



Board of  
Trustees

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

## ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2008

11:30AM

*VIA CONFERENCE CALL*

### MEMBERSHIP

PATRICIA FROST, *CHAIR*

ALBERT DOTSON, *VICE CHAIR*

THOMAS BRESLIN

AJ MEYER

CLAUDIA PUIG

ROSA SUGRAÑES

*GERALD GRANT, FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

## AGENDA

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| I. CALL TO ORDER  | PATRICIA FROST   |
| II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES   | PATRICIA FROST   |
| III. CHAIR'S REMARKS  | PATRICIA FROST   |
| IV. ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE REVIEW  |                  |
| A. ACTION ITEMS   |                  |
| 1. RULES AND REGULATIONS STREAMLINING AND CLEAN-UP                          | CRISTINA MENDOZA |
| 2. TENURE AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT NOMINATION                           | RONALD BERKMAN   |
| B. REPORTS ( <i>FOR DISCUSSION - NO ACTION REQUIRED</i> )                   |                  |
| 3. REVIEW OF SUS COMPACTS   | RONALD BERKMAN   |
| 4. UPDATE ON TERMINATION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS                               | RONALD BERKMAN   |
| 5. SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS (SACS) REAFFIRMATION UPDATE | RONALD BERKMAN   |

**C. REPORTS** (*FOR INFORMATION ONLY*)

**6. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

- |                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| A. ENROLLMENT SERVICES REPORT | RONALD BERKMAN |
| B. UNDERGRADUATE REPORT       | RONALD BERKMAN |
| C. GRADUATE REPORT            | RONALD BERKMAN |

**7. STUDENT AFFAIRS**

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| ▪ STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT | RONALD BERKMAN |
|--------------------------|----------------|

**V. OTHER BUSINESS** (*IF ANY*) **PATRICIA FROST**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT** **PATRICIA FROST**

**Conference Call information:**

- Please call (888) 209-3775, promptly at 11:30 am on Thursday, 11 September 2008.
- If you are disconnected, please redial the conference call number.
- If you have any problems with the above, contact the BOT office at 305.348.6495

**NEXT ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
IS SCHEDULED FOR  
13 NOVEMBER 2008**

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**11 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**SUBJECT: ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, 12 JUNE 2008**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees' Academic Policy Committee held on 12 June 2008, attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A," are hereby approved.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

- EXHIBIT "A": 12 JUNE 2008 ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

- COMMITTEE CHAIR PATRICIA FROST

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



**ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
12 JUNE 2008**

**I. Call to Order**

The Florida International University Board of Trustees Academic Policy Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Patricia Frost at 11:34 a.m. on Thursday, 12 June 2008, in University Park Graham Center Meeting Room 243, Miami, Florida.

The following attendance was recorded:

***Present***

Patricia Frost, Chair  
Albert Dotson, Vice Chair  
Bruce Hauptli  
AJ Meyer  
Claudia Puig  
Rosa Sugrañes  
Gerald Grant, *FIU Foundation Director*

President Modesto Maidique was also in attendance.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Committee Chair Patricia Frost asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the 13 March 2008, Academic Policy Committee meeting. Hearing none, the Committee adopted the following:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees' Academic Policy Committee held on 13 March 2008, attached to this Resolution as Exhibit "A," are hereby approved.

**III. Chair's Remarks**

Committee Chair Frost welcomed all Trustees, University faculty, and staff. She thanked all Trustees for making themselves available for the meeting. She welcomed student Trustee AJ Meyer to his first Academic Policy Committee meeting. She also welcomed FIU Foundation Director

Gerald Grant to the meeting. She reported on the recent University appointments of Dr. Fernando Treviño, Dean of the Stempel School of Public Health; Dr. Kingsley Banya, Interim Dean of the College of Education; and Dr. Carol Damian, Interim Director of the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum.

On behalf of the Committee, Chair Frost thanked Faculty Trustee Bruce Hauptli for his hard work on the FIU Board of Trustees during the past 4 years.

Committee Chair Frost noted that in May, Benjamín León Jr., founder of Leon Medical Centers presented a \$10 million gift to the University's College of Medicine to establish the Benjamín León, Jr. Family Center for Geriatric Research and Education. She added that the gift also established the Leon Medical Centers Eminent Scholars Chair in Geriatrics.

#### **IV. Items for Committee Review**

##### **A. Action Items**

###### **1. Tenure Nominations**

Executive VP and Provost Ronald Berkman presented the President's tenure nominees for Committee review. He noted that the recommendations consisted of sixteen (16) members from the faculty as qualified for tenure.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, each board of trustees is authorized to establish the personnel program for all employees of the university including tenure; and

WHEREAS, the University President is recommending the granting of Tenure for sixteen (16) nominees listed in Exhibit "B";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida International University Board of Trustees approves the granting of Tenure to the sixteen individuals listed in Exhibit "B" based on the recommendations of the University President.

###### **2. Tenure as a Condition for Employment Nominations**

Provost Berkman presented the Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nominees for Committee review. He noted that the four (4) candidates selected to be awarded Tenure as a Condition of Employment were new hires and were to receive tenure based on tenured positions held at other institutions and the caliber of their work.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, each board of trustees is authorized to establish the personnel program for all employees of the university including tenure; and

WHEREAS, the University President is recommending the granting of Tenure as a Condition of Employment for four (4) nominees listed in Exhibit "C";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida International University Board of Trustees approves the granting of Tenure as a Condition of Employment to the four individuals listed in Exhibit "C" based on the recommendations of the University President.

### **3. Request to Terminate Academic Programs**

Provost Berkman presented the Request to Terminate Academic Programs for Committee review, noting that he reviewed the recommendations with the advice from the Deans and Faculty Senate. He added that while closing academic degree programs did not affect the students currently in the programs, as these students would be given an opportunity to complete their degrees, it did stand to affect the faculty teaching the programs, the staff supporting program activities, and prospective students.

Trustee Rosa Sugañes congratulated the University's administration on its efforts to communicate the latest budget developments in a timely manner, noting that timely information on a topic of such critical importance benefited the entire University community.

Committee Chair Frost expressed, on behalf of the Committee, a great sadness at the consideration of difficult but necessary program reductions.

Trustee Bruce Hauptli noted that the Faculty Senate followed policies and procedures in place for the review and evaluation of the proposals for academic program terminations. He stated that the Faculty Senate did not support three of the recommendations for closure: Bachelor of Arts in Dance, Bachelor of Science and PhD in Industrial Systems Engineering.

The Committee engaged in a discussion regarding the Faculty Senate recommendations. Committee Chair Frost proposed an amendment to the Resolution to vote on 22 programs as a block and then to consider the Bachelor of Arts in Dance, the Bachelor of Science and the PhD in Industrial Systems Engineering separately. The Committee amended the Resolution. The amendment was unanimously approved.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, the Florida International University Board of Trustees ("the BOT") has a Program Termination Policy, which specifies the standards required for University program termination and is attached hereto as Exhibit "E";

RESOLVED, that the BOT hereby approves the request for the termination of the following academic degree programs.

English Teacher Education – Bachelor of Science  
English Teacher Education – Master of Science  
Environmental and Urban Systems – Master of Science

Exercise Science – Bachelor of Science  
Exercise Science – Master of Science  
German – Bachelor of Arts  
Health Sciences – Bachelor of Science  
Health Information Management – Bachelor of Science  
Humanities – Bachelor of Arts  
Insurance and Risk Management – Bachelor of Business Administration  
Industrial Systems Engineering – Master of Science  
Logistics and Materials Management – Bachelor of Business Administration  
Mathematics Teacher Education – Bachelor of Science  
Mathematics Teacher Education – Master of Science  
Music Teacher Education – Bachelor of Science  
Science Teacher Education – Bachelor of Science  
Science Teacher Education – Master of Science  
Social Science Teacher Education – Bachelor of Science  
Social Science Teacher Education – Master of Science  
Technology Management – Master of Science  
Tourism Studies – Master of Science  
Travel and Tourism Management – Bachelor of Science

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOT authorizes the University President to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution in accordance with the Florida Board of Governors regulations.

The Committee discussed the key points of the proposal for closure of the Bachelor of Arts in Dance. A motion was made to approve the request to terminate the Bachelor of Arts in Dance. The Motion was seconded and carried.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, the Florida International University Board of Trustees (“the BOT”) has a Program Termination Policy, which specifies the standards required for University program termination and is attached hereto as Exhibit "E";

RESOLVED, that the BOT hereby approves the request for the termination of the following academic degree program.

