

**FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
ONE POLY PLACE
439 S. Florida Avenue, Suite 300
Lakeland, FL 33801
December 19, 2012 at 9:30 AM**

1. Call to Order

The Educational Committee of the Florida Polytechnic University Board of Trustees was called to order by Ava Parker, Chief Operating Officer at 9:15 am. Committee Members attending this meeting were: Dr. Sandra Featherman. Dr. Richard Hallion called into the meeting. Other Board Members attending were: Chair Rob Gidel, Vice Chair Mark Bostick, Trustee Bill Brown, Trustee Joe Caruncho, Trustee Scott Hammack, Trustee Kevin Hyman, Trustee Frank Martin, Trustee Bob Stork, and Trustee Don Wilson.

2. Update on SACS

Florida Polytechnic cannot get accredited until after the first class graduates. Once we are in Pre-Candidacy status, students would be eligible for financial aid. The first step is to attend the Pre-Applicant Workshop on February 6, 2013. The Chief Academic Officer and the Chief Operating Officer should attend as SACS requires two registrations. The first audit is a financial audit which will focus on the health of the institution and will outline the allocations and expenditures for the university. This audit could actually be started now. Ava will register for two spaces at the February 6, 2013 Pre-Applicant Workshop.

Dr. Ann Chard oversees Pre-Candidacy. To prepare for the group visit from SACS, we must have credentialed faculty on board, programs developed and a detailed academic plan in place.

Ava Parker asked the Committee if the amount of construction completed would play a significant role in helping us attain accreditation. The Committee clarified that the only concern over facilities are: 1) are they appropriate for what is being taught; 2) what services are available to students; 3) the space is appropriate for students.

3. Status of Search Firm Selection

Focusing on an Interim Chief Academic Officer provides the Board with more flexibility in the hiring process. The Registry is the firm that provides interim candidates for Search Committee review. These candidates act as Independent Contractors. The Registry also places a restriction that the candidate is prohibited from accepting a permanent position with the University.

There was much discussion regarding hiring permanent vs. interim, however, due to our time constraints, and the urgency in getting someone to the Pre-Applicant Workshop in February, there simply isn't enough time to conduct a permanent search.

Ava restated the plan to go temporary/interim and asked if we can now move forward with this process. At the Educational Committee Meeting with all Board Members present, authority was delegated to the Educational Committee. The Board will vote for the record. We need a CAO in place in January.

4. Development of Workplan

Since the Educational Committee has the most experience and expertise with higher education, Ava asked how she can help them. Ava will work with Drs. Featherman and Hallion and will follow up via conference call later during the holidays. Dr. Featherman would like to see STEM majors around the State and Ava said she would forward that document to her.

5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Dr. Hallion addressed the board regarding his handout. He thought Georgia was interesting. He asked how we can look at marketing. Many institutions train students to become global citizens rather than local citizens. They don't emphasize creativity.

With no further business to discuss, the Educational Committee adjourned at 9:54 am.