

SUMMARY MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

*Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors
and its Committees are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu/>.*

1. Call to Order

Chair Tom Kuntz convened the meeting at 4:24 p.m. on September 17, 2014, with the following members present and answering roll call: Wendy Link and Edward Morton. A quorum was established.

2. Opening Remarks

Chair Kuntz invited the rest of the members present to participate. He stated that they are here for an update from Dr. Avent on Florida Polytechnic University. He asked Governor Link and Governor Morton if they had any questions about the minutes from last meeting. They both replied none.

3. Minutes

Ms. Link moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 18, 2014, as presented. Mr. Morton seconded the motion, and the members concurred.

4. Florida Polytechnic University Updates

Chair Kuntz commented that this is the first time the committee was meeting since they first opened the doors to the university and that the committee will hear an update on how it is going and the progress made on each of the statutory required items concerning Florida Polytechnic University. Chair Kuntz then recognized Dr. Avent to present.

Dr. Avent provided the following information on activities and since they last met after they opened up the university.

Two large events were held in August. The first was a philanthropic event, called PIVOT, that raised a little over \$3.6 million for scholarships for their students. The

day after the PIVOT event, the official opening of the university called LAUNCH was held and a number of VIPs were present from across the state, including Governor Link. The following Wednesday they opened the doors and students moved into the dorm. The following Monday they started classes and things went well.

In terms of enrollment, the official student head count after the first drop/add period is 554 students. Of those, 528 students are undergraduates and 26 are graduate students. The students are largely from Florida (97%) and 71% are first-time in college (FTIC) students. The largest demographic group is white males, which is an issue that engineering schools face. Sixty six percent of students preferred on-campus housing.

Inquiries on Florida Polytechnic University have increased and for the high school class of 2015, there were 12,384 inquiries. There were a little over 7,000 inquiries from juniors and a little over 2,000 inquiries from sophomores.

The most popular academic departments in the university are mechanical and industrial engineering, specifically with nano-technology. The next popular department is the computer science department with cyber and digital games.

The largest part of the faculty is involved with general education because most students are first-time in college, and the university is focusing on getting the lower level offerings up and running. They have 129 active courses for this semester and the average class size is 24 students.

Regarding infrastructure, the Innovation, Science & Technology building is the most iconic building which opened officially in July. It has classrooms, laboratories, and office space included in that building. In regards to housing, the dorm opened for 241 students. The Wellness Center was opened in time and had the cafeteria operating for the students. Since the first day, the university has also opened the health clinic, bookstore, the gym, and student services.

President Avent explained that the five-year capital improvement includes an Applied Research Center that will grow the number of laboratories for faculty and a Student Achievement Center that will provide a larger cafeteria for more eating options and will also be a place to help students grow more successful and get jobs. The university also plans for a faculty and staff office building and over a five-year period a housing unit with about 1,100 beds is expected to be added.

The electronic library has generated international interest with news coverage from Denmark, Australia, Spain, Brazil, India, Japan, and also in a Russian newspaper. It is a digital library where each student and faculty member gets personalized

libraries. The most important piece is the Academic Success Center that helps students integrate better into college. Undergraduate research is an important component of the curriculum and the university has defined six different research projects and issued RFP's to students for the semester.

President Avent commented that faculty are rewarded for doing research funded by federal agencies and producing papers that are highly cited. They are also rewarded for growing strong and deep relationships with industries. The university has already developed over 76 industry partnerships and 63 of those are within Florida. The university has also scheduled the Industry Partner Summit 2.0 for February 26, 2015 to build closer relationships with industry.

Regarding progress on the statutory requirements and benchmarks the university is required to meet, good progress is being made on all except a few including the Discipline Specific Accreditation, which cannot commence until regional accreditation is achieved. The university is on track to achieve regional accreditation and has completed the third of five drafts of their partial applications and hope to submit it by December 15, 2014.

Chair Kuntz thanked Dr. Avent and asked if accreditation would be the biggest concern at the moment, stating that enrollment was a big question mark before, but the university has exceeded that goal for the year. Dr. Avent said that they have put a lot of effort in accreditation and have external help to put in place the best practices in the university.

Governor Link commented on how much she enjoyed visiting the campus. She also asked for clarification on the timeline for the second dorm, noting that in the recent briefing it was stated as 2016 but on the university website it was 2015. She asked if the university was working with the Board of Governors on the timeline and Dr. Avent said that they have had regular meetings with board staff to discuss the issue.

Chair Kuntz asked if they have a process and was told that there is a process for this type of issue. Chris Kinsley (board staff) said they have been working to develop a process for P3 transactions and Florida Polytechnic University is looking at that type of structure. Guidelines may be presented in January. Statutory law requires the development of protocols to coordinate with this board as well with the other state regulatory bodies.

Chair Kuntz asked if what he is saying is that they are continuing to work on that process and expect to see something at the next meeting. Mr. Kinsley said that they will try to get it on the quickest possible agenda. He said that the board, last year, in adopting the new debt management guidelines gave 90 days on traditional deals where they do have a set of protocols. They have learned that the P3 transactions

are more complicated. They have a meeting scheduled with the Florida Polytechnic University staff to discuss what is required in their package. He responded that it is going to be a challenge to make November. Governor Link asked if it could be January 2016 or 2015. Mr. Kinsley replied that January would be a more realistic date. Chair Kuntz said that he is glad to see the university is working together with the board on this issue.

Chair Kuntz recognized Ms. Vikki Shirley to comment and she said that as a result of the P3 workshop, they decided as a system to develop a process. She explained that the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees owns the land the university, and since it isn't state owned land the process is different. That this is why it is necessary to work on a process to look at these types of transactions, since it is a P3 and each one is different.

Chair thanked Ms. Vikki Shirley and Mr. Kinsley for working with the university on this.

Governor Morton asked about the red square on the chart in regards to accreditation and if they are on schedule. Dr. Avent replied that they are on schedule overall, but to be more specific the red square was only for the discipline accreditation, which they can't get until they get regional accreditation.

Governor Hosseini commented that the main building occupancy was stated as 2,600 students and asked if it is something they looked at to figure out the exact number. Dr. Avent responded that the capacity calculations were based on labs, and it changed a little bit from original projections because some of the chemistry labs had many hoods inside. The environmental health safety officer made the rule on how many students could be there safely for the normal 8-5 schedule. For the evening schedule they could increase the number. Mr. Hosseini clarified that the building can hold up to 3,000 students without having other buildings on campus other than student housing and Dr. Avent replied that it is correct, but that the number is not too far from reach.

Chair Kuntz asked Dr. Avent about the 32 general education faculty and asked where they came from. Dr. Avent said twenty are full time faculty from universities like Cornell, Johns Hopkins and the rest are adjuncts that were hired locally.

5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Kuntz recognized Governor Tripp to comment. Governor Tripp said that they are proud to have two alumni from the Board of Governors that led this project and did a great job and thanked Ava Parker and Rick Maxey for their work.

Chair Kuntz thanked the members for their participation and adjourned the Select Committee meeting at 4:49 p.m.

Karen Dennis, Executive Assistant

Tom Kuntz, Chair