Dance – Bachelor of Arts

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOT authorizes the University President to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution in accordance with the Florida Board of Governors regulations.



The Committee discussed the key points of the proposals for closure of the Bachelor of Science and the PhD in Industrial Systems Engineering. A motion was made to approve the request to terminate the Bachelor of Science and the PhD in Industrial Systems Engineering. The Motion was seconded and carried.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, the Florida International University Board of Trustees ("the BOT") has a Program Termination Policy, which specifies the standards required for University program termination and is attached hereto as Exhibit "E";

RESOLVED, that the BOT hereby approves the request for the termination of the following academic degree program.

Industrial Systems Engineering – Bachelor of Science

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOT hereby recommends the request for the termination of the following academic degree program and forwards the recommendation to the Florida Board of Governors for final approval.

Industrial Systems Engineering – Doctor of Philosophy

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOT authorizes the University President to take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution in accordance with the Florida Board of Governors regulations.

#### **4. Request to Terminate Centers and Institutes**

Provost Berkman presented the Request to Terminate Centers and Institutes for Committee review, noting that the FIU Board of Trustees Policy on Centers and Institutes had clearly defined guidelines consistent with State University System policies for establishing, operating, evaluating/reviewing, and disbanding university institutes and centers.

Trustee Hauptli noted the Faculty Senate followed policies and procedures in place for the review and evaluation of the proposals for the terminations of Centers and Institutes. He stated that the Faculty Senate supported the termination of the proposed Centers and Institutes.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following Resolution for Board approval:

WHEREAS, the Florida International University Board of Trustees ("the BOT") Policy on Centers and Institutes has clearly defined guidelines consistent with State University System policies for establishing, operating, evaluating/reviewing, and disbanding university institutes and centers and is attached hereto as Exhibit "D";

RESOLVED, that the BOT hereby approves the request for the termination of the following Centers & Institutes:

## Exhibit "A"

FIU Board of Trustees'  
Academic Policy Committee  
Minutes  
12 June 2008  
Page 6

DRAFT

Center for Economic Research and Education  
Center for Health Research and Policy  
Future Aerospace Science and Technology Center for Space Cryoelectronics  
Center for Ethnobiology and Natural Products  
Institute for Children and Families at Risk  
Intercultural Institute for Educational Initiatives

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOT authorizes the University President to file this action with the Florida Board of Governors and take all actions necessary to implement this action.

### **B. Reports**

Committee Chair Frost requested that the Foundation, the Academic Affairs and the Student Affairs Reports provided in the agendas be accepted as written. There were no objections.

### **V. Other Business**

No other business was raised.

### **VI. Adjournment**

With no other business, Committee Chair Frost adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

*Attached: Exhibit "A," "B," "C," "D," & "E"*

*MB  
6/19/08*

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: RULES AND REGULATIONS STREAMLINING AND CLEAN-UP**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Recommend Board Adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Florida International University Board of Trustees (“the BOT”) is authorized to establish regulations within the limits provided by law; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to update the rules/regulations of the University pursuant to current law, policies and procedures and to consolidate the directives in one area as required by the Board of Governors; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the General Counsel has reviewed all existing FIU rules in order to determine whether they should be transferred to University regulations as is; revised pursuant to the BOG’s Regulation Development Process and made into regulations; or repealed; and

WHEREAS, those rules that did not need updating have been assigned a regulation number and are being transferred to regulations, as permitted under the Regulation Development Process as is; and

WHEREAS, those rules that needed to be revised have been revised and are being presented to the Board in redlined version for approval as regulations; and

WHEREAS, those regulations being proposed for repeal are being repealed because they have been superseded by collective bargaining agreements and/or policies adopted by this Board; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this review, a new regulation was needed which provides that the University’s regulations replace any and all University rules existing in the Florida Administrative Code, thereby essentially repealing the existing University rules in total.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the BOT adopts the following University regulations, which are attached hereto as Exhibit “B”:

- FIU-102 Regulations
- FIU-103 Non-Discrimination Policy and Discrimination Complaint Procedures
- FIU-104 Sexual Harassment
- FIU-108 Access to Student Education Records
- FIU-110 Demonstrations
- FIU-114 Commercial Solicitation and Advertising
- FIU-402 Admission to the University
- FIU-406 Foreign Student Admissions
- FIU-408 Foreign Exchange Visitor Insurance Requirements
- FIU-410 Application Fee and Admissions Deposit
- FIU-1305 Students in Military Service
- FIU-1502 Direct Support Organizations
- FIU-2201 Purchasing
- FIU-2202 Prompt Payment
- FIU-2503 Registration of Non-Student Organizations
- FIU-2520 Disruptive Student Conduct

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the BOT repeals the following University regulations, which are attached hereto as Exhibit “B”:

- FIU-1700 Bargaining Unit Faculty and Bargaining Unit Employees Vacancies, Selection, Appointments, Promotions, Internal Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, and Demotions.
- FIU-1701 Bargaining Unit Employee Disciplinary Actions
- FIU-1702 Non-reappointment and Resignation of Non-Tenured, Bargaining Unit Faculty
- FIU-1703 Termination for Cause and Other Disciplinary Actions for Bargaining Unit Faculty, and Bargaining Unit Employees
- FIU-1710 Disciplinary Actions for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees and Certified Law Enforcement Personnel
- FIU-1711 Separation from Employment for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, as the following regulations are “select regulations” under the Regulation Development Procedure (as they include information on student tuition, fees, admissions and/or articulation) the BOT delegates authority to the University President to forward the following regulations to the Board of Governors for approval and to approve any subsequent amendments that are based on comments to the select regulations received from the Board of Governors and as a result of the regulation development process.

- FIU-402 Admission to the University
- FIU-406 Foreign Student Admissions

- FIU-408 Foreign Exchange Visitor Insurance Requirements
- FIU-410 Application Fee and Admissions Deposit

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the President report to the BOT at its next regularly scheduled meeting on any substantive changes requested or made to the regulations as a result of comments made by the Board of Governors.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**A. LEGAL AUTHORITY**

The applicable language from the Florida Board of Governors Powers and Duties Resolution adopted January 7, 2003 (“Powers and Duties Regulation”), the Board of Governors’ regulations, Board of Governors directives, and Florida Statutes related to the legal authority for each of the proposed new or amended regulations is provided below:

**FIU-102 Regulations-**

The Florida Board of Governors Regulation Development Procedure for State University Boards of Trustees approved July 21, 2005 (“Regulation Development Procedure”) provides, “Because there is a system-wide benefit to having uniform procedures that are clearly laid out for university regulations, the Board of Governors establishes this procedure for the adoption of regulations by the state university boards of trustees....All university rules previously adopted under the Administrative Procedures Act at the time this procedure is approved by the Board of Governors... may be amended or repealed by using the processes set out in this procedure”.

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**FIU-103 Non-Discrimination Policy and Discrimination Complaint Procedures**

**FIU-104 Sexual Harassment**

The Powers and Duties Regulation provides, “34. Each board of trustees has responsibility for compliance with state and federal laws, rules regulations, and requirements.”

**FIU-108 Access to Student Education Records**

BOG Regulation 6.015(3) provides, “Each university shall adopt rules for student records and reports which shall include the right of waiver of access, right to challenge and hearing, right of privacy, directory information, transfer of records and security of records. The rules shall also provide for annual notification of parents and students regarding rights relating to student records and reports and regarding the location and availability of university's rules on student records and reports ...”

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**FIU-110 Demonstrations**

**FIU-114 Commercial Solicitation and Advertising**

**FIU-2503 Registration of Non-Student Organizations**

The Powers and Duties Resolution provides, “6. Each board of trustees shall have responsibility for the use, maintenance, protection, and control of university-owned or university-controlled buildings and grounds, property and equipment, name, trademarks and other proprietary marks, and the financial and other resources of the university. Such authority may include placing restrictions on activities and on access to facilities, firearms, food, tobacco, alcoholic beverages, distribution of printed materials, commercial solicitation, animals and sound. The authority vested in the board of trustees in this subsection includes the prioritization of the use of space, property, equipment, and resources and the imposition of charges for those items.”

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**FIU-402 Admission to the University**

**FIU-406 Foreign Student Admissions**

**FIU-408 Foreign Exchange Visitor Insurance Requirements**

The Powers and Duties Resolution provides, “10. (a) Each board of trustees shall govern admission of students pursuant to ... rules of the Board of Governors. Each board of trustees may consider the past actions of any person applying for admission or enrollment and may deny admission or enrollment to an applicant because of misconduct if determined to be in the best interest of the university.”

