Item: AS: A-M

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
Wednesday, February 16, 2011

SUBJECT: ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 15, 2010 MINUTES

PROPOSED BOARD RECOMMENDATION
Initiate roll call to document member participation, ensure quorum, and approve the December 15, 2010 meeting minutes.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mrs. Sherry Plymale, Chair
Mr. Robert Rubin, Vice-Chair
Mr. Anthony Barbar
Mrs. Nancy Blosser
Dr. Jeffrey Feingold
Dr. Rajendra Gupta
Dr. Timothy Lenz
Mr. Ayden Maher
Mr. Robert Stilley (ex-officio)

PARTICIPATING BOT MEMBERS
Mr. David Feder
Mr. Paul Tanner
Mr. Thomas Workman
Committee on Academic and Student Affairs Meeting  
Draft Minutes  
December 15, 2010

Committee on Academic and Student Affairs Chair Armand Grossman convened the meeting with the following committee members present: Trustee William Bryant; Trustee Jeffrey Feingold; Trustee Rajendra Gupta; University Faculty Senate President and Trustee Timothy Lenz; Student Government Association President and Trustee Ayden Maher; Trustee Sherry Plymale; and Trustee Nancy Blosser (ex-officio).

Other trustees participating in the meeting included: Anthony Barbar; David Feder; Robert Rubin; Robert Stilley; and Thomas Workman. The following university officials participated: Diane Alperin, Interim Provost; Charles Brown, Sr. Vice President for Student Affairs.

ASA: A-M. Approval of the Minutes
A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

ASA: A-1. Request for Approval of a New Academic Program: Master of Fine Arts in Media, Technology and Entertainment (09.0702)
Interim Provost Alperin presented this degree of the future, which combines two academic programs, one by the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters and the other, the Department of Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science. This interdisciplinary graduate degree couples faculty in film, video, interactive media and computer animation with computer science and engineering faculty, with the aim of fostering in their graduate students innovative approaches to digital entertainment. The proposed MFA will contribute to enhanced STEM training and prepare FAU’s students for the evolving industry by fostering connections between science, technology, engineering, and varied media industries.

After a short discussion about this degree adapting to the changes in the workplace and new job opportunities, a motion was made and seconded to approve the Master of Fine Arts in Media, Technology and Entertainment (09.0702). The motion passed unanimously.
ASA: A-2.  Request for Approval of Revisions to Regulation 4.012: Student Financial Aid

Interim Provost Alperin presented a request for approval of the revisions to Florida Atlantic University Regulation 4.012 which sets forth the policies and procedures for the award and distribution of financial aid to students. This proposal updates and clarifies definitions and procedures of the policy.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the Revisions to Regulation 4.012: Student Financial Aid, and there was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

AS: I-1. Information Agenda: National Survey of Student Engagement

Interim Provost Alperin presented information on National Survey of Student Engagement which collects information at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities about student participation in programs and activities provided by institutions for their learning and development.

Florida Atlantic University randomly selected 2,483 Freshman and Senior students who provided responses to a web-based survey covering five areas of engagement: Level of Academic Challenge; Active and Collaborative Learning; Student-Faculty Interaction; Enriching Educational Experiences; and Supportive Campus Environment. These results were presented for FAU as benchmark comparisons to other Carnegie Class institutions and to ourselves over time to help us understand how our students perceive their levels of engagement along several dimensions. It is a diagnostic tool used to identify and develop successful undergraduate engagement strategies for the future. Student engagement is one of the keys to student success in retention and graduation. In order to improve the undergraduate experience, both Academic and Student Affairs can further research best practices in engagement that will be suitable for FAU. Students and faculty need to be actively involved in academic life.

After a brief constructive discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

(Prepared by L. Perez)