



Item: AS: A-M

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Thursday, February 16, 2012

SUBJECT: ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 14, 2011 MINUTES

PROPOSED COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Initiate roll call to document member participation, ensure quorum, and approve the Minutes of December 14, 2011.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs. Sherry Plymale, Chair _____

Mr. Robert Rubin, Vice-Chair _____

Mr. Robert Stilley (*ex officio*) _____

Mr. Anthony Barbar (*ex officio*) _____

Dr. Jeffrey Feingold _____

Dr. Angela Graham-West _____

Mr. Ayden Maher _____

Dr. William McDaniel _____

Dr. Julius "Butch" Teske _____

PARTICIPATING BOT MEMBERS

Mr. David Feder _____

Mr. Abdol Moabery _____

Mr. Paul Tanner _____

Mr. Thomas Workman _____



**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs Meeting
Draft Minutes
December 14, 2011**

Committee on Academic and Student Affairs Chair Sherry Plymale called the meeting to order and requested a roll call to confirm a quorum. In addition to Committee Chair Plymale, the following committee members were present: Trustee Robert Rubin, Trustee Anthony Barbar (ex officio), Trustee Angela Graham-West, Trustee Ayden Maher, Trustee William McDaniel, Trustee Robert Stilley (ex officio), Trustee Julius Teske. Also present were the following: Trustee David Feder, Trustee Abdol Moabery (via telephone) and Trustee Thomas Workman.

AS: A-M Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 19 meeting were presented for approval. A recommendation was made with regard to the wording in AS: A-2 and a request was made to replace the words *funding issues* with *research activities* in the final sentence of the third paragraph. A motion was made to approve the minutes with the recommended edit. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Chair Plymale distributed printed copies of the First Time in College (FTIC) profile information that was provided by Dr. Gitanjali Kaul's office.

AS: I-1 Faculty Update

Dr. Claiborne provided a PowerPoint presentation with a report of faculty activities and accomplishments in response to the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs (CASA) work plan. In particular, she noted that in the fall of 2011 FAU had 791 instructional faculty, a number that is slightly higher than fall 2010. She reported that 55% of the 791 are tenured faculty, 17% tenure earning faculty and 28% are instructors. She reported that 63 new faculty were hired for the fall of 2011 with 4 arriving with tenure, 13 tenure earning and 46 as non-tenure earning. She highlighted the increase of 896 students between the fall of 2010 and the fall of 2011 and a total increase of 14,755 semester credit hours.

She noted there has been a slight decline in faculty publications and indicated that if faculty members persist in not producing or presenting in academic settings, they will be placed on a work plan by their respective Dean to promote research and writing. This is an item considered as part of the annual evaluation process for tenure and tenure-track faculty. A request was made for data that would show comparative information of faculty productivity with that of peer and aspirant universities.

Dr. Claiborne reviewed faculty salaries in comparison to peer institutions and State University System (SUS) schools and noted the ranges are very close for the level of instructors, assistant professors and associate professors. A noticeable difference is apparent at the full professor level. She reported that the criterion used to identify peer institutions includes a combination of variables such as: similar programs, similar research funding dollars, Carnegie classification, size of institution, multiplicity of campuses and other such identifying benchmarks.

Provost Claiborne reported there are numerous outstanding faculty accomplishments which could be presented however she limited her presentation to four examples which included: Dr. Kathleen Valentine, Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing who was awarded \$746,000 for FAU's Diabetes Education and Research Center located in West Palm Beach, Dr. Sarah Milton, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences who received a \$90,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research, Dr. Jaap Vos, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning who received a \$250,000 grant from the Village of Wellington to fund the School of Urban and Regional Planning's Living Lab and Dr. Daniel Reyes-Guerra, Assistant Professor in the College of Education who received a \$3.5 MM "Race to the Top" grant for a program that prepares administrators to serve in the role of grade school principal.