BOG Regulation 6.001(1) provides, “Based on minimum standards adopted by the Board of Governors, university boards of trustees must establish the criteria, policies, and procedures by regulation for the admission of students.”

BOG Regulation 6.003(1) provides, “Each university board of trustees shall adopt regulations for the admission of graduate and post-baccalaureate professional students. Such regulations shall be consistent with the university mission and Board of Governors regulations.”

BOG Regulation 6.009(1) provides, “Within enrollment, space, and fiscal limitations, eligible international students may be accepted for admission at the appropriate level to an institution in the State University System (SUS). The board of trustees at each SUS institution shall develop admission policies for international students that are consistent with the policies of the Board of Governors...

(2) No international student in F or J non-immigrant status shall be permitted to register, or to continue enrollment, at a university without demonstrating that the student has adequate medical insurance coverage for illness or accidental injury...”

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**FIU-410 Application Fee and Admissions Deposit**

The Powers and Duties Resolution provides: “11. Each board of trustees shall establish fees pursuant to ss.1009.24 and 1009.26.”

Florida Statutes Section 1009.24 provides:

“(13) Each university board of trustees is authorized to establish the following fees:

(a) A nonrefundable application fee in an amount not to exceed \$30...

(14) Each university board of trustees is authorized to establish a nonrefundable admissions deposit for undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs in an amount not to exceed \$200. The admissions deposit shall be imposed at the time of an applicant's acceptance to the university and shall be applied toward tuition upon enrollment. In the event the applicant does not enroll in the university, the admissions deposit shall be deposited in an auxiliary account of the university and used to expand financial assistance, scholarships, and student academic and career counseling services at the university. A university board of trustees that establishes an admissions deposit pursuant to this subsection must also adopt policies that provide for the waiver of such deposit on the basis of financial hardship.”

#### **FIU-1305 Students in Military Service**

Florida Statutes Section 1004.07 provides:

“(1) Each ... state university board of trustees shall establish policies regarding currently enrolled students who are called to, or enlist in, active military service.

(2) Such policies shall provide that any student enrolled in ... a state university shall not incur academic or financial penalties by virtue of performing military service on behalf of our country. Such student shall be permitted the option of either completing the course or courses at a later date without penalty or withdrawing from the course or courses with a full refund of fees paid. If the student chooses to withdraw, the student's record shall reflect that the withdrawal is due to active military service...

(4) Policies of state university boards of trustees shall be established by rule and pursuant to guidelines of the Board of Governors.”

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#### **FIU-1502 Direct Support Organizations**

BOG Powers and Duties Regulation provides, “37. Each board of trustees shall prescribe conditions for direct-support organizations... to be certified and to use university property and services. Conditions relating to certification must provide for audit review and oversight by the board of trustees.”

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#### **FIU-2201 Purchasing**

#### **FIU-2202 Prompt Payment**

BOG Regulation 18.001(1) provides:

“Each university Board of Trustees shall adopt regulations establishing basic criteria related to procurement, including procedures and practices to be used in acquiring commodities and contractual services, as follows:

(a) Removing any contractor from the University's competitive vendor list ...

(b) Planning and coordinating purchases in volume and negotiating and executing agreements and contracts for commodities and contractual services under which the University may make purchases.

- (c) Evaluating and approving contracts let by any State of Florida agency or department, the Federal Government, other states, political subdivisions, not-for-profit cooperatives or consortiums, or any independent college or university for the procurement of commodities and contractual services...
- (d) Awarding contracts for commodities and contractual services to multiple suppliers...
- (e) Rejecting or canceling any or all competitive solicitations when determined to be in the best interest of the University.
- (f) Barring any vendor from doing business with the University for demonstrated cause, including previous unsatisfactory performance.”

BOG Regulation 18.001(2) provides, “Each university Board of Trustees shall establish a competitive solicitation threshold not greater than \$75,000 for the purchase of commodities or contractual services.”

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**FIU-2520 Disruptive Student Conduct**

BOG Regulation 6.0105(1) provides, “In furtherance of the educational mission of the universities, each university president shall establish university regulations that ensure fairness and due process in student disciplinary proceedings and that guarantee the academic integrity of the university...”

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**FIU-1700 Bargaining Unit Faculty and Bargaining Unit Employees Vacancies, Selection, Appointments, Promotions, Internal Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, and Demotions.**

**FIU-1701 Bargaining Unit Employee Disciplinary Actions**

**FIU-1702 Non-reappointment and Resignation of Non-Tenured, Bargaining Unit Faculty**

**FIU-1703 Termination for Cause and Other Disciplinary Actions for Bargaining Unit Faculty, and Bargaining Unit Employees**

**FIU-1710 Disciplinary Actions for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees and Certified Law Enforcement Personnel**

**FIU-1711 Separation from Employment for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees**

The Powers and Duties Resolution provides, “19. Each board of trustees shall establish the personnel program for all employees of the university... including: compensation and other conditions of employment, recruitment and selection, nonreappointment, standards for performance and conduct, evaluation, benefits and hours of work, leave policies, recognition and awards, inventions and works, travel, learning opportunities, exchange programs, academic freedom and responsibility, promotion, assignment, demotion, transfer, tenure and permanent status, ethical obligations and conflicts of interest, restrictive covenants, disciplinary actions, complaints, appeals and grievance procedures, and separation and termination from employment...”



Pursuant to the Regulation Development Procedure, “Regulations do not include the following:... Negotiated contractual provisions, including those reached as a result of collective bargaining.”

**B. EXPLANATION FOR PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

All of the proposed regulations were reviewed and revised to change the terms “rule” to “regulation” and “Florida International University” to “University” where appropriate; to delete references to Florida Statutes and to the Florida Administrative Code rules that are no longer applicable or in existence; and to clarify and update existing terms and language. In addition, there were some substantive changes that were made to the proposed regulations, and they are provided below:

**FIU-102 Regulations**

Provide that all University rules are replaced by the regulations.  
Provides definitions of terms used throughout the regulations.

**FIU-103 Non-Discrimination Policy and Discrimination Complaint Procedures**

Revises the deadline for the student’s filing of a complaint against a faculty member to fourteen calendar days from the first day of classes for the semester following the semester in which the alleged act of discrimination occurred.  
Provides the University with the option of investigating an alleged offense as an administrative complaint when the potential complainant is unable or unwilling to pursue a complaint  
Allows for University sanctions in the event a claim of discrimination is found to be frivolous or malicious.  
Prohibits retaliation against not only the complainant, but to any person involved in the process.

**FIU-104 Sexual Harassment**

Deletes the deadline for filing an administrative complaint, as University may not even be aware of the conduct until much later.  
Deletes language requiring periodic review of regulation, with the option to interview individuals using the process, as all regulations will be reviewed periodically and the University otherwise has the authority to interview the individuals; therefore, the language is unnecessary.

**FIU-108 Access to Student Education Records**

Updates the information related to the record custodians, and where specified records are maintained and located.  
Deletes campus email address and sex from the definition of “Directory Information” as relates to students.  
Updates the regulation to reflect that ten dollars is charged for copies of official transcripts (as was previously approved by this Board in the Tuition Fees Schedule regulation.)

**FIU-110 Demonstrations**

Provides that notice of intent to demonstrate must be given to the University only when the demonstration will consist of more than ten participants or where sound amplification equipment will be used.

Prohibits demonstrators from posing an environmental hazard or health or safety threat to the University Community or general public.

**FIU-114 Commercial Solicitation and Advertising**

Provides that the University may assess fees and charges for commercial solicitation, or promotional efforts conducted on University premises.

Provides that University may charge unauthorized solicitors for costs related to removal of solicitation materials, and clean up, replacement or repair of premises or property.

**FIU-402 Admission to the University**

This is a new regulation that is a substantial rewrite of the University rules on Undergraduate Admissions and Graduate Admissions and reflects the current admission practices.

**FIU-406 Foreign Student Admissions**

Deletes language that was used to create new regulation FIU-408.

**FIU-408 Foreign Exchange Visitor Insurance Requirements**

No substantive changes.

**FIU-410 Application Fee and Admissions Deposit**

Deletes discounted application fee for on-line applications.

Increases the application fee for the College of Law from \$20 to \$30.

Provides that the application fee for the College of Medicine is \$30.

Provides the Recognized Third Parties for purposes of having the application fee or admissions deposit waived based on economic hardship.

**FIU-1305 Students in Military Service**

No substantive changes.

**FIU-1502 Direct Support Organizations**

Makes regulation consistent with Board of Governors regulations.

Reflects that certain DSO records are not subject to Florida public records laws.

