanimously by the committee.

IV. New Business – Information Items

a. Enrollment Update: Summer and Fall 2020

Provost Ralph Wilcox presented the item, which included data on enrollment and student profiles from summer and fall 2020. The Provost also noted that this is the first time the data are presented in a consolidated manner. The Provost provided an overview of the units that have come together to work seamlessly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic to provide access for success for students and faculty. The Provost mentioned that the date of the meeting was only the second day of classes for the fall semester, so the data is preliminary. The Provost noted that summer 2020 enrollment was up over summer 2019 due in part of the largest summer freshmen class in USF's history and the majority were enrolled online. The Provost informed the committee that fall 2020 enrollment is 99% of the approved 2020 Accountability Plan and only 288 fewer students than fall 2019, less than a 1% decline. The Provost's presentation also included highlights of student profiles, as well as different modalities for instructional delivery.

Trustees had questions in terms of faculty support for training of online delivery of instruction and how they were being assisted.

b. Update on SACSCOC Accreditation of USF

Vice Provost for Strategic Planning, Performance & Accountability Terry Chisolm presented the item, which included an update on work already achieved for USF's new single accreditation effective July 1, 2020, as well as next steps including a self-study and site visit.

V. Adjournment

Chair Tokarz asked if any committee member had final comments. BOT Chair Zimmerman commended Chair Tokarz for his work, as well as the rest of the ACE Committee and all of the presenters. Chair Tokarz then adjourned the meeting.