Committee Members Present: Stephanie Goforth, Trustee and Chair; Oscar Horton, Trustee; Moneer Kheirddine, Trustee; Deanna Michael, Trustee; Byron Shinn, Trustee; Judy Genshaft, President; Michael Griffin, USF Foundation Liaison; Gerard Solis, General Counsel; Ralph Wilcox, USF System Provost & Executive Vice President; Jordan Zimmerman, Trustee and BOT Chair

I. Call to Order and Comments

Chair Stephanie Goforth called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM. A quorum was confirmed by Assistant Corporate Secretary Cindy Visot, with the following Trustees present:

Trustee Stephanie Goforth
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Moneer Kheirddine
Trustee Deanna Michael
Trustee Byron Shinn

II. Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure

Chair Goforth confirmed with General Counsel Gerard Solis that no requests for public comments had been received.

III. New Business – Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes – October 29, 2018

A motion was made and seconded. Approved by all committee members present.

b. Tenure as a Condition of Employment (USF)

Senior Associate Vice President Valerie Parisi proposed three candidates for USF Health for tenure as a condition of employment. Liwang Cui, from Penn State University, is known internationally for research on malaria; Lianchun Wang, from the University of Georgia, is an internationally recognized researcher and teacher, noted particularly for cardiovascular, cancer, and Alzheimer’s research; and Ji Li, from the University of Mississippi, is also internationally recognized and recently served as President for the Chinese American Diabetes Association. All candidates bring new international visibility to USF, and this type of faculty recruitment is the ideal use for Preeminence funding, as noted by President Genshaft.

A motion was made and seconded. Approved by all committee members present.
c. Accountability Plans

Chair Goforth cited the latest issue of *Florida Trend* to emphasize USF’s stature with the increase in national rankings, continued student success in a global environment, and the general positive impact of Judy Genshaft’s presidency. System Provost Ralph Wilcox then introduced the Accountability Plans, beginning with USF Tampa, followed by USF St. Petersburg with Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock, and USF Sarasota-Manatee with Regional Chancellor Karen Holbrook. Dr. Wilcox explained that the metric chosen by the BOT, Number of Postdoctoral Appointees, is expected to be replaced next year by Six-Year FTIC Graduation Rates.

The members asked questions and discussed the plans at length, including Academic Progress Rate and the “swirl” data of those graduating within the USF System versus staying at the same campus; graduate degrees awarded within programs of strategic emphasis; and distance learning disparities throughout the USF System with a targeted State University System goal of 40% FTE. It was noted that the BOG is revising the list of degree programs that are of strategic emphasis. Enrollment management was also discussed with a caution to hold growth in the “single digits,” student/faculty ratio, and pathways to admission (i.e. FUSE program) other than as an FTIC. Trustee Horton posed the question “how much capacity is left?”.

The Trustees asked for solutions to address unmet goals at USFSP, to which Dr. Tadlock explained that time is required to see the effects of new leadership over the last four years plus implementation of additional strategies such as Compass, a student success team, new student advocate program, online early alerts, and financial packages for retention and completion. The members commended USFSP on leading the USF System for Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded Without Excess Hours.

The review of USFSM’s plan acknowledged lack of a traditional student base, the 63% FTE of Distance Learning as a method of instruction for undergraduates, the potential for housing, and the inordinate impact of small shifts within such a small student population as explanation for metrics in areas of concern including Bachelor’s Graduates Enrolled or Employed, FTIC Four-Year Graduation Rate, and Percent of Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded Without Excess Hours. The Trustees identified the planned growth in FTE enrollment at USFSM as an area that must include assurances that quality of recruited students and programs offered would keep pace with growth.

Preeminence benchmarks and the USF System Accountability Plan were reviewed, including key elements of predictive analytics, case management, course scheduling, and a continued commitment to providing financial aid incentives in support of timely graduation (Finish in Four). Dr. Wilcox reported key initiatives and investments within three years to provide a Preeminent education while maintaining student success, to enhance research and academic program quality, and to increase partnerships and maximize efficiencies. Senior Vice President Paul Samberg commented regarding USF’s elite status in patents and related grants. Senior Vice President Joel Momberg reported on endowment size with USF nearing the benchmark of $500 million. He also announced a $5 million donation over five years to the endowment fund by Monica Wooden to support the Muma College of Business’s center for supply chain management and sustainability; the announcement was met with acclamation.
The Key Performance Indicator (KPI) metrics for Professional Licensure & Certification Exam First-time Pass Rates were reviewed with questions arising regarding the USF College of Pharmacy pass rate decreasing from the previous year and remaining lower than the U.S. average pass rate. Associate Dean of Pharmacy Amy Schwartz reported that the college was addressing the KPI by establishing stronger entrance requirements and beginning other initiatives aimed at improving performance on the pharmacy national exam.

Dr. Wilcox announced a request for late revisions to the USF System and Tampa plans for the KPIs in the Professional Licensure & Certification Exam First-time Pass Rates, specifically new 2019 goals for Calendar Year Nursing of 93% and Medicine of 98%, new 2018-19 Cross-Year goals for Medicine of 98%, and a new 2017-19 Multi-Year goal for Physical Therapy of 93% were recommended. The trustees questioned the timing of a substantive change to the Plans and asked that greater attention be given to following deadlines. Professor Javier Cuevas, Assistant Dean of Faculty and Academic Affairs from the Morsani College of Medicine, explained that the changes were necessary to set attainable goals consistent nationally with peer institutions.

A motion was made to consider each plan separately and seconded. The four plans were approved by all committee members present, after the changes were incorporated and accepted into the USF Tampa and the USF System Plans.

III. New Business – Information Items

a. Unified Admissions for a Consolidated USF

Vice President Paul Dosal introduced the Dean of Admissions Glen Besterfield to give a presentation on the admissions process after consolidation. Dr. Besterfield explained the rationale for a unified admissions including the recruitment of a diverse and high-ability student body, maintaining Preeminence, promotion of a single USF brand, standardizing applicant evaluations and admissions decisions, and protecting the integrity of the admissions process. He referenced a handout of Performance Expectations for the Office of Admissions that includes a commitment to one calendar, process, & set of scholarship criteria; the recruitment of students that will succeed and advance to graduation in four years for FTIC (first time in college) or two years for transfer students; optimize enrollment consistent with the distinctive value propositions at each campus; leverage the combined investment of resources and expertise across all USF locations; and maintain a student body consistent with the academic profile of a Preeminent State Research University. Dr. Besterfield briefly discussed the organizational structure, challenges, current progress and the future, and provided an update on admissions, emphasizing the importance of meeting a 90% retention rate for August 2020.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Goforth adjourned the meeting at 4:32 PM.