**FIU-2201 Purchasing**

Raises the competitive solicitation threshold from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

**FIU-2202 Prompt Payment**

Deletes requirement to put statement of vendor's rights in every purchasing agreement, as that is a requirement that is an internal policy that is appropriately addressed in University policies and procedures rather than regulation.

**FIU-2503 Registration of Non-Student Organizations**

Provides that the Vice President for Academic Affairs, instead of the Vice President for Administrative Affairs, is the University official for purposes of reviewing and approving non-student organization registrations.

**FIU-2520 Disruptive Student Conduct**

Adds possession, use, and consumption of alcohol by underaged students; the dispensing, selling or supplying of alcohol to underage individuals; and behaviors that disturb the peace to the list of behaviors that constitute disruptive student conduct and can result in discipline by the University.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

- EXHIBIT "B": NOTICES OF PROPOSED REGULATION; NOTICES OF PROPOSED REPEAL OF REGULATION

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

- CRISTINA MENDOZA

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For Exhibit and Supporting Documents  
please see the Finance and Audit section of this agenda  
pages 23-115

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: TENURE AS CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT NOMINATION**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Recommend Board adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, each board of trustees is authorized to establish the personnel program for all employees of the university including tenure; and

WHEREAS, the University President is recommending the granting of Tenure as a Condition of Employment for the nominee listed in Exhibit "C";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida International University Board of Trustees ("the BOT") approves the granting of Tenure as a Condition of Employment to the individual listed in Exhibit "C" based on the recommendations of the University President.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

**Resolution of the Florida Board of Governors, dated January 7, 2003.  
Resolution delegating and delineating powers of local boards of trustees,**  
states in part,

(19) Each board of trustees shall establish the personnel program for all employees of the university, including the president, pursuant to the provision of chapter 1012 and, in accordance with rules and guidelines of the Florida Board of Governors, including: compensation and other conditions of employment, recruitment and selection, non-reappointment, standards for performance and conduct, evaluation, benefits and hours of work, leave policies, recognition and awards, inventions and works, travel, learning opportunities, exchange programs, academic freedom and responsibility, promotion, assignment, demotion, transfer, tenure and permanent status, ethical obligations and conflicts of interest, restrictive covenants, disciplinary actions, complaints, appeals and grievance procedures, and separation and termination from employment.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Tenure as a Condition of Employment nominee had tenure at her previous institution.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

- EXHIBIT “C”: TENURE AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT NOMINEE
- ATTACHMENT 1: TENURE AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT NOMINEE’S BIO

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

- RONALD BERKMAN



**Florida International University  
2008 - 2009 Tenure Nominations  
(Tenure as a condition of employment)**

	<b>PROPOSED</b>		<b>TENURE</b>
<b>NAME</b>	<b>RANK</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>CIP CODE</b>
<b>COLLEGE OF NURSING &amp; HEALTH SCIENCES</b>			
Anahid Kulwicki	Professor	Nursing	511601

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**Anahid Kulwicki**  
**Professor, Nursing**  
**Indiana University, DNS**

*Professor*

Dr. Anahid Kulwicki has been hired as Director of the Graduate Program in Nursing. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon and both her Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Science from Indiana University. Her program of research focuses on the health of immigrant, refugee and minority populations.

A hallmark of her work has been creative collaboration between public and private institutions across multiple disciplines. She established the first health research department for the Middle Eastern community in the United States to promote health research and to serve as a conduit for other researchers. In addition, she established and arranged for funding for the first Middle Eastern community based programs for HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, infant mortality, and cardiovascular diseases. Her programs have been evidence-based and effective in improving the health care of the underserved immigrant and refugee populations. Her recognized expertise led to her appointment to the Michigan Governor's Task Force on Minority Health. Institutions such as NIH, W. Kellogg, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and numerous local and state government agencies have supported her research.

Dr. Kulwicki served as a Fulbright Research Scholar in Jordan. She collaborated with nursing and medical faculty conducting research and publishing on honor crimes, HIV/AIDS and cardio-vascular risk factors. Because of her contributions to pioneering activities in community empowerment, and spearheading leading edge research on immigrant and international health issues, she was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2000. In addition, she was appointed by Michigan's Governor to the Michigan Board of Nursing.

Presented with over 30 scholarships, fellowships, and awards, Dr. Kulwicki serves on numerous review boards and professional committees, and is engaged in many community activities. She has been able to build bridges between the community, area health care agencies, and local and international academic institutions in expanding the role of nurses.

Prior to coming to FIU, Dr. Kulwicki has been a tenured Full Professor at Oakland University in Michigan since 2001 and served as Deputy Director of the Department of Health and Human Services in Wayne County, the eleventh largest county in the nation and the most diverse county in Michigan. Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services (WCHHS). has a budget of over \$650 million and eight divisions. Prior to her promotion to Deputy Director of WCHHS, Dr. Kulwicki was appointed by the Wayne County Executive as the Public Health Officer/Director for Wayne County.

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (SUS) COMPACTS**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

None. Discussion Item.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

▪ UNIVERSITY COMPACT: 2008-09

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

▪ RONALD BERKMAN

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## University Compact: 2008-09

### Florida International University

#### University Mission and Vision for the Next Five to Ten Years

**Mission:**

Florida International University is an urban, multi-campus research university serving South Florida, the state, the nation and the international community. It fulfills its mission by imparting knowledge through excellent teaching, promoting public service, discovering new knowledge, solving problems through research, and fostering creativity.

**Vision:**

To be recognized in national rankings as one of the top urban public research universities.

#### Institutional Contributions to Specific State University System *Forward By Design* Strategic Benchmarks

Degree Production 2006-07		Undergraduate** Success and Progress Rates			
Bachelor's	5324	# Baccalaureate Degrees (Non-Hispanic Blacks)	650 [13.1%]		
Master's	1993	# Baccalaureate Degrees (Hispanics)	3169 [63.8%]		
Doctoral	100	6 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Fall-Entry FTICs)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
			13.3%	51.2% [FIU 47.2%]	64.5%
Medicine, Law, Veterinary, Dental, Pharmacy	86	4 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Fall-Entry AA Transfers)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
	NA		11.8%	64.0% [FIU 62.5%]	75.8%
	NA				
	NA				
Targeted Degrees (Degree areas and levels to be specified for each institution)	Analysis and Rec. see page 3	5 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Other Fall-Entry Transfers)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
			8.3%	54.7% [FIU 53.1%]	63%

\* Will include the percentage of the cohort that has graduated from the SUS or remains enrolled in good standing in the SUS. Universities may attach success and progress rates in an appendix for other cohorts that are selected based on characteristics of the institution's student body.

\*\* Excludes students in Pharm.D. programs.

*Proposed targets for three years out (2010-2011)*

Degree Production 2010-11		Undergraduate** Success and Progress Rates			
Bachelor's	5693	# Baccalaureate Degrees (Non-Hispanic Blacks)	746 [13.1%]		
Master's	2303	# Baccalaureate Degrees (Hispanics)	3632 [63.8%]		
Doctoral	148	6 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Fall-Entry FTICs)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
			13.3%	57.2% [FIU 53.2%]	70.5%
Medicine, Law, Veterinary, Dental, Pharmacy	120	4 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Fall-Entry AA Transfers)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
	NA		11.8%	68.0% [FIU 66.5%]	77.8%
	NA				
	NA				
Targeted Degrees (Degree areas and levels to be specified for each institution)	Analysis and Rec. see page 3	5 -Year Success and Progress Rate* (Other Fall-Entry Transfers)	Enrolled Good Standing	Grad. From SUS	Total
			8.3%	56.7% [FIU 55.1%]	65%

**Enrollment Plans** These plans will inform the annual Legislative Budget Request, will respond to the legislative requirement for a three-year plan, and will project the five-year space needs for capital projects planning.

