
Campus Board: Minutes

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8-4-2020

Campus Advisory Board Meeting : 2020 : 08 : 04 Minutes

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Campus Advisory Board Meeting

August 4, 2020

9:00 am

Summary Notes

Attendees:

Stephanie Goforth

Melissa Seixas

Susan Churuti

Debbie Sembler

Scott Goyer

Martin Tadlock

Lawrence Hamilton

John Connelly

Andrea Rodriguez Campos

Chair Goforth called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. She welcomed the new members and called for introductions around the virtual table.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Donna Petersen, Senior Associate Vice President of USF Health, Dean of the College of Public Health and USF COVID-19 Task Force lead, gave the board an update on USF's response to COVID-19 and next steps. The health and safety of the community is the first priority. USF is diligently working on policies/processes/procedures. Safety measures are in place, signage has been installed, all spaces have been evaluated and mapped out for physical distancing, and enhanced cleaning is taking place. Testing/Isolation/COVID Care Teams are also in place. USF continues to encourage anyone who can work from home to continue to do so.

Debbie Sembler asked how soon test results are coming back. Dr. Petersen noted that if it's a county site doing the test it's anywhere from 2 days to 2 weeks. They are trying to rely more on symptoms and exposure. They do have a rapid test that they are using for patients. If it's positive they go with it, if it's negative they don't trust it.

Chair Goforth asked about pool sample testing. Dr. Petersen explained that it's a way to quickly analyze samples from a group of people at a single time. It is quick and effective. It works well when there is not a lot of virus in the community. If positivity is detected in the pool, then the entire pool has to be tested individually. They are currently using it with their athletes.

Melissa Seixas asked about students who have opted to live on campus and whether they are quarantining in place prior to the start of classes. Dr. Petersen explained that students will not be isolated, rather they will have to be tested two weeks prior to coming on campus. If they test positive, then they will be isolated - isolation beds are available.

Susan Churuti asked about helping students and parents make good decisions about coming back to campus. For example, in Hillsborough County only 30% of parents chose to send their kids back to school when given a choice. She asked if we know what the marker is for when students will be sent home. Dr. Petersen explained that there isn't a lot of certainty and they're reluctant to pick a marker at this time. She pointed out that the course schedule went out a week or so ago, and that will give us a picture of what students are willing to do.

Board Governance

Gerard Solis, USF General Counsel, provided the Campus Advisory Board with an update on the board's roles and responsibilities under One USF. He first reviewed the current statute that went into effect July 1, 2020, which defines the powers and duties of the Campus Advisory Board.

He also reviewed the Board of Trustees Operating Procedures and the section on Campus Advisory Boards relative to appointment and membership. The Operating Procedures also address authority, which essentially mirrors the state statute.

Susan Churuti asked about the application of the Florida Sunshine Law now that they are an advisory board. Gerard noted that because the board still does have some decision-making authority – the Florida Sunshine Law will continue to apply.

Susan also asked for clarification on the reporting obligation to the legislature. Gerard confirmed that this responsibility lies with the Board of Trustees.

USFSP Update

Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock shared some campus highlights:

- Summer Commencement is coming up – it will be virtual
- \$3M addition to the USFSP base budget
- Listening Sessions for Faculty and Staff
- Osprey Hall ready to open
- David Hall Renovations are on schedule
- Faculty Research Awards topped \$20M (a record)
- Planning money for preservation of the Williams House
- Third year in a row we have exceeded our fundraising goal
- We have exceeded last year's Annual Progression Rate or APR at this point, which was 79.5%, the highest APR recorded for our campus. We anticipate a campus APR of 81% this year
- Fall – 62% of our courses will be completely online – 23% will be primarily distance learning or a hybrid, and 15% will be classroom based (with flexibility)
- Innovation Scholars program has 94 students participating this fall (tripled from last year)

- St. Pete Friends program had 25 participants in the spring – repeating in the fall and anticipating growth there as well.

Board members Melissa Seixas, Scott Goyer and Susan Churuti expressed interest in mentoring for Innovation Scholars.

Student Government Update

Andrea Rodriguez-Campos gave an update on Student Government, reviewing the new structure under One USF.

