

**Board of Trustees
Academics and Campus Environment Committee
Thursday, May 25,2021
Teams Meeting**

Prior to the state of the ACE committee meeting, Board of Trustees Chair Jordan Zimmerman welcomed everyone to the committee meetings. The Chair encouraged all Trustees to attend the Strategic Initiatives Teams workshop tomorrow to review the strategic renewal draft that everyone has worked so hard on. The Chair thanked everyone on their efforts. The strategic renewal draft will be presented at the BOT meeting scheduled on June 8th.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman also welcomed new student trustee member Julia Cunningham. The Chair looks forward to meeting former Trustee Claire Mitchell in person at the June 8th BOT meeting. He thanked her for the tremendous job navigating Student Government through the pandemic.

He then turned it over to COO Lechner. Sr. Vice President and COO David Lechner provided an update on a recent request for an RFI relating to the 700 acres encompassing the Claw Golf Course and the forest preserve. He shared that the uses of this property have not been re-examined in 50 years. An advisory committee made up of faculty and students will review the informational responses. The committee will evaluate and discuss the criteria and best uses for the properties and make a recommendation to USF President Steve Currall for his review and consideration.

The ACE committee Chair Charles Tokarz called the meeting to order.

Vice President Cynthia Visot called the roll with the following Trustees in attendance.

Trustee Tim Boaz
Trustee Sandy Cunningham
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Les Muma
Trustee Melisa Seixas – Will be an hour late.
Trustee Charles Tokarz

Chair Tokarz welcomed Trustee Julia Cunningham to her first ACE committee meeting and asked her to introduce herself.

Trustee and Student Body President Julia Cunningham shared that she is a psychology and political science major who is graduating next spring semester and has plans to attend law school. Trustee Cunningham is looking forward to accomplishing great things while serving on the Board of Trustees.

Chair Tokarz emphasized on behalf of the trustees, that her point of view and input from a student's perspective is valued.

Chair Tokarz commented that Provost Ralph Wilcox will provide an overview of the Summer B Session and the anticipated enrollment later in the meeting.

New Business - Action Items

FL 101 - Approval of Minutes – February 23, 2021, and April 13, 2021

Having no changes to the Minutes Chair Charles Tokarz asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Oscar Horton moved for approval with a second from Trustee Tim Boaz. The February 23rd and April 13th minutes were approved.

FL 102 - Approval of Faculty Nominations for Tenure

Chair Tokarz reported that this is the first year the Board will approve Tenure for a consolidated One USF.

USF President Steve Currall has certified that the nominations for tenure have met the requirements and conditions contained in the USF Regulations, Policies, and Procedures. He is satisfied that the nominees will make a significant professional contribution to USF and the academic community in general. If approved, tenure will be awarded effective August 9, 2021.

Vice Provost and Dean Dwayne Smith provided an overview of the process and presented FL 102. There is a combined list of 29 nominations. (Please see the ACE committee website for a list of nominees)

Trustee Oscar Horton had questions concerning the number of nominees then moved for approval which was seconded by Trustee Les Muma. FL 102 was approved.

FL 103 - Approval of 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 the University of South Florida.

Vice President and Dean of USF Health Charlie Lockwood presented FL 103. There is one nominee, Dr. Da-Zhi Wang from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Wang is a professor of Internal Medicine/Heart Institute. Vice President Lockwood provided an overview of Dr. Wang's Bio.

Trustee Tim Boaz commented on Dr. Wang being an impressive scholar and it being an honor for him to join the faculty at USF. Trustee Boaz asked Dr. Lockwood to provide an overview of the recruiting process of high magnitude scholars.

Trustee Tim Boaz moved for approval. It was seconded by Trustee Oscar Horton and FL 103 was approved.

FL 104 – Approval of New Degree Program B.S. Econometrics and Quantitative Economics

The proposed B.S. in Econometrics and Quantitative Economics degree program focuses on the applied aspects of economics including forecasting, program and business evaluation, benefit/cost analysis and impact analysis. The program is currently offered as a major under the General Economics CIP code which is a non-STEM CIP code.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Eric Eisenberg presented FL 104.

Dean Eisenberg provided an overview of the new degree program. Dean Eisenberg commented that a rigorous demand analysis was completed; and USF will be the only institution in the State University System of Florida to offer a B.S. degree in Econometrics and Quantitative Economics.

BOT Chair Jordan Zimmerman congratulated Dean Eisenberg and his team on his presentation of the new degree program and commented that these types of programs are in popular demand and also needed in order to get students into high paying jobs.