Projections	'08-'09	'09-'10	'10-'11
Level			
Lower	8319	8475	8630
Upper	11861	11861	12098
Grad I	3687	3798	3950
Grad II	541	568	602
Total	24408	24702	25280



Targeted Degree Production	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2010-11
Critical Needs: Education	219	192	147	191	121	130
Critical Needs: Health Care	553	546	602	508	689	550
Emerging Technologies: Computer Science and Information Technology	514	517	440	411	374	350
Emerging Technologies: Design and Construction	76	88	97	98	79	95
Emerging Technologies: Electronic Media and Simulation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerging Technologies: Mechanical Science and Manufacturing	314	287	277	385	380	380
Emerging Technologies: Medical Science and Health Care	52	65	68	107	115	125
Emerging Technologies: Natural Science and Technology	254	253	289	303	302	330
Economic Development: High-Wage/High Demand Jobs	1,362	1,145	1,292	1,401	1,869	2,200
Not Targeted Area	3,929	3,983	4,019	4,468	3,755	4,204
Grand Total	7,273	7,076	7,231	7,872	7,684	8,264

**Other Primary University Goals and Metrics for 2008-09 Fiscal Year.** *Present **three to five goals** on which university effort will be focused in the fiscal year.*

- 1) Admission of first class of 40 medical students with the provision of merit and or need-based financial aid for all qualified students.
- 2) Increase freshman–sophomore retention rate by 3% and sophomore-junior retention rate by 2%. Data will follow established measurement standards.
- 3) Increase Ph.D. production to 130
- 4) Improve student services infrastructure–registrar: post degrees within 3 weeks; financial aid: implement direct lending; information systems: complete PeopleSoft 9.0 upgrade
- 5) Increase revenue from auxiliaries, endowment and private partnerships by 5%.

**Windows of Opportunity:** *If the university has been presented with one or more unique opportunities that have not been included in prior plans but which will receive particular attention during 2008-09, they should be presented here. [It is recognized that not every university will have something in this category every year.]*

**Not applicable**

**Other University Strategic Goals and Initiatives for 2009-2011.** *Briefly summarize up to three goals which the university will pursue during 2009-2011. [Goals need to align with the institutional strategic plan, System priorities, and the Legislative Budget Request.]*

- 1) **Full accreditation of the College of Medicine.**
- 2) **Increase freshmen-sophomore retention rates by 9% and 6-year graduation rates by 6%.**
- 3) **Achieve SACS reaffirmation with a Quality Enhancement Plan that creates a new paradigm of “international education across the curriculum”.**

**All New Degree Programs [All Levels] to be Proposed to the University Board of Trustees in the Next Three Years.**

*List the new degree programs – bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral, and professional – planned to be presented to your UBOT within the next three years.*

**The only new program developments envisioned in the next three years is a Biology, Chemistry, and College of Medicine collaboration in a Biochemistry Ph.D. and any new Ph.D. programs that may be required for continued accreditation of the School of Public Health.**

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON TERMINATION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

None. Discussion Item.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

▪ NONE

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

▪ RONALD BERKMAN

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS (SACS)  
REAFFIRMATION UPDATE**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

None. Discussion Item.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

- SACS REAFFIRMATION UPDATE

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

- RONALD BERKMAN

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## SACS Reaffirmation Update

All major universities are accredited by a regional accrediting agency. Accreditation is required in order for students to obtain Federal grants and federally-backed loans. FIU and all of the SUS are in the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges (SACS) accreditation area. Accreditation is reviewed every 10 years. FIU was reaccredited in 2000. Thus we are due for reaccreditation, or as it is now termed, reaffirmation of our accreditation, in 2010.

SACS has approximately 90 principles (see list underneath) with which we need to document our compliance. The principles range from student learning outcomes to conflict of interest for members of the Board of Trustees. We started the process of documenting compliance for each of these principles in January 2007 and it will continue until we submit our Compliance Report in September 2009. These reports are no small documents. Some universities have submitted six gigabytes of data for their compliance report. If this amount of data were to be submitted in paper copy, six gigabytes would translate into 388,692 pages.

The reaffirmation process seeks to document that the university uses a continual quality improvement process whereby we assess our actions, evaluate that assessment, modify our actions based on that evaluation, and reassess to see if the modifications have led to progress toward desired goals. In past accreditation cycles, the emphasis has been primarily on the academic program. While the emphasis is still on the academic program, the requirements for assessment, evaluation, modification, and reassessment, i.e., "closing the loop," have been extended to all aspects of the university operation from the Foundation, to UTS, to parking. All of our units have been committed to operational improvement, but not all have documented their planning and implementation in the framework required for reaffirmation. Every unit of the University is engaged in documenting its processes and meeting the expectations of the SACS reviewers.

We are having trial runs on what these expectations might be in that SACS is doing focused reviews of our off shore degree offerings in Jamaica and China. The Jamaica review showed a need for significant improvement in our documentation. We believe we made such improvement in the material prepared for the China site visit that will take place the first week in September.

The Compliance Report is one of the two major components of our reaffirmation visit. The second component is the Quality Enhancement Program (QEP). After a year long process with much faculty, student and staff engagement, FIU decided its Quality Enhancement Program would focus on improving International Education for all FIU students. The curricular and operational details are still being worked out, but the basic concept is that there will be a small set of courses at the lower division level that will be newly developed to introduce students to international education. These courses will be cross disciplinary and will all use a common reading assignment. This lower division international course will be integrated into the University Core Curriculum. There will be a second course at the upper division level that will be discipline specific. It may be a current course or a new course but will have to be vetted by a University-wide QEP review committee to assure adequate international education content.

We have already had one external consultant review our International Education QEP. The consultant, Susan Sutton from Indiana University, described our plan as both "bold" and "doable." She noted that no other university as large as FIU has attempted an international education program that was designed to change the educational experience of all students obtaining a degree from the university. Other universities have done smaller, focused programs in individual disciplines. Because our proposal is judged doable, it is therefore appropriate for one of the few universities with "International" as part of its name.

The QEP needs to be tested and ready to implement on a university wide basis in Fall 2010. The SACS site visit in March 2010 will be largely devoted to an assessment of our QEP plan and implementation strategy.

We will be implementing the QEP between 2010 and 2015 by which time a full cohort of FIU students will have participated at both the lower and upper division levels. During this time we will need to submit annual reports to SACS. By 2015, the new midterm compliance review will take place. The Board of Trustees will be receiving regular reports on all of these accreditation issues.

### SACS PRINCIPLES BY ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

#### WARTZOK

- 1.1 Integrity
- 3.12.1 Substantive Change
- 3.13.1 Policy Compliance
- 3.14.1 Publication of accreditation status
- 2.4 Institutional Mission
- 2.5 Institutional Effectiveness**
- 3.3.1 Institutional Effectiveness**
- 3.3.1.1 IE: educational programs to include SLOs
- 3.3.1.2 IE: administrative support services
- 3.3.1.3 IE: educational support services
- 3.3.1.4 IE: research within its educational mission
- 3.3.1.5 IE: community/public service within its educational mission
- 4.1 Student Achievement
- 2.8 Faculty
- 3.2.9 Faculty staff appointment
- 3.4.11 Academic program coordination
- 3.5.4 Terminal degrees of faculty
- 3.7.1 Faculty Competence
- 3.7.2 Faculty Evaluation
- 3.7.3 Faculty Development
- 3.7.4 Academic Freedom
- 3.7.5 Faculty role in governance
- 3.4.2 Continuing Education/service programs
- 3.4.7 Consortia relationships/contractual agreements
- 3.4.8 Noncredit to credit

## MENDOZA

- 2.1 Degree-granting authority
- 2.2 Governing Board
- 2.3 Chief Executive Officer
- 2.6 Continuous Operation
- 3.2.1 CEO Evaluation/selection
- 3.2.2 Governing Board Control
- 3.2.3 Board conflict of Interest
- 3.2.4 External Influence
- 3.2.5 Board Dismissal
- 3.2.6 Board/Administration distinction
- 3.2.14 Intellectual property rights
- 3.2.11 Control of intercollegiate athletics

## SANCHEZ

- 2.11.1 Financial Resources
- 2.11.2 Physical Resources
- 3.10.1 Financial Stability
- 3.10.2 Submission of Financial statements
- 3.10.4 Control of Finances
- 3.11.1 Control of Physical Resources
- 3.11.2 Institutional Environment
- 3.11.3 Physical Facilities
- 3.3.1.2 IE: administrative support services

## HARDRICK

- 3.2.7 Organizational structure
- 3.2.8 Qualified administrative/academic officers
- 3.2.10 Administrative Staff evaluations

## JONES and WALKER

- 2.7.1 Program length
- 2.7.2 Program content
- 2.7.4 Coursework for Degrees
- 3.4.1 Academic Program approval
- 3.4.3 Admissions Policies
- 3.4.4 Acceptance of academic credit
- 3.4.5 Academic policies
- 3.4.6 Practices for awarding credit
- 3.4.10 Responsibility for curriculum
- 4.2 Program Curriculum
- 4.3 Publication of policies
- 4.4 Program length
- 3.9.1 Student rights

## JONES

- 2.7.3 General Education
- 3.5.1 College level competencies
- 3.5.2 Institutional credits for a degree
- 3.5.3 Undergraduate program requirements
- 3.4.9 Academic support services
- 3.9.3 Qualified Staff (student affairs)
- 4.5 Student complaints
- 3.3.1.2 IE: administrative support services
- 3.3.1.3 IE: educational support services

## WALKER

- 3.10.5 Control of sponsored research/external funds
- 3.3.1.4 IE: research within its educational mission
- 3.6.1 Post-baccalaureate program rigor
- 3.6.2 Graduate curriculum
- 3.6.3 Institutional credits for a degree
- 3.6.4 Post-baccalaureate program requirements

## PROBST

- 2.9 Learning Resources
- 2.10 Student Support Services
- 3.8.1 Learning/Information resources
- 3.8.2 Instruction of Library Use
- 3.8.3 Qualified Staff (library)

## YAO

- 2.10 Student Support Services
- 3.4.12 Technology Use
- 3.8.1 Learning/Information resources
- 3.3.1.2 IE: administrative support services

## WEBB

- 3.9.2 Student Records
- 3.10.3 Financial Aid Audits
- 4.6 Recruitment materials
- 4.7 Title IV program responsibilities

## GONZALEZ-LEVY

- 3.2.12 Fund-raising activities
- 3.2.13 Institution-related foundations

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**11 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**SUBJECT: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORTS**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

None. Discussion Item.

