

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Florida A&M University
Grand Ballroom
1780 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32307
March 30, 2017

*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 and Opening Remarks

Chair Tripp convened the meeting on March 30, 2017, at 2:32 p.m. with the following members present and answering roll call: Governors Link, Beard, Frost, Hebert, Kitson, Jordan, Morton, Tyson, and Valverde. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting

Governor Tripp asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2017, committee meeting. Governor Tyson moved to approve the minutes and Governor Link seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Governor Tripp Provides Mental Health Update

Governor Tripp provided a brief update on his February 6-9, 2017, Tallahassee meetings with legislators from the House and Senate to discuss the mental health LBR. He met with 14 legislators including representatives from the House and Senate Appropriations Sub Committees on Higher Education, including Senator Simmons.

Governor Tripp reported that there is tremendous support for and understanding regarding the need for increased mental health services on our campuses. Governor Tripp stressed that it is important that our system remain diligent in efforts to keep the conversation for increased funding for mental health services and campus security at the forefront. Governor Tripp recognized that it will be a tight budget year and several system issues along with mental health and campus security will be looking for additional funding.

Governor Tripp emphasized that it is vital that the governors continue to have conversations about how valuable mental health services are not only to our system but also to our students.

4. Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer's Report

Richard Stevens reported on activities of the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) unit:

- ASA staff met with various agencies to coordinate data requests, research and legislative analysis, including the Department of Employment Opportunity, the Florida Council of 100, legislative staff, and university representatives.
- The ASA IR unit met with University data administrators and budget direct controllers to discuss the redesign of waiver reporting in SUDS.
- Emily Sikes participated in the Governors Job Summit and Dr. Lynn Hunt Long participated in the annual American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education meeting. Dr. Christy England met with Counseling Center Directors to discuss system wide mental health LBR's.
- Vice Chancellor Ignash has accepted an invitation to be a part of the U. S. Department of Education's Technical Working Group to study articulation agreements covering the early care and education workforce.
- The entire ASA unit has have been reviewing legislative bills, submitting bill analyses, and responding to questions and data requests.

4. The Impact of Counseling Services on the Academic Success of Students

Chair Tripp noted that since March 2015, the Committee has repeatedly heard about the increasing demand for well-trained, professional counseling services to address students' mental and behavioral health needs. He stated that students who are able to use counseling center services are more likely to remain enrolled in and graduate from college. Chair Tripp also pointed out that for the second consecutive year, the Board is requesting funds from the Legislature to increase campus counseling services and expand student mental and behavioral health coverage across the system. Chair Tripp then called on Dr. Christy England to provide an update on student mental health.

Dr. England stated that the Committee has been provided with data and information that make a strong case for increasing the number of counselors at the state universities. Increasing numbers of students are demanding services, more students are in crisis, and the issues students face are more serve and complex than in previous years. She also reported that there are too few counselors, the workload of current counselors can be excessive, and no long-term funding options are available.

Dr. England stated that updated data provided by the counseling center directors since the Committee's January meeting show that these trends are continuing. She reported that more than 24,700 students (6% of all students) were served during the 2015-2016 academic year, a 20% increase over those served during the 2014-2015 academic year, and an increase of 55% over the number served during 2008-2009. In addition, more than 14,900 students were on medication across the SUS, institutions provided more than 185,900 sessions during 2015-2016 - a 14% increase over the number provided

during the 2014-2015 academic year and a 60% increase over 2008-2009. Dr. England pointed out that more students demanding services mean that there are fewer sessions available per student and that more sessions leave less time for prevention and outreach activities, which leads to staff burnout.

Dr. England noted that the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) recommends 1 counselor for every 1,000 to 1,500 students enrolled and that nine state universities have staffing levels below the minimum. She stated that, of the four institutions that meet minimum staffing levels, the University of North Florida and Florida Gulf Coast University barely meet the minimum. Also, when Florida Polytechnic University is enrolled at full capacity, its current levels will not be sufficient. New College, which also serves students at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee (USF-SM), meets recommended levels but they serve a higher proportion of their combined student bodies. Counselors and advisors serve over one-third of the New College population alone. With only 2.5 FTE staff, the New College counseling center is unable to increase the number of sessions or expand other services.

Dr. England then reported that during the 2015-2016 academic year, there were more than 440 Baker Act hospitalizations, up from 300 during the previous academic year. That number does not include students who were involuntarily hospitalized by family members or those students who were voluntarily hospitalized. She also noted that there were more than 9,100 crisis visits, more than double the number reported the preceding year. More than 1,700 students reported having made previous suicide attempts. There are fewer than 10 suicides taking place on campus each year, but the number taking place off-campus is unknown. According to results from the most recent survey of counseling center directors released earlier in March this year, the top issues students face include anxiety, depression, relationship issues, and suicide.

Data presented in January show that counseling services make a significant difference, Dr. England observed. Students see improved mental health and, after a few counseling sessions, most are no longer a risk to themselves or others. Students also report academic success and would recommend the counseling center to their friends.

Dr. England went on to state that the solution for meeting the needs and ensuring student safety is to provide more mental health professionals for the state universities. She noted that the Board's Legislative Budget Request asks for \$14.4 million over two years to provide salaries for approximately 137 full-time equivalent staff; costs associated with recruiting and hiring new staff; and funds for training, technology, space, and equipment. Expected results from additional support include better student retention and graduation rates, better quality of student life, and increased alumni satisfaction. Staff retention is also likely to improve with more reasonable workloads.

