1. Call to Order

Governor Tom Kuntz called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. on November 4, 2015, with the following members present: Wendy Link and Ed Morton. A quorum was established. Other Board members in attendance were Mori Hosseini, Matt Carter, Tonnette Graham, Wayne Huizenga, Ned Lautenbach, Alan Levine, Katherine Robinson, Pam Stewart, and Norm Tripp.

2. Meeting Minutes

Governor Kuntz asked for a motion to approve minutes of the Committee’s September 3, 2015 meeting. A motion was made by Governor Link, seconded by Governor Morton, and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Florida Polytechnic University Implementation Update

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, region accreditation, and discipline specific accreditation.

President Avent said that the mandate to create the STEM academic programs has been met. President Avent noted that student enrollment at Florida Polytechnic University is currently at 924 students and added that half of these students are new. He explained that most students are considered first time in college freshmen and sophomores and that about 75% of these students come from central and south Florida. There have been inquiries from out of state, but he said that they won’t be captured until the institution is accredited.

With regard to enrollment growth, President Avent indicated that the University expects an entering class of 600 students next year. He pointed out that during the last
academic year they didn’t reach 500 admitted students until January, but this year he shared that they have already reached that amount in November.

With regard to the shared service agreement with UF, President Avent said that Florida Polytechnic in the process of putting an administrative ERP system in place.

President Avent stated that the University’s accreditation request is a top priority. He announced that since the last meeting, the SACSOC president has granted them permission to bypass an initial meeting and move on to the site visit. He explained that the president had authority to do that under circumstances they deemed fit. The site visit is planned for March 7-19, which is comprised of an evaluation by six members in addition to SACS. After the evaluation, the recommendations will be reviewed during the CNR meeting in June and the decision will be made as to whether Florida Poly can become an official candidate. As an official candidate, President Avent explained that they can submit the full application in June, which is already 85% completed at this time.

In regards to discipline specific accreditation, President Avent said that it won’t occur until after the regional accreditation has been accepted, but he said that they will continue to work on it as they build the regional accreditation application.

With regard to the facilities and construction mandate, President Avent said that it has been met. He stated that they have opened the IST building, the wellness center, the campus control center, the admissions building, and the first dorm. Since then, phase one of the athletic fields has been completed and they are one month ahead of phase two in regards to building the second dorm. He concluded that 10% of student laboratory space and faculty research space has been reached, but the issue is trying to find the rest.

4. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Governor Kuntz adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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Tom Kuntz, Chair

R.E. LeMon,
Associate Vice Chancellor,
Academic and Student Affairs