**REPORTS**

- A. ENROLLMENT SERVICES REPORT
  - B. UNDERGRADUATE REPORT
  - C. UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL REPORT
- 

**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

- ENROLLMENT SERVICES REPORT
- UNDERGRADUATE REPORT
- UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL REPORT

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

- RONALD BERKMAN

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# Academic Policy and Student Affairs Report

## Enrollment Services Update

### August 2008

#### I. University Enrollment

In light of a continuation of state budget cuts for 2008/09, the university plans to enroll 24,408 FTEs which represents a decrease of approximately 3.0%, or 753, FTEs over last year's 25,161 BOG target. This FTE reduction will likely yield a reduction of approximately 2,000 students over the course of the summer, fall and spring terms, particularly at the lower division undergraduate and non-degree student categories. Throughout the coming year, degree seeking students will receive first priority for open seats in courses; only if seats are available at the end of the open registration period will non-degree students be afforded an opportunity to register.

As of August 12<sup>th</sup>, 27,406 students had enrolled in summer courses yielding a total of 4,696 FTEs. This enrollment represents a reduction of 950 students over last summer's enrollment of 28,356 students; undergraduate enrollment decreased by 229 students (-1.1%); graduate enrollment increased by 289 students (6.5%) and non-degree students decreased by 1,010 students (-33.9%). Given the current budget cuts, the university had to reduce summer E&G course offerings by 265 courses (-7.4%) over last summer's course offering---3,306 courses versus 3,571 courses. For Fall 2008, the university expects approximately 37,900 students which would represent a 700 student decrease over last fall. Similar to the summer term, non-degree students will not be afforded an opportunity to register until the end of the open registration period.

#### II. Undergraduate Admissions

The university enrolled a total of 2,106 new FTICs and transfer students this summer. Last summer, the university enrolled 1,389 new FTICs with a mean SAT score of 1004. This year, with a planned effort to reduce the size of the entering class, 1,233 new FTICs enrolled with a mean SAT of 1031 (27 point increase). In contrast to FTICs, transfer enrollment increased to 873 students from 748 students last summer. For Fall 2008, the university expects 4,675 new FTIC and transfer students to enroll. At this time, 4,019 newly admitted students have enrolled. The 1,863 FTIC students who have enrolled at this point have a mean SAT score of 1162 representing an 18 point increase in mean SAT profile over last year's entering FTIC class. To provide some comparative context, the College Board reported that in 2007 high school seniors across the nations scored a mean of 1017 and those in the State of Florida scored a 993 (The 2008 college-bound senior SAT results will be available in late August).

#### III. Financial Aid: Federal Student Loan Program

In accordance with a recently adopted BOT policy on Student Loan Practices Code of Conduct, the university issued a new RFP to establish a new list of preferred lenders. Fourteen lenders submitted proposals. Eight lenders were selected; however, five of the eight lenders notified the university that they had discontinued and/or suspended activity in the student loan business given current volatility in the financial market. Thus, the following three lenders were selected:

- Bank of America
- Wachovia
- EdAmerica Funds

In an effort to ensure students have ready access to a viable source of student loan funds, the Office of Financial Aid plans to move to the Direct Lending Program. Beginning in Spring 2009, newly admitted students awarded a federal Stafford loan will borrow directly from the U.S. Department of Education rather than from a private lender. Continuing students will be moved into the Direct Lending Program beginning in 2009/10.

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**Florida International University**  
**Board of Trustees**  
Academic Policy Affairs Committee  
Undergraduate Education-Summary Report  
August 2008

## **Introduction**

In Fall 1998, the College of Arts and Sciences at FIU implemented a pilot project for first time in college (FTIC) students, by grouping them in small learning communities of 25 students. FIU's learning communities are called First-Year Interest Groups (FIGs). Based on a consistent 6% increase in retention, learning communities were in 2001 the central feature of FIU's Title V grant for Hispanic Serving Institutions. Title V permitted expansion of FIGs to FIU's most at-risk students, our Summer B admits. By the third year of the five year grant, FIGs became the normative experience for most entering Summer B students.

## **Highlights**

FIGs are always connected to our First Year Experience (FYE) course, SLS 1501. The FYE curriculum encourages connecting students with their intended major, providing them with the educational context in which to relate their first semester to career and the global community, engaging them with campus resources. Faculty training and guidance to develop interdisciplinary collaboration has been a key feature of FIGs; faculty members receive a small stipend to participate in these activities, which extend beyond their teaching assignments. Peer mentors are another important component of FIGs. Students who are selected as peer mentors are well trained by both Student Affairs and the Academy for the Art of Teaching.

## **Research on Learning Communities**

The literature on student persistence and degree completion indicates that underprepared students who participate in learning communities, first-year experience courses, and similar programmatic interventions earn grades on average that are about 10% higher than grades earned by non-participating students, and participants have a persistence rate that is 8% higher than that non-participants. Research indicates that learning communities have a statistically significant and positive effect on student persistence, and studies show that participation in first year seminar increases persistence. Linking a first year seminar within a learning community contributes to students' academic and social integration, and participating students are more likely to persist. Faculty preparation and collaboration are key to successful learning communities. Learning communities foster in students a sense of responsibility for the learning of others as well as one's own, and an interest in becoming peer mentors.

## **Challenges Faced by FIGs**

In the past ten years, FIU has developed a successful FIGs program, which has been presented at various national conferences and meetings. Despite the success of FIGs and the institutional goal to offer all entering freshmen the opportunity of being part of a learning community, institutional challenges remain. These challenges include: (1) consistent dedicated funding, including stipends for faculty and peer mentors; (2) many lower division classes in English and Math (key components of FIGs) are taught by adjuncts and TAs; (3) consistent departmental commitment to offer classes that are needed for FIGs; (4) difficulties with block registration; (5) students who come to FIU with AP, IB, or other earned credits, especially in English and Math, and cannot participate in FIGs as constituted for FTICs—we need to expand the program to accommodate these students, who are eager to participate in FIGs and would benefit from the experience.

## **Increasing the Number of FIGs**

In 2007, all-FIGs every semester became the normative approach for entering FTICs at the Biscayne Bay Campus. This initiative was in response to recommendations of the BBC Task Force. The number of FIGs offered at University Park has also increased, although it is not feasible at this time to require that all UP entering freshmen join a FIG, given the challenges noted above. Expansion of FIGs has been made possible through Academic Affairs' funding of a strategic initiative submitted by Undergraduate Education in 2007-2008. At Freshman Orientation parents and students are introduced to the concept of learning communities and the advantages that FIGs offer to entering freshmen.

## **Common Reading Program**

Nationally, an important component of successful first-year programs and learning communities is the common reading program. Wishing to implement such a program at FIU, Undergraduate Education faculty and administrators (both in FIGs and in FYE) conducted research on best practices pertaining to common reading programs and reviewed books that have been used at other universities. The monograph *Common Reading Programs: Going Beyond the Book*, published by the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience & Students in Transition, University of South Carolina (2006), provided insights and guidelines for developing a common reading program at FIU.

