



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Board of Trustees
Educational Programs Committee
February 6, 2020
President's Boardroom, Millican Hall**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Kenneth Bradley, chair of the Educational Programs Committee, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Committee members Vice-Chair Caryl McAlpin, Trustee Harold Mills, and Trustee William Self were present. Trustee Kyler Gray attended via teleconference.

Chair Bradley welcomed two new committee members: Vice-Chair Caryl McAlpin and Trustee Harold Mills to Board of Trustees and Educational Programs Committee.

MEETING MINUTES

November 12, 2019, meeting minutes were submitted for approval, motion to approve was made by Trustee Mills, and Trustee Self seconded. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Tenure with Hire (EPC-1)

Tenure with Hire for two newly hired faculty members, who have been deemed eligible for tenure based on UCF requirements was submitted for approval by Interim Provost Michael Johnson. Department faculty and the university administrative officers have approved granting tenure to these faculty members.

Trustee Self made a motion to approve, and Trustee McAlpin seconded.

Chair Bradley commented on the outstanding credentials of both faculty members. Bradley also requested an explanation of Tenure with Hire be available at a future meeting.

Trustee McAlpin asked what percentage of faculty are tenured; there was an estimated amount provided.

The committee unanimously approved the two new faculty members for Tenure with Hire.

Academic Program Development Process (INFO-1)

Dr. Timothy Letzring, Senior Associate Provost for Academic Affairs presented updated details on the internal and external processes for development and approval of new academic programs and included information on where both the Educational Programs Committee and the full Board of Trustees participate in this process. Trustee Harold Mills asked if degree programs were eliminated. Letzring indicated that there are occasions that call for the termination of degree programs.

Mills indicated concern with the creation of too many degree programs.

Trustee Self asked if during the CAVP review process; was input provided by the Board of Governors (BOG) staff. Dr. Paige Borden, Associate Provost and Chief Analytics Officer, confirmed that BOG staff does review the program at the pre-proposal level and provide input to the CAVP committee.

Self also added that the approval process has heavy faculty input.

Trustee McAlpin asked how long from creation to the approval of a new degree program. Letzring added that approval times vary and could take two years.

New Degree Program Proposal – Master of Science in Financial Technology (FinTech) (EPC-2)

Letzring also presented three new degree program proposals for approval, beginning with the Master of Science in Financial Technology (FinTech); this degree program has specialized self-supporting tuition. The degree refers to the application of technological innovation in the financial services industry.

Letzring provided that the tuition rate was approved by the Finance and Facilities Committee in January 2020.

Trustee Self made a motion to approve, and Trustee Mills seconded.

The committee unanimously approved the FinTech Master of Science degree program.

New Degree Program Proposal – Master of Science in Computer Vision (EPC-3)

The new degree proposal Master of Science in Computer Vision is 5th rank in the US-based on the strength of faculty and publications in this subfield. The program aims to provide technical skills and domain knowledge to future professionals who seek to acquire expertise in Computer Vision and related areas.

Trustee Mills made a motion to approve, and Trustee Self seconded.

The committee unanimously approved the Master of Science in Computer Vision degree program.

New Degree Program Proposal – Ph.D. in Sustainable Coastal Systems (EPC-4)

Tim Letzring presented the final new degree program proposal, Ph.D. in Sustainable Coastal Systems. This program which received unanimous approval at the July 18, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting; the resubmission is to align with the Board of Governors' timeline for June 2020 consideration.

Letzring explained the Sustainable Coastal Systems degree program addresses the need for well-trained professionals in a field that is by nature interdisciplinary. As the transition zone between the land and sea, the coast gives rise to complex issues in science, technology, and public policy.

Trustee Self made a motion to approve, and Trustee McAlpin seconded.

The committee unanimously approved the Ph.D. in Sustainable Coastal Systems degree program.

Provost's Update – (INFO-2):

Interim Provost Michael Johnson welcomed Educational Programs Committee chair Kenneth Bradley to the new role, along with newly appointed committee members vice-chair Caryl McAlpin and trustee Mills.

Michael Johnson went on to speak about his new role as interim provost, which is to keep our academic programs moving toward prominence, with the message deans, faculty, and staff to continue forward with the academic enterprise.

Johnson presented information on UCF's progress toward increased excellence, with the most improved ranking in U.S. News and World Report's rankings of top public institutions. He explained that the focus for UCF remains on continuing to improve student success, research, and serving the public good.

Provost Johnson continued to provide to the trustees, information from several areas, including improving quality by hiring excellent faculty, which is evident by the many UCF faculty members that are award recipients over the past two years.

Johnson also provided information on UCF's effort to attract top students – explaining that fall enrollment included 90 National Merit Scholars and currently have an all-time high of 340 enrolled. UCF also set records for SAT, ACT, and GPA averages for the incoming freshman class, along with the largest minority enrollment of 48 percent.

He explained that student success is even more important than enrollment and presented that UCF achieved an overall school-record 91.5 percent retention rate last fall, with African American and Hispanic enrollment being slightly higher.

In introducing Dr. Theodora Berry, the newly hired vice provost of the Division of Student Learning and Academic Success and Dean of the College of Undergraduate Studies, Johnson spoke about the important action of reorganizing central efforts to support student success and Dr. Berry's role in continuing this endeavor.

Interim provost Johnson closed with highlighting both Student Research Week and UCF Celebrates the Arts festival, which are upcoming premier events that will showcase talented students at UCF.

2020 BOT Educational Programs Committee Meeting Dates (INFO-3)

Educational Programs Committee Chair Bradley concluded the meeting with the submission of the upcoming committee meeting dates for 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bradley adjourned the Educational Programs Committee meeting on February 6, 2020, at 2:50 p.m.

Reviewed by: Kenneth Bradley 4/19/2020
Kenneth Bradley Date
Chair, Educational Programs Committee

Submitted by: Janet D Owen 4/20/2020
Janet Owen Date
Associate Corporate Secretary