Governor Frost asked how soon students can meet with counselors after applying to the university. Dr. Corey King, Vice President of Student Affairs at FAU and Chair of the

Council for Student Affairs, reported that students can meet with counselors while they attend new student orientation. Governor Kitson asked what would happen if the legislature does not provide funds for more counselors. President Thrasher from FSU responded that this is a critical need and that the legislature ought to respond, but if it doesn't, then the universities need to make this a high priority. Governor Kuntz emphasized that the Board and universities should articulate the need to the legislature and asked if the universities should be required to meet the minimum IACS standards. President Rosenberg from FIU reported that there are three student suicide deaths each day in the U.S. A lag between the initial appointment and the follow-up appointment often occur because of a lack of resources.

Governor Tyson asked whether the national standards were established during a time when there was less student demand, if the standards might change in the near future as a result of the increase in demand and complexity of the issues, and if the trends will stabilize at some future point. Dr. King stated that he expects the demand to continue increasing because students today arrive with identified issues and universities are doing a good job of making students aware of services.

Governor Morton challenged the university presidents to consider where this issue is on their list of priorities. Governor Jordan stated that we should hurry to meet the minimum staffing levels and keep on ramping up as the numbers of students facing mental health issues is expected to increase. Governor Kuntz suggested that the Chancellor charge the presidents with providing a detailed plan and timeline for reaching the recommended IACS staffing levels, regardless of whether the legislature provides additional funds, and then report on progress.

Governor Hebert asked if additional health fees had become available with the practice of health centers billing private health insurance companies. Dr. King reported that the CSA was planning to do a study on the use of private insurance among the state universities and across the country.

5. Academic and Student Affairs Updates

A. SUS Council for Student Affairs (CSA)

Dr. Corey King, FAU Vice President of Student Affairs and CSA Chair, provided the CSA report:

- The CSA met on March 29, 2017, to discuss the mental health LBR. Dr. King stressed the importance of continuing support for the mental health LBR.
- The software contract for the anti-hazing program will be extended for another year. Dr. King stated that individual institutions will provide some funding to help the CSA continue to provide this service. Dr. King had a conversation with Chancellor Criser about a future plan that includes identifying funding to keep providing the software to students.

- Information from the Hazing Prevention Software will be presented during the Anti-Hazing Summit on May 19, 2017, at UCF and then used to develop strategies to proactively address hazing on campuses.
- The CSA Summit will take place June 18-19, 2017 at USF.
- The CSA will also take part in the Safety Summit on June 19-20, 2017, at USF.
- Dr. King reported on the March 11-15, 2017 meeting of the National Association of Student Affairs Professionals (NASPA). Dr. Maribeth Ehasz, of UCF, attended a national discussion on the status of fraternities and sororities on college campuses, a topic to be discussed at the Safety Summit Meeting on June 18-19.
- Dr. Kevin Bailey, UWF, is now a member of the NASPA board and also chair of the 100th NASPA conference, held March 3-7, 2018 in Philadelphia,
- Dr. Mary Coburn, FSU, is retiring and was recognized for her contributions to the CSA.

B. SUS Council of Academic Vice Presidents (CAVP)

Dr. Gary Perry, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, FAU, Chair of the CAVP, reported on the following activities:

- The Innovation and Online Committee approved the implementation plan for the *Strategic Plan for Online Education, 2025*, on March 29, 2017.
- Dr. Perry reported on the civics work group that was formed in response to Governor Levine's queries at the January Board Meeting. The civics workgroup held a teleconference in March to address whether SUS students graduate without knowledge in civics and, if so, what should be done. The group has currently tabled the discussion because of the different options that were being discussed among members of the Legislature. Dr. Perry reported that Vice Chancellor Ignash was working with legislative staff to clarify the language regarding general education curricula and faculty participation.
- Dr. Perry reported that performance-based funding (PBF) metrics were also discussed at the CAVP dinner on March 29, 2017, with the following observations:
 - CAVP members agreed that the SUS system and individual universities have benefited from PBF and shown improvement.
 - CAVP members are concerned about the changes to Metric 10.
 - The following unanimous resolution was adopted by the CAVP on March 29, 2017, "Following introduction of a new performance metric or the changing of an existing performance metric including benchmarks there shall be a minimum period of one year before implementation."
 - CAVP members were concerned that the current model puts all prior performance funding at risk, which could be a considerable amount of funding to individual institutions.
 - CAVP members would welcome the opportunity to discuss their concerns and examine the PBF model with governors and SUS presidents during a workshop.

Governor Tripp noted that discussions of the performance metrics and the CAVP resolution would be referred to the Budget and Finance Committee. Chair Kuntz stated that he liked the idea of a workshop with CAVP members and added that the Board has really tried to reach out to provosts, presidents, and anyone who wanted to provide input regarding the performance metrics. He did not agree with a one-year waiting period before implementing changes and would speak with Chancellor Criser, Governor Lautenbach, and the Budget and Finance Committee about meeting with CAVP members before the June BOG meeting to receive feedback regarding PBF.

C. Florida Student Association (FSA)

Governor Hebert reported that the new FSA Board member would be elected in May. Governor Hebert will be attending Thursday of the June BOG Meeting and introduce the new FSA board member. Governor Tripp thanked Governor Hebert for his service.

Governor Jacob Hebert, FSA Chair, reported on the following activities:

- The annual Rally in Tally was held on March 22, 2017. Nine of the twelve Universities attended and brought student representatives to discuss Bright Futures policy and funding, including summer and increased funding; mental health and campus safety LBRs; and excess credit hour surcharges.
- Governor Hebert reported that the FSA asked for excess credit hour exemptions for students who are graduating in four years and for students who are in STEM degrees who need to repeat a 3000 or 4000 level course.
- The FSA is following legislation regarding excess credit hour surcharges (HB 153 and SB 1462). The FSA is closely tied to the House bill.
- Governor Hebert thanked the Board and Chancellor Criser for their guidance during his term.

6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Having no further business, Chair Tripp adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

Norman D. Tripp, Chairman

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