In Summer B 2008, we implemented a pilot common reading program at BBC, using one of the books by Haitian author Edwidge Danticat, who is a Miami resident. The book, *Breath, Eyes, Memory*, was selected by a committee that included the associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at BBC, the associate vice president for Undergraduate Education, the director of the Academy for the Art of Teaching, an associate vice president for Student Affairs, and FYE instructors. The book met all of the criteria for common reading selections recommended in the monograph cited above. The common

reading was integrated with the common syllabus used in the First Year Experience course, and before the start of the Summer B semester, instructors and peer mentors met to discuss incorporating the book in the FYE course. More than 100 students participated in the summer pilot project, and reviews of writing assignments indicate positive results. Ninety-three students completed a survey at the end of the course: Seventy-six percent of the respondents agreed/strongly agreed that the common reading program was a good idea; 51% recommended using this book for next year's freshman common reading program; 45% thought the book was relevant to college freshmen; 46% said reading this book made them want to read more; 61% said they discussed this book with other students outside of the classroom; 65% agreed/strongly agreed that the freshman common reading program provided a shared intellectual experience for them and their peers. The pilot project will be repeated in the Fall 2008 semester at BBC.

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# **THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**RESEARCH AND UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2008**

## **GRADUATE REPORT**

### **I. Introduction**

The Research and University Graduate School (RUGS) continues to enhance and develop its commitment to doctoral education. The University is currently assessing each of its graduate programs assuring alignment with State and institutional goals. RUGS has adopted a strategy of increasing doctoral enrollment between 5% and 7%, while keeping Grad I growth below 5% annually. Current economic conditions have created pressure on Grad I enrollment, with RUGS receiving nearly 1,900 more graduate applications this year compared to last year.

Growth in Grad I and Grad II FTEs is expected in the future. During the past several years, FIU has experienced a decrease in enrollment at the Grad II level while exceeding enrollment targets at the Grad I level. The decrease in Grad II may be explained in part by increases in the numbers of doctoral students graduated. In fact, the number of doctoral candidates graduated has increased by 52%—from 80 to 122 students during the last three years. To this end, RUGS is implementing initiatives to increase Grad II enrollment while continuing to enhance retention, time to degree, and graduation rates. RUGS is pursuing a five-year strategic plan that will increase financial support to high quality and cost-effective doctoral education programs in order to enhance production of doctoral degrees. For example, one initiative provides funds to doctoral programs to enhance recruiting efforts to attract highly qualified applicants. A second initiative provides enhancements to the number of graduate assistantships allotted to programs that attract and admit highly qualified applicants. In addition, RUGS is now providing a \$10,000 match to recipients of the Florida Education Foundation (FEF) McKnight Fellowships to enhance the number of African-American and Hispanic doctoral candidates at FIU. We anticipate that these initiatives will boost Grad II enrollment.

Currently, business-related graduate programs contribute very significantly to increases in Grad I FTE enrollment trends. We expect current enrollment in graduate business programs to continue to increase steadily due to factors such as University support in the form of tuition waivers, the growing reputation of FIU business programs, and the local workforce demand for business-related professions. In addition, the University continues to emphasize recruitment and enrollment efforts in the areas of science and health (STEM disciplines).

### **II. Doctoral Degree Production**

Doctoral degrees (combined Ph.D. and Ed.D.) awarded during FY 07-08 totaled 122. The number of doctoral degrees awarded by the University has increased steadily since 2001-2002. Over the last three-year period (2004-2005 to 2007-2008), the number of doctoral

degrees awarded increased by 52.5%, from 80 to 122. As an interim update, the Summer 2008 degree production was 44 (39 Ph.D./5 Ed.D.) compared to 33 for Summer 2007.

### **Ph.D. degree production during the last five years by current college affiliation**

During the last five academic years (AY 03-04 to AY 07-08), the greatest Ph.D. production has occurred in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and the College of Engineering and Computing (CEC). Together, these two colleges have produced between 78% and 91% of the Ph.D. degrees awarded by FIU during each of these five years. As seen in [Table 1](#), CAS has demonstrated steady growth, producing a total of 181 Ph.D. degrees. The CEC has had a more dramatic pattern of growth, resulting in 122 Ph.D. degrees for the five-year period.

**Table 1**

<b>Ph.D. Degree Production</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>CAS</b>	<b>CEC</b>	<b>CAS/CEC Total</b>	<b>% of Ph.D. Total</b>	<b>Ph.D. Total</b>
2003-2004	29	13	42	78%	54
2004-2005	35	11	46	87%	53
2005-2006	35	18	53	87%	61
2006-2007	41	37	78	91%	86
2007-2008	41	43	84	79%	106
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>360</b>

Smaller cumulative numbers of Ph.D. degrees were produced by four other FIU colleges during this five-year period: the Stempel School of Public Health (SSPH—34); the College of Business (COB—21); the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS—1); and the College of Education (COE—1). The total number of Ph.D. degrees produced by the six colleges during the five-year period was 360.

Departments within CAS and CEC have contributed differentially to Ph.D. degree production during the last five academic years. During this period, CAS doctoral programs produced the following numbers of Ph.D. degrees: Psychology (38); Biology (32); Chemistry (21); Spanish (20); Physics (11); Sociology/Anthropology (11); History (10); International Relations (10); Political Science (9); Geology (8); Economics (7); and Public Administration (4). During the same five-year period, CEC doctoral programs produced the following: Electrical Engineering (45); Civil Engineering (30); Computer Science (28); Mechanical/Materials Engineering (13); Industrial and Systems Engineering (4); and Biomedical Engineering (2).

### **III. Enhancement of Graduate Student Support**

Annualization: A strategic initiative funded by FIU enabled RUGS to annualize all currently un-annualized stipends for Ph.D. students supported by teaching assistantships. Un-annualized stipends were annualized at a rate of one third of the nine-month stipends.

Altogether, 205 previously unannualized stipends were annualized for a total cost of \$732,235. Because the students with annualized salaries teach during the summer, a savings in adjunct costs should be realized each summer that annualization is implemented. In addition, students on summer assistantships are required to enroll for six graduate credits. This will enhance Grad II enrollment because the annualized doctoral candidates will enroll for a higher number of credits. Annualization makes FIU stipends more attractive, and should contribute to lowering time to degree as well as decrease attrition rates.

Fellowships: The premier fellowship for attracting top students to FIU, the Presidential Fellowship, had become non-competitive in recent years, and as a result, more students were declining our offers. For Fall 2008, RUGS increased the stipends of these fellowships from \$20,000 to \$25,000 for 12-months. This has improved our number of acceptances from five for Fall 2007 to eight for Fall 2008.

We also increased our Dissertation Year Fellowships both in number and in award size. The stipend was increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000 for 12-months. RUGS is supporting 31 students from the two most recent application cycles, whereas we supported 27 students from the preceding two award cycles. This initiative will improve time to degree completion among students who require a year of uninterrupted effort to write and defend their doctoral research.

In addition, we created a new fellowship for collecting data or building major equipment. The Doctoral Evidence Acquisition (DEA) Fellowship was awarded for the first time this summer for the Fall 2008 semester. We awarded 11 of these fellowships for one or more semesters. These fellowships will provide support at the rate of \$25,000 per 12-month year. This initiative should improve time to degree completion among students who require uninterrupted effort and funding to collect data associated with their doctoral research.

Finally, we augmented the McKnight Fellowships, which are awarded in a statewide competition by the Florida Education Foundation. The stipend of \$12,000 per 12-month year was no longer competitive. RUGS increased these by \$10,000 so that the effective rate is now \$22,000 per year. The McKnight Fellowships are awarded to targeted minority students who are entering Ph.D. programs at certain Florida universities, and thus help to enhance diversity in the graduate student body.

These initiatives will increase the number of highly qualified doctoral students at FIU as well as increase our Grad II enrollment.

Teaching Assistantship Enhancement: The initiative to raise stipend amounts and to increase the number of teaching assistant stipends for Ph.D. students is part of a multi-year effort. For the 2008-2009 academic year, RUGS will provide 12-month increases of nearly \$3,900 in the science, engineering, technical and health related fields, and \$3,100 for all other fields. These increases apply to Ph.D. students on teaching assistantships. In the technical areas mentioned above, 224 stipends will be increased, and for all other areas, 135 stipends will be increased. The total cost of this initiative for 2008-2009 is \$1,287,577. This will raise science assistantships from approximately \$18,000 per year to approximately \$21,900, and will increase our competitiveness in attracting able students. For the year 2009-2010, we intend to raise stipends in the science, engineering, technical, and health-related fields to approximately

\$25,000 per 12-month year, and raise other areas to approximately \$20,000 per year. We also intend to create 25 new assistantships. The cost of raising stipends would be approximately \$1,120,000, and the cost of the new assistantships would be approximately \$625,000. These increases may need to be scaled back because of the current budget challenges, and we may need to act selectively to enhance the most effective and efficient doctoral programs.

