



## Board of Trustees Academics and Campus Environment Committee

### NOTES

Tuesday, November 10, 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  
Trustee Claire Mitchell  
Trustee Byron Shinn  
Trustee Charles Tokarz

Chair Tokarz reminded the trustees that the agenda is full of critical action items and information items to support the university's strategic aspirations, so he asked that trustees hold questions until the end of every presentation.

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

Chair Tokarz confirmed with Dr. Visot there were no requests for public comment.

#### III. New Business – Action Items

- a. Approval of Previous Minutes
  - i. August 25, 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 Horton with a second from Trustee Griffin and was approved unanimously by the committee.

- b. Tenure as a Condition of Employment

Provost Wilcox presented the item on behalf of Senior Vice Provost Dwayne Smith. Provost Wilcox presented the three candidates and their qualifications and brief biographies: Drs. Dana Thompson Dorsey and Willis A. Jones for the

College of Education and Dr. James Michael Grichnik for the Morsani College of Medicine.

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

c. Amendment to USF Regulation 6.0021: Student Code of Conduct

Dean of Students Danielle McDonald presented the item, which was introduced by Chair Tokarz as one necessitated by directive of the US Department of Education and the Florida Board of Governors. Dean McDonald took the trustees through a slide deck and the broadened due process that would be provided to students in the case of violations of the student code of conduct.

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

d. 2019-2020 FIO Annual Report

Vice Provost and Acting Director of the Florida Institute of Oceanography James Garey presented the item. Dr. Garey provided an overview of FIO's mission and its status as an Academic Infrastructure Support Organization that USF hosts on behalf of and in support of the entire State University System.

Dr. Garey's presentation included the announcement of the hiring of a permanent director, Dr. William Montrose ("Monty") Graham, as well as data from the previous year and improvements for the coming year, including changes to organization structure and best practices.

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

Before moving on to the information items BOT Chair Zimmerman wanted to discuss the recent announcements regarding the university's plans for the College of Education and a strategic vision for its future, faculty and students. The trustees had a robust discussion with President Currall and Provost Wilcox including the timing of decisions to be made, budget implications and how to best include stakeholders in the discussions.

IV. New Business – Information Items

a. Academic Continuity: Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Provost Wilcox and Associate Vice President for Innovative Education Cindy DeLuca presented the item, which included an overview of the unprecedented steps the university has taken to innovate and support its students, faculty and

staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation also included a breakdown of class modality types, lessons learned from the summer and fall and how to improve upon these for the upcoming spring 2021 semester.

b. Progress Update on SACSCOC Accreditation Site Visit

Vice Provost for Strategic Planning, Performance & Accountability Terry Chisolm presented the item. Dr. Chisolm informed the trustees that the decision had been made by SACSCOC that the site visit will be entirely virtual and that the Provost's Office will be working with IT and participants to ensure everyone has the appropriate technology and support for a seamless visit. Dr. Chisolm also discussed the audit of the university's websites to ensure compliance (e.g. removing USF System, etc.) with the university's consolidated accreditation. Dr. Chisolm informed the committee that one of the upcoming key next steps is the completion of the site visit documentation which needs to be FedExed to SACSCOC by December 11.

c. Strengthening Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at USF: A Performance Dashboard

Before beginning the presentation, Chair Tokarz asked recently appointed Senior Advisor to the President and Provost for Diversity and Inclusion Dr. Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman to introduce herself as this is her first meeting presenting to the BOT. Dr. Freeman briefly discussed her background, including her faculty appointment as associate professor of sociology in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Freeman presented her item, which will eventually launch at USF as the DARE Dashboard to help the university set goals and track progress to become an anti-racism institution of higher learning. The dashboard looks at various metrics from across the university and applies not only to students, but faculty as well, in four elements of equity and experience: access, achievement, inclusion and engagement. The goal of the dashboard is to help set more effective strategies for promoting student, faculty and staff success and leverage USF's momentum and data-driven approach to become a national model of institutional transformation.

d. Student Access and Success in the Context of COVID-19

Vice President for Student Success Paul Dosal and Dean of Admissions Glen Besterfield presented the item which focused on retention and graduation rates, FTIC enrollment history, as well as goals for 2021 and targets for the FTIC class of 2021. In addition to the metrics, Dean Besterfield also provided an overview of headwinds admissions has faced in light of the COVID-19 pandemic; he also discussed some of the strategies the university has been using to continue to recruit the best and brightest, particularly for Black students. Both Dr. Dosal and

Dean Besterfield were enthusiastic and optimistic about the university's performance and future outlook.

e. Enhancing Faculty Success at USF

Vice Provost Dr. Pritish Mukherjee presented the last item, an update on what the university is doing to support its faculty and help meet its strategic aspirations. Dr. Mukherjee provided an overview of the extensive work the university had done already, following recommendations from its Faculty Success Strategic Initiative Workgroup. Dr. Mukherjee also discussed what he calls a "strategic ecosystem" for faculty success and how it fits within the larger structure and objectives of the university, particularly as President Currall takes the institution through the strategic renewal process.

V. Adjournment

Chair Tokarz asked if any committee member had final comments and thanked all the presenters for their presentations before adjourning the meeting.