Provost Claiborne reported that one of the measures used to evaluate faculty is the administration of the Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) instrument provided at the conclusion of every course. This instrument invites feedback from students and allows them the opportunity to write comments regarding their academic experience during a specific academic course. Department chairs review this data with faculty members and it is used to inform faculty of their impact on students as well as to provide continual improvement in teaching techniques. She noted there is consistently a 78% response rate among students who participate in the process which is in keeping

with student response rates across the nation. It was noted, however, that the response rate is considerably lower for students participating in on-line course experiences.

President Saunders observed that Provost Claiborne was newly elected Treasurer-Elect for the Society for Neuroscience, one of only three elected offices in the 40,000+ member organization. She also reported that Provost Claiborne was recently named a “Floridian to Watch” by *The South Florida Business Journal*. President Saunders stated she is very proud of Provost Claiborne’s personal accomplishments.

AS: I-2 Sponsored Research Trends and Highlights

Vice President Rosson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the topic of trends and highlights of sponsored research noting that research funding has increased by 28% over the last four year period. He noted there has been a 7% decline in the number of tenure and tenure-track faculty over the same four year period. He stated that budgetary constraints have limited FAU’s ability to replace tenure and tenure-track faculty who make up the pool of important researchers. He further reported that funding per faculty member has increased by 46% in the last four years and provided data regarding major new awards received by the faculty.

He reported FAU is entering its second year of the faculty mentoring program in which new mentees are paired with seasoned faculty researchers for a year of grooming in the areas of research, grant preparation and the application process. At the conclusion of the year, mentees are expected to submit a proposal for review.

Chairman Stilley introduced Dr. David Bjorkman, the newly appointed Dean of the College of Medicine and Dr. Jennifer O’Flannery Anderson, the newly appointed Vice President for Community Engagement and noted the University is excited to have them both on board at FAU.

AS: 1-3 Academic Learning Compacts

Provost Claiborne noted that in 2005, the Board of Governors established the concept of the Academic Learning Compacts so that students at the baccalaureate level could have a standardized expectation of what they would learn during their academic experience. She reported that the Board of Governors is proposing a change in the regulations of the Academic Learning Compacts to link them more closely with assessment outcomes. It is anticipated the final action on the proposed changes will take place during the January 2012 Board of Governors meeting.

Provost Claiborne introduced Dr. Janet Cramer, newly appointed Associate Vice President for Assessment and Instruction, with whom she worked in New Mexico for the last four years before coming to FAU as Provost and who has extensive experience in the area of assessment.

AS: A-4 Request to the BOG to Analyze the Comparable Statistics of the Predictive Graduation Rate

Provost Claiborne referenced the letter (in the Board of Trustees packet) that was written by Chairman Stilley on November 16, 2011. As an update, Chairman Stilley responded that he received an email message this morning (December 14) indicating that the request is under consideration by the Board of Governors.

AS: I-5 Provost's Report

Provost Claiborne noted that her first semester at FAU is drawing to a close and she thanked everyone for their kindness and welcome to her during her time of transition to FAU.

She presented some highlights of the Hospitality Management Program which provides important training and certification for an industry which is evident in South Florida's strong tourism driven market, as well as across the nation. She reported that one of the requirements of the program is 1000 hours of field experience; so, graduates are well prepared when they move forward to begin their careers or to participate in further education in the field. Statistics show that job placement for the program's graduates is at almost 100%. A few graduates opted to further their education in the field and a very small minority did not respond to the survey. She further reported we had 35 graduates of the new program and currently have 101 either majoring or minoring in the coursework.

Provost Claiborne reported extensively on the science and technology initiatives taking place at the John D. MacArthur campus in Jupiter and the important partnerships being strengthened with both Max Planck and Scripps. Discussion is ongoing as plans are conceptualized to move faculty to the Jupiter campus site in an effort to strengthen FAU's presence on the campus and to take advantage of the close proximity to the Max Planck and Scripps facilities.

AS: I-6 Annual Survey of Knowledge Gained

Chair Plymale distributed a brief survey of four questions to Board members and requested they answer the questions and return the surveys to her for review.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. **The meeting was adjourned.**