University Board of Trustees
Work Group on Academics and Campus Environment
NOTES
February 14, 2008, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Marshall Center Room 296

Workgroup Members Present: Lee Arnold, Trustee and Chair; Michael Barber, Trustee and President, Faculty Senate; Gene Engel, Trustee; Garin Flowers, Trustee and President, Student Government; Debbie Sembler, Trustee; Jennifer Capeheart-Meningall, Vice President, Student Affairs; Carl Carlucci, Executive Vice President and CFO; Ralph Wilcox, University Provost and Senior Vice President; Kathleen Moore, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Educational Outreach, Staff Liaison to ACE; Anu Saxena, USF Foundation Liaison; Joe Eagan, Associate Director, Facilities Planning; Kim Lersch, Associate Professor, Department of Criminology; Barbara Sparks-McGlinchy, Associate Director, Intercollegiate Athletics

I. Call to Order and Comments:

Trustee Arnold called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. New Business – Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes – January 17, 2008

The Workgroup unanimously approved the January 17, 2008 minutes.

b. Authorize revised Regulation USF 1.005 and revisions to the 2008-09 Undergraduate Catalog – USF St. Petersburg

Regional Chancellor White presented the item and noted that the Undergraduate Catalog has been reviewed and approved by the respective programs and colleges and by the USFSP Faculty Council.

A motion was made to approve and was seconded. Approved unanimously.

c. Authorize revised Regulation USF 1.009 and revised 2008-09 Graduate Catalog – USF St. Petersburg

Regional Chancellor White presented the items. She noted that the 2008-09 proposed revisions to the USF St. Petersburg Graduate Catalog have been reviewed and approved by the respective programs and colleges, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg Graduate Council, and the USF St. Petersburg Office of Graduate Studies. A letter of welcome from President Genshaft has been added.
A motion was made to approve and was seconded. Approved unanimously.

d. Approval of new program proposal – BFA in Graphic Design – USF St. Petersburg

Regional Chancellor White presented the item and noted that it is a free standing program developed from an existing track in the undergraduate Art program housed in the USF Tampa College of Visual and Performing Arts. Trustee Arnold asked if this program complements programs at USF Tampa and it was confirmed it did.

A motion was made to approve and was seconded. Approved unanimously.

Florida Residency for Tuition

Provost Wilcox presented the item and noted that this item does not appear on the agenda but is an amendment to the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs approved at the January 17, 2008 meeting. A copy of the Florida Residency for Tuition Purposes language was distributed. Dr. Wilcox noted that the revised language will go into all of the USF catalogs and that it clarifies what documents are needed to verify Florida residency. Trustee Arnold asked if the other campuses were aware of the amendment and it was noted they were.

A motion was made to approve and was seconded. Approved unanimously.

e. Revised Enrollment Plan for 2008/09

Provost Wilcox presented the item and noted that the Board of Governors has directed realignment of enrollment plans to reflect appropriation cuts. Dr. Wilcox presented information on funding, freshman enrollment freeze, BOG directives, BOG planning options, and USF’s realignment strategy. USF must provide its enrollment realignment to the BOG by February 29. Trustee Arnold asked how USF’s plan parallels those of the other Research I universities in the State and it was noted that USF is working with them. The focus of USF’s plan will be to maintain quality of academic delivery and programs. USF is doing all that it can to protect the integrity and quality of the programs. Trustee Engel asked if it is anticipated that there might be another FTE reduction and it was noted it was possible if the base budget situation worsens. Trustee Sembler asked if the administration is working with the regional campuses to admit qualified students at regional campuses if they cannot be accepted at USF Tampa and Provost Wilcox stated that qualified students will be encouraged to enroll at the regional campuses. There will be some shifting of enrollment and it will be driven by strategic priorities. Trustee Arnold shared his concerns that there would continue to be space for students currently enrolled and he noted that this might be the time to raise the bar for accepting new students. Provost Wilcox agreed and shared his commitment to currently enrolled students and their successful degree.
completion. He noted that USF is moving toward a more selective profile that one would expect to find at a premier research university. He advised that USF will accept transfer students who will be entering the university with an AA degree and 3.0 GPA. and he shared his commitment to those students. He noted that under the current financial situation lower level transfers will not be admitted in the coming years.

III. Updates

Provost’s Update

Provost Wilcox welcomed and introduced Mr. Bill Garrison, Dean, USF Libraries. Dr. Wilcox invited the Trustees to attend the opening of the Confucius Institute on March 2. He announced the agreement with Google which will shift student e-mail to an outsourced gmail service. CTO Michael Pearce noted that the migration process will begin February 25th and that the old system will be shut down by the end of June. A brief overview of the transition was provided. Trustee Arnold asked if there was a substantial savings. Mr. Pearce provided information about the costs and savings. Trustee Arnold asked if it would be a Google.com address or USF.edu and it was noted that it will be USF.edu. The pages will look the same - it will be USF powered by Google. All domains remain the same and USF will maintain administration and control of our own directories. A brief overview of the agreement was provided. Trustee Arnold asked if Google will provide the back-up system and it was confirmed they will. Provost Wilcox noted that student leadership has been actively involved and selected the product. Trustee Flowers noted that the students had met with Mr. Pearce, participated with the beta tests, and had selected Google. They are very excited about the change. Provost Wilcox noted that Dr. Phil Motta, Professor, Department of Biology had appeared on a morning TV segment on whale sharks in collaboration with Mote Marine Lab. He noted it is exciting to see one of USF’s professors highlighted on national TV.

