



Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2023
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Minutes Approved 02/07/24

Florida Polytechnic University VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair David Williams called the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Committee Chair David Williams, Committee Vice Chair Narendra Kini, Trustee Melia Rodriguez, Trustee Ajeet Kaushik, and Trustee Laine Powell were present (Quorum)

Committee members not present: Trustee Lyn Stanfield

Other Trustees Present: Board Chair Cliff Otto, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Sidney Theis, Trustee Ilya Shapiro

Staff Present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Dr. Allen Bottorff, David Fugett, David Blanton, Mike Dieckmann, Kristen Wharton, Melaine Schmiz, Dr. Kathryn Miller, Dr. Marc Manganaro, Dee Voss, and Kevin Calkins

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of the September 21, 2023, Minutes

Trustee Melia Rodriguez motioned to approve the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes of September 21, 2023. Trustee Narendra Kini seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Academic and Student Affairs Work Plan 2022-2024

Committee Chair Dave Williams reviewed the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Work Plan. There was no discussion on this item.

VI. Provost's Report

A. M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering Program

Provost Terry Parker explained the proposal to split the Engineering Master's program which currently has two tracks: Mechanical and Electrical, into traditional named degrees aligned with the Programs of Strategic Emphasis (PSE) list from the Board of Governors.

A motion was made by Trustee Narendra Kini to recommend to the Board of Trustees approval of the development of a Masters of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering degree program, CIP code (14.1001). Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute (FIPR) Annual Report FY23

Provost Parker presented the annual report for the Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute (FIPR). He reviewed the Institute's four primary research areas along with key highlights for the past year. Severance tax income for the Institute has been falling over the past four years. For FY23, the Institute received \$1,797,800 in total income, incurred \$1,686,668 in expenses, netting \$21,132. Committee Chair Williams asked if the income is fully overhead bearing to which Provost Parker replied in the affirmative, noting it is exceptionally low.

A motion was made by Trustee Melia Rodriguez to recommend approval of the Florida Industrial Phosphate and Research Institute Annual Report for fiscal year 2023 to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Narendra Kini seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Advanced Mobility Institute (AMI) Annual Report FY23

President Randy Avent presented the annual report for the Advanced Mobility Institute (AMI). He provided a brief history of AMI and noted the Institute focuses on the validation and verification of autonomous vehicle technology. In FY23, AMI built an open-source digital twin called PolyVerif, and distributed it to several university, government, and industry partners where it is gaining interest. Financially, the Institute started FY23 with a balance of \$339,705 and expended \$149,213 leaving a year-end balance of \$190,491.

A motion was made by Trustee Ajeet Kaushik to recommend approval of the Advanced Mobility Institute Annual Report for fiscal year 2023 to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Melia Rodriguez seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Provost Parker continued with the rest of his report.

Changes as a result of SB 7044 require the University to change its institutional accreditation agency. Florida Poly has fully submitted the documents required by the U.S. Department of Education to request a change from SACSCOC to HLC. The University is awaiting the USDE's decision.

Four ABET accredited programs are slated for reaccreditation this year. Additionally, Florida Poly will seek initial accreditation for two programs: Environmental Engineering and Data Science. Self-study reports for each program will be submitted before July 1, 2024.

Provost Parker reviewed historical data on University enrollment and stated a significant expected growth trajectory in fall 2024 when Residence Hall III opens. He also reviewed data on various student entry paths; changes in enrollment leadership with the hiring of Dee Voss, Interim Vice Provost Enrollment Management; and strategic changes in marketing resulting in an 83% increase in applications as of October 27, 2023.

Vice Provost Kathryn Miller presented information on the student experience covering health and wellness, campus recreation, student experience, housing, and career and library services.

Trustee Narendra Kini asked Trustee Melia Rodriguez if there are gaps between students' needs versus wants that can be addressed for next year. Trustee Rodriguez stated a good working relationship exists between SGA and Administration. Current expressed student wants include additional parking on campus, additional athletic fields, and more storage spaces on campus.

Provost Parker presented a high-level review of Performance Based Funding (PBF) and reviewed programs and activities being utilized to improve Academic Progression Rate (APR) and four-year graduation rates. He also provided a high-level overview of Florida Poly's degree programs, faculty demographic and distribution by department, faculty hiring needs based on both student and degree growth, and technology and pedagogy.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Kristen J. Wharton
Corporate Secretary