



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC POLICY AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
September 1, 2016

**1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks**

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Cesar L. Alvarez at 12:23 p.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2016, at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

***Present***

Cesar L. Alvarez, *Chair*  
Jose J. Armas  
Alian Collazo  
Michael G. Joseph  
Marc D. Sarnoff  
Kathleen L. Wilson

***Excused***

Natasha Lowell, *Vice Chair*

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Committee Chair Alvarez asked that the Committee approve the minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting held on Thursday, June 2, 2016. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Meeting held on Thursday, June 2, 2016.

**3. Action Items**

**AP1. 2017-2018 Legislative Budget Request**

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the 2017-18 Legislative Budget Request (LBR) for Committee review, noting that the LBRs are an assessment of needs developed by the Florida Board of Governors in cooperation with the universities. He delineated the University's 2017-18 request. He explained that the Population Health Sciences Research Collaboration is a joint project between the FIU and UCF colleges of medicine. He added that this entails both institutions working together across two urban communities to implement and assess clinical intervention practice improvements as well as to develop projects that are utilizing data driven patient centered programs.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees approve the 2017-2018 Legislative Budget Requests:

Unique University Issues:

- FIU Startup Request: \$6,102,120
- FIU UPLIFT Request: \$4,995,314
- Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines Hazardous Substance Mitigation Request: \$2,500,000

Shared System Resources:

- UCF and FIU Colleges of Medicine Population Health Sciences Research Collaboration Request: \$2,000,000

**AP2. Tenure as a Condition of Employment Nominations**

Committee Chair Alvarez noted that two candidates were nominated for tenure as a condition of employment, stating that the nominees were selected to receive tenure based on the caliber of their work.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the two (2) candidates for Tenure as a Condition of Employment, as specified in the Board materials.

**AP3. Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability Report**

Vice President for Academic Affairs Elizabeth M. Bejar presented the Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability Report for Committee review, delineating the requirements that are embedded in the Education Access and Affordability bill, HB 7019, which she added became effective July 1, 2016. She reported that under this bill, all State University System institutions are required to submit a Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability Report that determines the wide cost variance for required and recommended course materials for General Education and High Enrollment courses. In addition, she noted that the report includes an overview of institutional initiatives and policies designed to reduce the costs of course materials and promote college affordability.

VP Bejar provided an overview of FIU's posting compliance, stating that because the bill became effective on July 1, the current report only includes fall 2016 data. She indicated that on July 8, 2016, the University reached 79% compliance, adding that 90% compliance was achieved by August 15, and reported that currently over 95% compliance has been reached.

VP Bejar delineated the University's efforts in reducing the costs of course materials, including the University's collaboration with on-campus vendors, such as Barnes & Noble, where she added that a price match program has been established. She mentioned that 77% of the University's books are currently available at Barnes & Noble for rent at reduced prices, stating that approximately 40% are available digitally.

Trustee Alian Collazo stated that students have provided positive feedback on the price match program, noting the added convenience to students who can now purchase books on campus with similar online competitor prices.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the textbook and instructional material affordability report.

#### **4. Information/Discussion Items**

##### **4.1 Academic Affairs Regular Reports**

Committee Chair Alvarez requested that the Academic Affairs Regular Reports provided in the agendas be accepted as written. There were no objections.

##### **4.2 Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies**

Provost Furton reported, for discussion purposes, on a potential affiliation between FIU and the Torrey Pines institute for molecular studies. He stated that the Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies is a non-profit research center dedicated to conducting basic research to advance the understanding of human diseases and the improvement of human health. He added that scientists at the Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular studies conduct research in fields associated with a wide variety of major medical conditions. He mentioned that the University has engaged in discussions with Torrey Pines, and acknowledged that an affiliation agreement is currently being considered. He also noted that the University has sought guidance from both the BOG and the Office of the Governor on this. In response to Trustee Kathleen L. Wilson's inquiry regarding costs, Provost Furton noted that currently there are no associated costs, adding that feedback from the Governor's office and the Chancellor was pending. Provost Furton noted that an affiliation agreement with Torrey Pines aligns with the University's strategic plan.

Trustees engaged in a discussion regarding the University's potential affiliation with Torrey Pines. Trustee Marc D. Sarnoff requested additional information regarding the feasibility of a merger. Trustees Collazo and Wilson mentioned possible benefits to the University in terms of research, its positive impact on Performance Funding metrics, and that the affiliation can serve to attract students and faculty. In response to Committee Chair Alvarez' inquiry, Provost Furton reported that FIU will not have exclusivity with Torrey Pines until such time that an affiliation agreement is executed.

#### **5. New Business**

*No new business was raised.*

#### **6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

With no other business, Committee Chair Cesar L. Alvarez adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 12:54 p.m.

*There were no Trustee Requests.*