

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA
JANUARY 21, 2015

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and its Committees are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu>*

1. Call to Order

Governor Tom Kuntz called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m. on January 21, 2015, with the following members present and answering roll call: Wendy Link and Edward Morton. A quorum was established.

2. Meeting Minutes

Governor Kuntz moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2014, as presented. The motion was seconded and the members concurred.

3. Dr. Randy Avent, President of Florida Polytechnic University status report

Dr. Randy Avent, President of Florida Polytechnic University, provided a status update on the University's progress toward meeting its six statutory requirements of STEM Academic Programs, Administrative Capability, Facilities and Construction, Enrollment, Accreditation, and Discipline Specific Accreditation. Dr. Avent noted that three requirements – STEM Academic Programs, Administrative Capability, Facilities and Construction – out of the six have been completed thus far.

With regard to student enrollment, the President explained that during the fall 2014 Florida Polytechnic had 540 students (518 undergraduates and 22 graduate students), and the current enrollment is at 554 students (523 undergraduate students and 31 graduate students). During the spring 2015 semester Florida Polytechnic University offered 54 courses with 129 sections, with 52 faculty (half of whom are full-time). Currently, the university is working on doubling the number of full-time faculty by adding thirty (30) additional ones, resulting in 52-55 full-time faculty.

Dr. Avent noted that there has been a 300% increase in inquiries for fall 2015 admission compared to fall 2014, with most of the inquiries coming from high school juniors across

the state. Additionally, he noted that more inquiries are coming from out of state than from in-state. This year there has been a 50% increase in turning those inquiries into deposits compared to last year.

Last year's efforts focused on increasing enrollment numbers, getting faculty in and developing a unique curriculum with a matrix between departments and concentrations. The current focus is on the research mission, Dr. Avent noting that the university has approximately five million dollars in research funding, most of which is in the area of health care informatics, with additional funding in embedded systems and energy. The University's approach to research is unique from the rest of the state in that instead of seeking federal grants it is focusing on industry funded research. To date Florida Polytechnic has 84 industry partners, 23 of whom are interested in funding research, with one partners interested in starting a lab.

In terms of accreditation, the university submitted the pre-application for candidacy for SACSSOC accreditation on December 19, 2014. The discipline specific accreditation (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology - ABET) application is in progress and it is contingent upon the regional one.

In response to a question from Chair Kuntz regarding funding coming from the Legislature, Dr. Avent confirmed that state funding is \$30 million dollars and as the student population increases the cost per student decreases. Further, in regards to tuition costs and student entering next year, the University plans on awarding the same average of scholarships as this year, however they will be a combination of need and merit based scholarships, so no more free tuition for all students.

4. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Governor Kuntz adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Tom Kuntz, Chair

Richard P. Stevens,
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs