



NOTES
USF Board of Trustees
Strategic Initiatives Committee
October 12, 2017, 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM
MSC 3707

Present:

Committee Members: Chair Hal Mullis, Mike Carrere, Stephanie Goforth (phone), James Stikeleather, Jordan Zimmerman

Trustees: Brian Lamb, James Garey, Byron Shinn, Nancy Watkins

President: Judy Genshaft

Senior Vice President: Edmund Funai

I. Call to Order and Comments

Chair Hal Mullis called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM. A quorum was confirmed by Assistant Corporate Secretary Cindy Visot, with the following Trustees present:

Trustee Hal Mullis

Trustee Mike Carrere

Trustee Stephanie Goforth (phone)

Trustee James Stikeleather

Trustee Jordan Zimmerman

II. Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure

Chair Mullis acknowledged requests from The Tampa Organization of Black Affairs (“TOBA”) and separately from Mr. Joseph Robinson. The Committee granted permission to representatives from TOBA and Mr. Robinson to address its members relating to the agenda item on the Office of Supplier Diversity Strategic Plan. TOBA representatives who addressed the Committee were: Mr. James Ransom, Mr. Warren Hope Dawson and Mr. Kevin Dees.

III. New Business – Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2017

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

IV. New Business – Information Items

a. Office of Supplier Diversity Strategic Plan 2017-18

Assistant Vice President Terrie Daniel presented the Committee with the 2017-2018 Office of Supplier Diversity Strategic Plan. The presentation outlined the commitment to utilize diverse businesses in the procurement of goods, services, and construction contracts. AVP Daniel stressed the USF System’s continued efforts in actively pursuing diverse businesses for contracting opportunities and the Office’s commitment to serving the university and surrounding business community through education and community outreach activities. The

objective of the 2017-18 Strategic Plan is to outline how the Office of Supplier Diversity will lead the efforts in the implementation of the university's pro-active business strategy to provide suppliers equal access to sourcing and purchasing opportunities and encourage the utilization of diverse suppliers, including women-, minority- and veteran-owned business enterprises.

There was discussion regarding the different designations for minority-owned businesses, as well as the utilization of locally owned businesses, vs. out-of-state businesses. AVP Daniel noted that, while there had not been a Disparity Study conducted by the state of Florida since 2006, typical best practices and key performance indicators were considered in the creation of the Plan.

President Genshaft thanked AVP Daniel, as well as the representatives from TOBA and Mr. Robinson for their remarks. She noted that as soon as this topic was brought to her attention, she began looking at the data. She commented that the USF System is laser-focused on setting a supplier diversity model nationally. President Genshaft told the Committee she has personally sent letters to all staff that hold p-cards inviting them to attend educational sessions relating to the utilization of diverse suppliers including women-, minority- and veteran-owned businesses. She concluded by stating that, although the plan is in the beginning stages, the USF System will continue to create a nationally recognized process for supplier diversity.

Trustee Lamb stressed that this Plan is part of a larger cultural change for the USF System and will require guidance from the Board. He continued by outlining several strategies he would like implemented into the plan. Trustee Lamb suggested he work with AVP Daniel to create a more robust Plan which will include specific measurable goals. He noted that the Office of Supplier Diversity Strategic Plan is an information item at this date, but will need to be presented to the full Board of Trustees for approval in the future. Furthermore, Chair Lamb stressed President Genshaft's commitment to the Plan and community involvement surrounding this topic.

Chair Mullis concluded the conversation by thanking Chair Lamb for serving as Board liaison to the Office of Supplier Diversity, and said he looks forward to frequent updates.

b. Understanding and Navigating Institutional Rankings at USF Tampa

Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox thanked the Committee for their time and noted that his presentation would only cover the Tampa campus. He suggested that the Committee invite USF Sarasota-Manatee and USF St. Petersburg to present a similar presentation at a future meeting.

His presentation provided a high-level overview of the classification systems and rankings in higher education, with a primary focus on select institution-wide rankings identified by the Florida State Legislature and Florida Board of Governors for Preeminence Metric 2: Public University National Rankings. He noted the relative importance of each to institutional reputation, student and faculty recruitment, public and private funding, and institutional improvement. Furthermore, he discussed the challenges associated with enhancing USF Tampa's position in select rankings and the potential risks associated with adherence to various ranking methodologies.

EVP Wilcox introduced the cost-benefit of prospective strategic initiatives and financial investments in elevating USF Tampa's institutional rankings while maintaining a disciplined

path toward the institution's long-term strategic vision. He stressed the importance of improved institutional rankings in the context of the recruitment, retention and success of world-class faculty and student talent, student success, and research productivity, along with alumni and philanthropic giving, all measures associated with preeminence designation in the state of Florida.

Chair Mullis congratulated EVP Wilcox on his leadership in achieving higher rankings at USF Tampa.

c. USF System Health Collaborative Update

After consulting with Senior Vice President Ed Funai, Chair Mullis postponed the USF System Health Collaborative update to the November 2nd Strategic Initiatives Committee meeting.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Mullis adjourned the meeting at 11:23 AM.