Student Affairs Update

Dr. Meningall presented the update and noted that along with others at USF and the SUS System, Student Affairs is trying to take a strategic and tactical approach in an effort to maintain the highest level of programs and services within the constraining budget. Student Affairs has established a team that will be looking at organizational alignment and effectiveness so as to address issues that impact student success. Once the report is completed it will be shared with ACE. Dr. Meningall noted that the Magnolia Housing project is progressing and the Marshall Center project is on schedule and on budget. Student Affairs has received recognition for the Marshall Center Project. A team from the University of Surrey, England will be coming to tour the facility on March 12th. The University of Surrey wishes to build a state-of-the-art university center and would like to see our facility. A video clip highlighting the Stampede of Service was presented. Dr. Meningall expressed her pride in the approximately 2,000 students who came out early in the morning on a rainy Saturday to provide service to the community. The office that organizes the Stampede of Service has been recognized on the National Community
Service Honor Roll. Dr. Meningall advised that the Board of Governors notified the university that they will receive an allocation from the Capital Improvement Trust Fund (CITF). The total for USF is $24 million and the funding is to be used for university projects that are student-related and support campus life. She provided an overview of how the monies are to be distributed to the campuses. A legislatively mandated committee comprised of students and staff will be established to review proposals and to make decisions on the expenditure of the funds. The proposal will be a collaborative effort with three divisions of the University – Finance and Administration, Athletics, and Student Affairs. Dr. Pat Haynie provided information on USF Health’s funding, needs of students, and how the funds could be used in support of space for student services. Trustee Arnold asked if USF Health was considering a mini student union and it was noted they were not. Dr. Haynie clarified the student’s needs and Dr. Carlucci provided information about opportunities at the Morsani Center. Dr. Meningall noted that this will help to address the needs of students in remote areas on campus. Trustee Arnold asked about monies allocated to pay bonds and it was clarified that the monies are CITF. USF Sarasota/Manatee, USF St. Petersburg and USF Lakeland will bring similar proposals to their campus boards and the proposals will be brought to the Full Board of Trustees for approval. Dr. Meningall noted that the BOG did not provide a lot of time for the process so Student Affairs will work out the details and then return the proposals for approval.

Faculty Senate Update

Trustee Barber presented the update and provided information on activities of the Faculty Senate. The Faculty senate is approving an honorary degree and the guidelines and forms are available on the Senate’s website. He noted that the Senate was pleased to be invited to and to participate in the President’s Leadership retreat. Trustee Barber advised that Jeffrey Robinson, Vice President for Advancement had attended the January Senate meeting and shared information relating to development, philanthropy, and collaboration with faculty. He noted that this month the Faculty Senate has invited Dr. Karen Holbrook, Vice President for Research to attend the Senate meeting and share her vision for research at USF. The Senate has been requested by the Provost to nominate faculty to serve on a number of committees one of which is the committee to review the ICAR document. A committee has been charged to look at academic integrity and honesty. The Senate Executive Committee is working on the tenure and promotion guidelines. Recommendations have been made regarding the A+ grading system of which the Senate is not in favor. The Senate is recommending that course evaluations be available on line. Trustee Arnold thanked Trustee Barber for the report and expressed his appreciation for the level of cooperation and positive attitude. Trustee Flowers commended the Provost’s Office for their help regarding the student course evaluations.

Student Government Update

Trustee Flowers presented the update and noted that they are focusing on the budget reduction. Student Government is looking at items that are mission critical and trying to eliminate non-essential expenditures. He advised that they want to bring back the old tradition of Mr. and Miss USF. Trustee Flowers shared information about lobbying
efforts in Tallahassee and noted they are trying to meet with the Legislature and Governor. Some of the items they are lobbying for are amending the technology fee to be more student friendly, more FTE funding, saving Bright Futures and increasing amounts awarded to students, and lobbying the Board of Governors to accept multiple health insurance carriers. Trustee Flowers announced the establishment of a student blog. He clarified the issues concerning Student Government and Student EMS and advised that the program is not being funded by Student Government at this time but they are working together and hope to have a program in the future. Trustee Flowers also noted that the articles appearing in the Oracle about impeachment should be ignored as it is a miscommunication that is being cleared up. Trustee Arnold shared his thoughts about multiple insurance carriers versus one carrier. Having critical mass will help to bring the costs down. Trustee Flowers noted that he is working with Student Affairs on the issue and looking at options.

Trustee Arnold asked if there were any other reports. Ms. Barbara Sparks-McGlinchy provided a brief overview of the NCAA Women’s Final 4 and events planned for Middle School Madness.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.