Center for Excellence in Writing: Significant efforts were directed toward the initial development of a University Center for Excellence in Writing. A partnership was formed among RUGS, Academic Affairs, The Undergraduate Writing Program in the Department of English, and FIU's Learning Center to promote writing excellence among both undergraduate and graduate students at FIU. Funding for a University Center for Excellence in Writing will be provided initially in part from both Academic Affairs and RUGS, although new external resources resulting from initiatives such as a Graduate Grants Writing Program should defray significantly the University's costs within several years. A nationally recognized writing consultant, Dr. Andrea Lunsford from Stanford University's Department of English, was retained during the initial planning stages of the development of the Center. The Writing Center has been allocated space on the first floor of Green Library on the University Park Campus, as well as space inside the library on the Biscayne Bay Campus. A search is currently ongoing to recruit a senior scholar in Writing Composition or Writing in the Disciplines to serve as the Founding Director of the Center. RUGS is planning to implement a full slate of services for Fall 2008 including writing-related professional development workshops, thesis and dissertation writing groups, and tutoring for graduate students, including those with specific ESL-related needs.

Formation of a Doctoral Education Advisory Committee (DEAC): During the Fall 2007 semester, the Vice President for Research and Dean of the University Graduate School requested that a cross-college faculty committee be formed to advise him regarding matters related to doctoral education. Ten faculty members noted for their dedication and accomplishments as doctoral mentors were nominated by their respective Deans, and convened in a series of informal meetings. Topics discussed included reviews of doctoral programs, infrastructure support for graduate education, funding for graduate students, professional development programs for graduate students, as well as the application process for graduate faculty and the doctoral advisor status. This new committee serves in consulting and advisory roles to assist in the development and implementation of policies regarding graduate education at FIU. The DEAC will become a standing committee within RUGS. A schedule of meetings is planned for Fall 2008.

Ph.D. Program Review: In the late Fall of 2007, RUGS implemented a schedule of reviewing three Ph.D. programs each semester. The style of the review is based on the process and lessons learned in "The Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate." To mitigate the burden of these reviews on the programs, RUGS staff and other University resources are being used to assist with specific tasks. The entire process for each program review should take approximately six months. RUGS will work with each department to ascertain the financial efficiency of each doctoral program. Costs to be evaluated include faculty time, graduate student stipends, and physical resources such as office and research space. Financial benefits to be examined include teaching and external research resources obtained due to the presence of doctoral students. It is important to note that many important improvements to doctoral education do not require additional resources, but may be implemented by faculty-initiated changes in



current operating procedures. During the Spring 2008, the first cohort of doctoral programs to participate in the self-study process included Chemistry, History, and Public Administration. The second cohort of doctoral programs reviews will begin in August 2008, and includes Biology, Nursing, and Psychology.

Efforts to Increase Sponsored Support for Graduate and Undergraduate Education: A critical element of research-intensive universities is the existence of high quality graduate and undergraduate students. Students contribute to the research ethos of the University through their own research and creative endeavors, and help attract high quality faculty who are interested in working with high quality students. To this end, we continue to support efforts for grant applications to support undergraduate and graduate students. Examples include:

- a) In May 2008, a T32 application (Institutional Training Grant) was submitted to NIH. If awarded, this grant would support Ph.D. students (tuition and salary) during the final two years of their doctoral training to focus on health disparities in alcohol abuse research.
- b) A new application for the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) was submitted to the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. The goal of this program is to stimulate interest among underrepresented minority students and faculty in continuing to a career in biomedical research, thereby increasing the number of underrepresented minority scientists engaged in biomedical research. The RISE program received funding on July 28, 2008. Funding is for a total of 40 students, 17 graduate and 23 undergraduate, and it is for \$1M each year for a total of five years.
- c) During FY 2008, FIU also received funding (\$198,066) for the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC), which provides research training opportunities for students and faculty from minority groups who are underrepresented in biomedical research.

Enhanced Enforcement of RUGS Policies: Increased efforts are being directed toward rigorous enforcement of specific RUGS policies that may affect students' timely degree progress. These include policies regarding continuous enrollment and time limits for degree completion. In addition, beginning in Fall 2008, RUGS will be adopting a practice of conducting internal audits to assure that admissions procedures adhere to all state, University, and RUGS guidelines, and that RUGS policies are being enforced in a consistent and appropriate manner.

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

11 SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

None. Discussion Item.

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**EXHIBITS/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

▪ DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

**FACILITATOR/PRESENTER:**

▪ RONALD BERKMAN

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**Florida International University**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Academic Policy Committee**  
**Division of Student Affairs – Summary Report**  
**August 2008**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The summer term has provided an opportunity to reflect on the 2007-2008 academic year as well as a time to plan for the new academic year. Many new students and their parents have gone through the orientation program specifically designed for freshmen and transfer students. Approximately 1172 students participated in summer “B” orientation and began classes in June. Orientation for fall freshmen and transfer students has been ongoing since June.

The Office of Orientation and Commuter Student Services sponsored Panther Camp to assist students with their adjustment to college. It is also designed to encourage student participation in University activities and service. The first camp session was held on August 6-9 with 84 students in attendance. The second session will be held August 20-23 and 112 students have signed up to participate.

### **Career Services**

The Career Services Office is dedicated to providing students the best service and resource available. The staff understands and values the students’ commitments to achieve their education. Through Career Services students connect with employment opportunities and/or higher education institutions recruiting activities

- The Career Services Office in collaboration with the Student Government Association, College of Arts and Science (Jack D. Gordon Institute), and USDA hosted the Third Annual Statewide Federal Conference in the Graham Center June 13, 2008 with 160 students and 20 government agencies in attendance. Participating agencies included: Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. State Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, USDA, United States Congress, Veterans Health Administration, US Customs and Border Patrol, U.S Marshals, and Veterans Health Administration.
- Mega Career Week is a ten day (September 16-26 for Fall 2008) career development event associated with the fall and spring career fairs. This event is the kickoff to the workshop season for each semester and has been developed to focus on employer development, outreach for the Florida International University Career Services Office, and preparing students for interviews. Samples of companies that plan to participate during this year are State Farm Insurance, Goldman Sachs & Company, General Electric, Macy’s, IBM, Target, Enterprise, Progressive Insurance, U.S. State Department, GMAC Financial, and Geico Insurance Company.
- University Park (UP), Fall Career Fair 2008 is scheduled for September 23 and 24, 2008.

### **Center for Leadership and Service**

- The Lunsford-Belote Leadership Grant was established in 2004 to further develop the leadership capabilities of FIU students. Each year, grant recipients are selected by the Center for Leadership & Service through a competitive process to participate in the LeaderShape

Institute, which takes place during the summer.

LeaderShape is THE national college student leadership development program in the country. LeaderShape's vision is: "To improve society by inspiring, developing, and supporting young people to lead with integrity." The week long program brings together college students from throughout the country to develop specific plans to serve their colleges and communities when they return home.

This year the Center for Leadership & Service recognized four students for this award. The 2008 recipients of the Lunsford-Belote Leadership Grant were Ana Maria Silva, Lisa-Marie Young, Luis Rodriguez, and Anthony Faird.

- The third session of the Academy of Leaders for student athletes will begin with a leadership retreat on 8/22-24. Twenty student athletes from eight different sports are expected to participate. Student mentors chosen by students who have completed the program, will be introduced as a new aspect this year. Mentors will take on additional leadership roles within the group, giving them the opportunity to enhance their skills. Participants will continue to meet each month throughout the fall semester and participate in a service project designed to practice leadership concepts from the program. The Student Athlete Academy of Leaders is a collaboration between the Center for Leadership & Service and Undergraduate Education.

### **Campus Life, Biscayne Bay Campus**

- The Campus Life Office at the Biscayne Bay campus hosted a conference for student government advisors that was co-sponsored by the American Student Government Association (ASGA) on July 11-13. Over 150 student government advisors from all over the country attended the conference. Vicky Owles, Associate Director of Orientation was one of the renowned presenters of the conference. This is the third year Campus Life has hosted this prestigious conference.

### **Public Safety/Emergency Management**

- In an effort to continually seek ways to ensure the safety and security of our students, faculty and staff, FIU launched "Panther Alerts", a text messaging system. A Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS) provides the university with the ability to send important information and updates during emergencies. Students, faculty and staff are able to sign up for Panther Alerts through links located on the main FIU homepage and the student portal ([My.FIU](#)). In addition, FIU has installed outdoor speakers at its campuses and placed emergency phones in classrooms. Panther Alerts is the latest component of FIU's emergency notification system.

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