

**Minutes
Special Board of Trustees' Meeting
Telephone Conference Call
University of Central Florida
August 27, 2004**

Chairman Richard Nunis called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the President's Board Room located in Millican Hall on the University of Central Florida campus at 1:30 p.m. The following members attended the meeting in person:

The Honorable Arlen Chase
The Honorable Phyllis Klock

The Honorable Thomas Yochum

The following members attended the meeting via telephone conference call:

The Honorable Judith Albertson
The Honorable Olga Calvet
The Honorable Patrick Christiansen
The Honorable Geraldine Ferris

The Honorable Richard Lee
The Honorable Richard Nunis
The Honorable Harris Rosen
The Honorable Richard Walsh

Chairman Nunis welcomed the board members and guests and called upon Associate Corporate Secretary, Beth Barnes, to call roll. Following his remarks, Chairman Nunis called upon President John Hitt for his opening comments.

COMMENTS

President Hitt thanked the board members for participating in the special conference call. He expressed his hope that the board was spared the worst of Hurricane Charley. He reported that UCF was dealt a harsh blow, but that, most importantly, no members of the UCF family sustained serious injury. He gave special thanks to the UCF emergency response team, especially the campus police, members of our physical plant and building services personnel, and our telecommunications staff who worked tirelessly to ensure a successful opening of the campus. He extended gratitude and admiration for the hard work and commitment of the staffs of the Student Union, Recreation and Wellness Center, Housing and Residence Life, as well as Aramark and the Dining Services staff who coordinated their efforts to support essential personnel who worked to clean up the campus and manage post-storm events.

He reported that the meeting had been called for two reasons: 1) the September 1 deadline imposed by Chancellor Austin for responding to the governor's four higher education initiatives and 2) the need to address an amendment to the master plan. In addition, Carolyn Roberts, chair of the Board of Governors, has asked the university and the trustees to respond to the Board of Governors' *Y-Axis* strategic planning document.

In her letter, she said that the Board of Governors agreed upon the following set of goals for the State University System strategic plan:

- providing access to and production of degree programs
- meeting statewide professional and workforce needs (this item included a list of targeted programs)
- building world-class academic programs and research capacity

These goals are outlined in the document that is known as the *Y-Axis*. According to President Hitt, the first section of the *Y-Axis* was completed by the Division of Colleges and Universities' staff with system-level data in the baseline year and targeted goals for the other years. Chairwoman Roberts asked the universities to complete section II of the *Y-Axis* by October 15. President Hitt reported that UCF's response would be completed by using existing UCF planning documents, such as our strategic plan, enrollment and degree plan, and academic program plan, as well as university-level benchmarking information. In the areas for which we do not have baseline information, he reported that we will establish baseline measurements to generate the projections that the board is requesting.

A briefing will be given to the Educational Programs Committee on the progress of this report at the September meeting and on the actual response at the November meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING

- **BOT-1: Governor's Initiatives** – In answer to a requirement of the Board of Governors that each university's Board of Trustees report on Governor Bush's four initiatives and, after the board's consideration of the first of those four initiatives, a motion was passed approving a block tuition proposal. The proposal calls for undergraduate students enrolled for 12 or more credit hours (full-time students) to pay a fixed tuition equal to that required for 15 credit hours. Once the block tuition is paid, however, students can enroll for additional credit hours at no additional cost, so long as the required approvals are obtained. Furthermore, the proposed plan would allow students to enroll for 12 semester hours during each of the academic year semesters and bank the remaining 6 hours for use during the summer. That is, while students would pay the block tuition rate for a total of 30 hours during the academic year (fall semester and spring semester), they would be able to take up to 6 of those hours during the summer at no extra charge. Since Bright Futures scholarships do not currently pay for summer courses, legislative action may be needed to authorize UCF to bank and use Bright Futures credits in the summer. Furthermore, the proposed plan requires that the university receive full state funding for all FTE students.

In addition to the approval of the proposal above, the board reviewed the university's position on the governor's three other initiatives, beginning with excess hours. President Hitt indicated that UCF continues to support its previous submission on excess hours, which stated that this policy would penalize many constituent groups that are crucial to the metropolitan research university mission including teachers, local professionals, and dual-enrollment students. The policy, he said, would involve so many exceptions that it would be cumbersome to administer, as well as counterproductive to many of the state's educational goals, including the production and development of teachers.

The next initiative addressed was billing statements. President Hitt reported that the proposed policy from the Governor's Office involved a detailed approach to accounting for the costs of a degree. He said that UCF does not support the proposed policy; however, it could support a policy in which the state promoted a higher-level summary statement for all universities.

And, the last initiative reviewed was targeted programs. President Hitt stated that UCF supports the concept of providing funding for targeted programs; however, the UCF position statement has been slightly revised to clarify that we support this initiative as the basis for enhancement funding, not as a replacement for normal funding methods such as enrollment growth.

FIN-1: Amendment to Campus Master Plan – A motion was passed approving an amendment to the campus master plan changing the designation of 5.8 acres in the athletics area of campus from Recreation and Open Space to Housing. The university is completing the financing for the construction project that will provide approximately 1,000 additional beds and associated parking in the northwest portion of campus commonly known as the athletics area. The land upon which the housing is to be constructed is currently designated in the campus master plan as Recreation and Open Space. The master plan statute allows the Board of Trustees to amend the master plan under certain conditions without undergoing the public hearing and review process outlined in section 1013.30(6)-(8) of the Florida Statutes. Scott Cole, general counsel for the University of Central Florida, stated the proposed amendment satisfies those conditions, and, therefore, the board may adopt the “entirely appropriate” proposed amendment at this time.

Associate Corporate Secretary Beth Barnes announced that the next board meeting would be held on September 23, 2004, with a convocation center workshop scheduled for 3:00-5:00 p.m. immediately following that meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Nunis adjourned the special conference call meeting at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: _____ Date: _____
John C. Hitt
Corporate Secretary