Trustee Les Muma moved for approval with a second from Trustee Oscar Horton and FL 104 was approved. Trustee Muma commented that this program will be a great addition to USF.

New Business – Information Items

Kognito Training Review.

ACE Chair Charles Tokarz reported that the Board of Governors requested that all BOT members receive a brief on the Kognito training program.

Vice Presidents Paul Dosal and Angela Sklenka presented an overview of the training and USF's efforts to increase participation.

Vice President Dosal reported that Kognito training is an online module used to train all faculty and staff to recognize and act on signals of emotional distress in students. A power point was presented which highlighted the following:

- Background
- At Risk for University, College Faculty and Staff
- Presentation to the BOG, March 3, 2021
- Kognito Mental Health Literacy Training and Completion Rate

Chair Charles Tokarz congratulated Vice President's Dosal and Sklenka and their teams for providing USF with the tools needed. This is critical to our student success. The Chair also thanked Human Resources for making this training a high priority.

BOT Chair Jordan Zimmerman congratulated Vice Presidents Dosal, Sklenka and their staff on the outstanding dashboard development. Mental Health is a barrier to student success. Chair Zimmerman commented on the possibility of Kognito training becoming a part of the new employee orientation at USF.

Plans for Summer B/Fall Return to Campus

Chair Charles Tokarz congratulated Provost Ralph Wilcox, Dr. Glen Besterfield and the USF Admission staff on all campuses, on recruiting highly talented students.

Provost Ralph Wilcox announced that USF will begin to bring faculty, staff and students back to campus starting June 1st and have a full resumption of all services and activities by this fall August 23rd. The Provost provided a broad-based update on the plans for return.

Academic Affairs and Student Success: Plan for Resumption of On Campus Activities. A power point was presented which highlighted the following: (available on the website)

- SUS Announces 2021-22 Academic Year Plans
- Updated Covid-19 Guidance
- Return to Full On-Campus Operations
- College and Academic Support Unit Plans
- Supporting Student Success: On-Campus and Remotely
- Reconnecting Our Campus Community
- Supporting Faculty Success: On-Campus and Remotely
- New Faculty Orientation
- Admissions and Enrollment Updates
- Applications, Admits, Deposits: Summer/Fall 2021
- FTIC Goals
- FTIC Summer/Fall Summery
- FTIC FALL Student Profiles
- National Merit Scholars & Provost Scholar Programs
- Judy Genshaft Honors College
- Transfer Students, One USF
- Master's Students
- Summer/Fall Housing – Anna Hernandez provided an update.
- Doctoral Students
- Summer/ Fall Class Section & Seat Count
- Class Modalities

- Class Sections Offered by Modality, One USF
- Max Seat Count Offered by Modality, One USF

Provost Ralph Wilcox thanked all of the campus Deans and Regional Vice Chancellors who worked to provide plans for essential faculty and student support services. The Provost also commended Vice Provost Pritish Murkherjee, Associate Vice President Cindy DeLuca, Director Tim Henkle, Dean Todd Chavez, Dr.'s Cathy Caldwell and Brent Kemker, Director Tanya Vomacka, BLN Founder Anddrikk Frazier and Vice President Paul Dosal on their outstanding work.

Vice President Paul Dosal provided an update on the USF partnership with the Black Leadership Network. Dr. Dosal announced that consultant Dr. Chandler, would welcome the opportunity to speak at the next BOT meeting in August, to provide his recommendations to increase black student enrollment at USF in the Tampa Bay Region.

Trustee Oscar Horton had a question pertaining to the increasing black student enrollment numbers at the St. Petersburg campus.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman comments concerned a push for diverse enrollment at the St. Petersburg campus. He congratulated Provost Wilcox, Dean Glen Besterfield and their teams on their outstanding work. Chair Zimmerman questioned if there will be an isolation facility available on the USF campuses, should a student test positive for Covid-19.

Associate Vice President and Dean Danielle McDonald confirmed that there will be isolation spaces on the Tampa and St. Petersburg campuses.

Chair Zimmerman had questions concerning students coming back to the residence halls. The BOT Chair also had questions pertaining to employees fazing back into the work environment.

Human Resources Vice President Angie Sklenka commented on actions HR is taking to in order to help give USF the great consumer experience.

Trustee Will Weatherford commented on the impressive enrollment numbers, the quality and the diversity of students, the academic excellence and the Covid challenges. Trustee Weatherford also had questions about technology, hybrid and distance learning programing.

