



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Board of Trustees
Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee
November 16, 2023
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Tiffany Altizer, chair of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

In addition to Chair Altizer, committee members present were Vice Chair Rick Cardenas and Trustees Joseph Conte, Brandon Greenaway and Stephen King. Board of Trustees Chair Alex Martins, Vice Chair Harold Mills, and Trustee Bill Christy also joined the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Greenaway motioned to approve, and Trustee King seconded. The committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes of September 27, 2023.

ACTION

At Chair Altizer's request, Youndy Cook, Vice President and General Counsel, confirmed there were no disclosures of conflict of interest from the trustees.

Tenure with Hire (AESC-1)

Provost Johnson sought tenure with hire approval for one highly qualified faculty member who comes with a proven track record and a clear plan and trajectory for continued success at UCF. Hiring senior faculty allows the university to rapidly advance academic excellence.

Trustee King motioned and Trustee Cardenas seconded. Tenure with hire for the faculty member was unanimously recommended for approval.

Research Institutes and Centers Annual Reports (AESC-2)

Dr. Winston Schoenfeld, Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation, presented the annual reports for state-registered institutes and centers prior to submission to the Board of Governors, in accordance with BOG Regulation 10.015. Also included is an addition to the state institute and centers registry to include the Resilient, Intelligent, and Sustainable Energy Systems (RISES) Center.

Trustee Conte motioned and Trustee Greenaway seconded. The research institutes and centers annual reports were unanimously recommended for approval.

New Degree Program Proposal – M.S. in Health Sciences (AESC-3)

Dr. Timothy Letzring, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, presented the degree program proposal for the M.S. in Health Sciences. The purpose of the degree program is to produce graduates to fill positions as health education/health promotion specialists. The program capitalizes on the existing strengths of the College of Health Professions and Sciences, Academic Health Sciences Center, other institutes and centers at UCF, and the Department of Health Sciences' existing undergraduate program, one of the largest at UCF.

Trustee Conte motioned and Trustee Cardenas seconded. The new M.S. in Health Sciences degree program proposal was unanimously recommended for approval.

New Degree Program Proposal – M.S. in Robotics and Autonomous Systems (AESC-4)

Dr. Timothy Letzring presented the degree program proposal for the M.S. in Robotics and Autonomous Systems. The degree program will teach the skills necessary to analyze, design, and develop robotic and autonomous platforms that are increasingly part of human society. The interdisciplinary program meets student and industry demand.

Trustee Greenaway motioned and Trustee King seconded. The new M.S. in Robotics and Autonomous Systems degree program proposal was unanimously recommended for approval.

Conferral of Degrees (AESC-5)

Provost Johnson presented the conferral of degrees for the Fall 2023 commencement ceremonies. As of now, UCF expects to award 5,996 degrees on December 15 – 16, 2023. Of the degrees being awarded, 4,941 are baccalaureate, 927 are master's, and 128 are doctoral or specialist degrees.

Trustee Greenaway motioned and Trustee King seconded. The conferral of degrees for the Fall 2023 commencement ceremonies was unanimously recommended for approval.

DISCUSSION

University Planning Structure (DISC-1)

Provost Johnson presented ongoing efforts associated with a new university-wide academic planning and effectiveness process, enabling a comprehensive planning and decision-making approach. The process will allow the university to best align resources to rapidly achieve strategic priorities and goals; occurring across the academic enterprise and being coordinated with UCF's financial position to create an all-encompassing five-year rolling strategic planning and assessment effort. The planning process will align college and administrative units' priorities with UCF's Strategic Plan (*Unleashing Potential*), areas of focus, industry, regional, and societal needs to ensure effective execution and attainment of the strategic plan goals and mission. A new Office of Integrated Academic Planning and Effectiveness, under the direction of the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, will lead the coordination of UCF's programmatic five-year rolling plans moving forward. Trustees agreed an integrated planning process is important to the success of UCF's strategic plan.

Academic Advising for Student Success (DISC-2)

Provost Johnson and Dr. Paul Dosal, Senior Vice President for Student Success, led a robust discussion on the implementation of a new academic advising and coaching model. The model will deliver proactive, prescriptive, and holistic practices to promote timely degree completion, academic success, and career readiness. The efforts include the consolidation of the entire academic advising community to work within a coordinated care management system. The new model is designed to accelerate UCF's drive to preeminence by improving the FTIC four-year graduation rate, three-year transfer student graduation rate, and first-year retention rate.

INFORMATION

Four information items were included in the committee’s meeting materials: 1) Strategic Metrics Update (INFO-1), 2) Research Institutes and Centers 5 and 7-Year BOG Evaluations (INFO-2), 3) Accreditation Quarterly Update (INFO-3) and 4) New Degree Program Process Overview (INFO-4). Trustees were instructed to direct any questions on these items to Dr. Paige Borden, Chief Analytics Officer.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Altizer adjourned the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee meeting of November 16, 2023, at 10:33 a.m.

Reviewed by: _____ Date _____
Tiffany Altizer
Chair, Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee

Submitted by: _____ Date _____
Michael A. Kilbride
Associate Corporate Secretary