- She noted stronger connections with Marketing and Communications to improve communications with students
- SG has established as a priority inclusivity and diversity
- They agreed to continue last year’s initiatives:
 - Butterfly Garden
 - Feminine
- SG will hold Town Halls to keep students engaged
- They have concluded that Enrollment is not only the responsibility of administration – SG is working on increasing enrollment for underserved communities

Lawrence Hamilton asked Andrea about the enrollment piece she discussed. Andrea recounted her own experience enrolling at USF along with the challenges she faced, noting that USF students have the opportunity to work with high school students to educate them on how to gain access. Personal statements from USF students are an important part of recruitment.

Mellissa Seixas asked Andrea about her Student Government experience thus far. Andrea noted that under One USF she has had the opportunity to connect with others she might not normally, and they have the opportunity to collaborate and offer resources across campuses. She also has made a lot of new friends through the process.

Approval of the Campus Board Minutes

John Connelly moved approval, seconded by Lawrence Hamilton. The motion carried.

Approval of the Budget

Nick Setteducato reviewed the 2020-2021 Operating Budget Summary by Fund and Fixed Capital Outlay, which was previously discussed during the budget workshop last week.

Chair Goforth asked for questions. Melissa Seixas asked for an update on the Johns Hopkins budget item that was discussed during the workshop. Nick noted that the \$250K is still included in the “walk-forward” – he explained that there is still time to discuss. Chair Goforth mentioned that she reached out to Charlie Lockwood, inasmuch

as this is part of his budget. She will get information back to the board when it becomes available.

Susan Churuti asked for clarification – if the board approves this budget as is, are they approving it with this line item? She expressed reluctance to approve the budget with the \$250K included.

Susan Churuti moved to approve the budget with the \$250K line item removed. The discussion continued relative to process and setting budget policy.

Scott Goyer expressed some concern about taking the item out without the benefit of an explanation from the President.

Nick noted that the action will authorize the Regional Chancellor to implement minor adjustments (within 5% of source totals) prior to submission of USF budgets to the Board of Governors. The \$250K would fall within that.

Susan Churuti discussed work force needs and community input relative to unmet needs. Lawrence Hamilton agreed and discussed unfunded priorities.

Scott Goyer suggested the board approve the budget with the caveat that the Board/Martin receive input from the President relative to this line item.

Lawrence Hamilton discussed the responsibility of the advisory board to approve a budget and make a recommendation to the President.

Melissa Seixas asked if USF Health has considered other options within their own budget.

After considerable discussion, Scott Goyer moved to approve the budget excluding the \$250K allocation for John's Hopkins unless the Chair and the Regional Chancellor, after consultation with the President, agree to add it back. Debbie Sembler seconded the motion.

Susan Churuti spoke against the motion.

The motion carried 4-2 with Susan Churuti and Lawrence Hamilton voting no.

Introduction of Dr. Thomas Frazer

Chair Goforth introduced Thomas Frazer, the new Dean of the USF College of Marine Science. Dr. Frazer discussed his background and his priorities for the college, including innovation and discovery. He thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Campus Board Roundtable Discussion

Chair Goforth opened up a general discussion among board members.

Susan Churuti requested an item be placed on the next Campus Advisory Board agenda to discuss the development of a budget approval process and that staff be prepared to present a draft timeline and steps. She recommends the steps include gathering feedback through hearings from student government, faculty council, and external organizations. External constituent groups she mentioned include the Downtown Partnership and city and county economic development representatives, as well as organizations representing the African-American communities in St. Pete and the county.

She also requested a list of the top 100 USF donors including their names and addresses/locations by city and county.

Lawrence Hamilton discussed the need to take deeper dive into recruitment for the St. Petersburg campus. Chair Goforth noted that she would like to have a workshop on recruitment, our strategies and what the advisory board can do to help.

Lawrence Hamilton suggested the October Board meeting would be a good time.

Melissa Seixas mentioned upcoming consolidation milestones and would like to hear an update on what that means for USFSP. Regional Chancellor Tadlock suggested adding it to the next Board agenda.

Finally, Dr. Tadlock announced the retirement of Dr. Helen Levine, Regional Vice Chancellor for External Affairs. He pointed out some of her many accomplishments and contributions to the University. Board members also thanked her for her tremendous work over the years.

With no further discussion, Chair Goforth adjourned the meeting at 11:20 am.