Faculty Success Initiative

Vice Provost Pritish Mukherjee provided an update on the Faculty Success Initiative. A power point was presented: A Strategic Holistic Approach. The Power point highlighted the following:

- Faculty Success – Institutional Context
- Strategic Framework for Faculty Success – Research Partnerships & Communication, Finances Infrastructure and Analysis, Access and Empowerment, Teaching and Learning
- Faculty Success Initiative Organizational Approach- Faculty Advisory Panel

- Summary of Progress
- Some Results So Far

Vice Provost Mukherjee thanked the Faculty Senate Leadership, SG President Tim Boaz and Vice President Jennifer Schneider for helping to ensure representation of the panels. Vice Provost Mukherjee also thanked the Regional Campus Chancellors Karen Holbrook and Martin Tadlock as well as all of the campus Deans for their invaluable nominations for panels. He thanked team members for chairing the panels including Deans Moez Limayem, Chris Garvin, Tom Frazier, Usha Menon, Charles Adams, Julie Serovich, Robert Bishop and Eric Eisenberg.

Vice Provost Mukherjee thanked his colleagues Dr.'s Kiki Caruson Cindy DeLuca, Paul Dosal Keith Anderson, Dwayne Smith and Eric Eisenberg, James Garey, Theresa Chisolm and Nick Trivunovich for their service as co-executive sponsors. A special thanks went out to Sarasota Manatee Regional Vice Chancellor Bret Kemker for his assistance in coordinating the with all three campuses.

Associate Vice President for Innovative Education Cindy DeLuca and Director for Innovative Teaching and Learning Tim Henkle provided information on the Faculty Success Initiatives - Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL). A power point was presented which highlighted the following:

- Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning
- A Centralized Unit that promotes both faculty success and academic transformation across our university
- Programs, Resources and Services

Trustee Melisa Seixas had questions concerning existing legacy salary and equities from the faculty standpoint and budget mitigations as it relates to non-tenured faculty.

Provost Wilcox made comments concerning the USF consolidation, working with the President, Finance team, Faculty Senate and Deans on equities, as well as stating that we are working to resolve some budget gaps within the university. Provost Wilcox commented on the concerning impact it has had.

Trustee Tim Boaz acknowledged that the budget issues are a concern and will rightfully be discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. This is an important consideration that must be kept in mind as we move forward. These are issues that he planned to provide in the faculty senate update.

Update from the Faculty Senate President

Faculty Senate President Tim Boaz provided a report to the ACE committee. His report focused on the following issues:

- Consolidation and virtual meetings
- The Corona Virus Pandemic and the impact on faculty surrounding it. A survey was done.
- Nearly all USF faculty have been vaccinated and eager to return to campus.
- Racial Justice – A Resolution was developed, approved, and forwarded to the administration encouraging to make it a part of the USF Mission. The Faculty Senate has had the pleasure of working with Senior Advisor to the President and Provost for Diversity and Inclusion Elizabeth Hordge Freeman.
- A Council on Racial Justice has been established.
- The USF Forest Preserve – A proposal for a Resolution passed encouraging the administration to commit to preserving the area.
- USF Budget Issues – Formed a budget committee. Worked with the College of Arts and Sciences to make provisions to mitigate negative plans surrounding tuition revenue and student success.. There are issues that remain unresolved.
- Budget cuts and the threat of layoffs.
- USF received \$100 million in relief funds from the Federal Government.

On behalf of the entire faculty, Trustee Boaz expressed deep appreciation to the President, the leadership team and especially Dean Donna Petersen on the exceptional job directing the university during the pandemic and making sure the academic mission was met.

Trustee Boaz thanked Vice Provost Pritish Mukherjee for his work on the Faculty Success Initiative.

Update on from Student Government President

Trustee Julia Cunningham provided an update on Student Government. Her report focused on the following issues:

- Transitioning of the newly elected officials on all campuses
- Mental Health Resources
- Food Insecurity
- Supporting Student Organizations
- Green Energy

President Steve Currall thanked Faculty Senate President Tim Boaz for his comments and leadership in the Faculty Senate, and for setting a tone of collaboration and partnership during the vigorous discussions surrounding the budget process.

Chair Zimmerman made comments on the outstanding ACE committee meeting today. He commended Trustee Tim Boaz on his commitment to the Faculty Senate and congratulated the Student Success initiatives.

Having no further business Chair Charles Tokarz adjourned the ACE committee meeting.