



**Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee**  
**June 12, 2025**  
**FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms**

**MINUTES**

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**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 Dean C. Colson on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 11:18 AM.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee members and verified a quorum. Present were Trustees Dean C. Colson, *Committee Chair*; Alberto R. Taño, *Committee Vice Chair*; Noël C. Barengo; Francesca Casanova; George Heisel; and Alexander M. Peraza.

The following Board members were also in attendance: Trustees Carlos A. Duarte, Board Vice Chair; Alan Gonzalez; Jesus Lebeña; Yaffa Popack; and Marc D. Sarnoff.

Provost and Executive Vice President Elizabeth M. Bejar provided updates related to the Dean of the College of Law, Antony Page, completing his service and Michelle Mason serving as Interim Dean with a search beginning in the fall 2025 semester; Dean of University Libraries Nancy Kirkpatrick leaving her role at FIU; Tomas Guilarte being celebrated as a highly ranked scholar by ScholarGPS Top 0.5%; Dr. Noël C. Barengo, Associate Professor of Epidemiology at FIU, being named the 2025 Conference USA Professor of the Year; and the tenth annual FIU Academy for International Disaster Preparedness Field Course.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Committee Chair Colson asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting held on April 15, 2025. Hearing none, a motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee meeting held on April 15, 2025.

**3. Action Items**

**AP1. Tenure Nominations**

Committee Chair Colson explained that, at the conclusion of the spring semester each year, the administration conducts a thorough review of faculty candidates who are in their sixth year on their track towards tenure. He added that this year, a total of 34 candidates have met the scholarly requirements and have been recommended for tenure. Provost Bejar presented an overview of the tenure review process and candidates. She highlighted the collective accomplishments of the 34 tenure candidates. She mentioned that all faculty are mandatorily evaluated on an annual basis on

their annual assignment for research, teaching, and service and are subject to post-tenure review every five (5) years. Committee Chair Colson commented on the tenure and post-tenure review processes. Provost Bejar explained the process of selecting external reviewers in response to Trustee Alexander M. Peraza's inquiry.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend to the FIU Board of Trustees approval of the Tenure Nominations as specified in the Board materials.

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

Committee Chair Colson commented on the Tenure as a Condition of Employment (TACOE) process. Provost Bejar commented on the TACOE candidates: Dr. Sara Castro-Olivo, who will be joining the Department of Counseling, Recreation, and School Psychology and Dr. Matthew Deroo who will be joining the Department of Teaching and Learning. She noted that both candidates are recommended for hire at the rank of Associate Professor within the School of Education and Human Development in the College of Arts, Sciences and Education.

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

#### **AP3. Proposed Amendment to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code**

Associate General Counsel Ryan M. Kelley presented the proposed amendments to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code. He detailed that the proposed changes include updated phrasing to address plagiarism where a student uses artificial intelligence without acknowledgement; correcting references to FIU Regulations 105 and 106; clarification of appeal submission instructions; and other edits related to scrivener's errors.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee recommend to the FIU Board of Trustees approval of the proposed amendment to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code.

### **4. Information and Discussion Items: No Action Required**

#### **4.1 Post Tenure Review**

Provost Bejar commented on Florida Board of Governors Regulation 10.003 Post-Tenure Faculty Review. She provided an overview of post-tenure review procedures and the 2024-2025 cohort. She remarked on the post-tenure review evaluation ratings and detailed the post-tenure review outcomes of the FIU 2024-2025 cohort.

#### **4.2 Planned New Academic Degree Program Proposals**

Provost Bejar presented anticipated new academic programs for 2025-2026. She explained the process for developing a new academic program. She noted that new academic programs may include areas of focus in urban policy and data analytics, national security, project management, artificial intelligence (AI) engineering, and public health.

#### **4.3 Student Government Updates**

Trustee Francesca Casanova mentioned that she attended the Commissioner's Summit on June 5, 2025, and participated in a panel discussion. She explained that the Student Government Association (SGA) senate has met regularly, elected their senate leadership and is working on filling vacancies. She commented that she will be meeting with SGA Vice President Wilkin Caseres and members of FIU leadership to discuss initiatives. She noted that her focus during her second term as Student Body President is to align with the Experience Impact 2030 Strategic Plan and enhance the student experience. Trustee Casanova stated that on April 25, 2025, she signed an executive order which created the SGA Department of Greek Enrichment and Expansion (DOGEE). She explained that DOGEE created a feedback survey and hosted an in-person town hall to gather feedback from students in the Greek community and that the report and recommendations were received from DOGEE.

#### **4.4 Faculty Senate Updates**

Trustee Noël C. Barengo stated that the Faculty Senate and the Steering Committee convened once since the April 15, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting. He mentioned that the final Faculty Get-Together of the spring 2025 semester took place on April 25, 2025, and the first Faculty Get-Together of fall 2025 will be hosted by the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management on Thursday, September 18, 2025. He shared that he provided the Steering Committee and the Faculty Senate with a report on his experience serving on the FIU Presidential Search Committee. He commented that the faculty look forward to working collaboratively with University President Jeanette M. Nuñez and mentioned that President Nuñez was invited to attend the first Faculty Senate meeting of the fall 2025 semester. He commented on the Faculty Senate's concern with FIU Police Department (FIU PD) involvement in the 287(g) agreement with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and noted a formal request that FIU PD withdraw their signed letter of interest in this agreement. Senior Vice President for Operations and Safety and Chief of Staff, Javier I. Marques clarified that there are no anticipated additional operational costs associated with signing the agreement, similar to other collaborative agreements that are already in place. He noted that additional costs related to on-campus protests are not budgeted by FIU PD. Trustee Barengo expressed that the Faculty Senate remains committed to fostering an open, constructive, and collaborative dialogue with both the FIU administration and FIU PD about said agreement.

#### **5. Academic Affairs Regular Reports**

There were no questions from the Committee members in terms of the Academic Affairs regular reports included as part of the agenda materials.

#### **6. New Business**

No new business was raised.

#### **7. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment**

With no other business, Committee Chair Dean C. Colson adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 12:16 PM.