



Item: SP: A-M

DRAFT MINUTES
Strategic Planning Committee
Wednesday, February 16, 2011

SP: A-M: Roll Call and Approval of Minutes of December 15, 2010 Strategic Planning Committee

Trustee Workman called the meeting to order and proceeded with the Roll Call.

Present: Trustees Thomas Workman, Chair; Jerry Feingold, Vice-Chair; Robert Stilley (ex-officio); Sherry Plymale; Nancy Blosser; Tim Lenz; Ayden Maher; Rajendra Gupta; Anthony Barbar; David Feder; Robert Rubin

University Personnel: President Saunders; Diane Alperin; Tom Donaudy; Mary Mertz; Denis Crudele; David Kian; Gitanjali Kaul; Andrew LaPlant; Gary Perry; Joyanne Stephens; Charles Brown; Tim Lenz

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 15, 2010 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

SP: 1-1 Update on Undergraduate Admissions

In her opening report, Dr. Kaul referenced the recent FAU press release which highlighted the increase in FAU admissions applications. She reported that the number of freshmen applications received to date was 19,686 and new applications were still being received. A cutoff date for accepting additional applications had not yet been established.

This year's applicant pool represents the largest number of highly qualified student applicants for admission and the largest segment has reported a strong interest in College of Science disciplines. Non-Florida student applications have risen by 8.6%. The admissions office staff was working diligently to process these applications in a timely manner.

Dr. Kaul reported that she, working with Dennis Crudele, VP Finance, had offered a significantly increased number of recruitment scholarships. Presidential scholarships offer a student up to \$4,000 a year; some students will receive \$3,200 per year; some students will receive the new "Elite Owl" scholarship at \$2,000 per year; others will receive scholarships of smaller amounts; and some out-of-state students will be offered tuition discounts.

Dr. Kaul stated that because good students are competitive and have other options, the Office of Enrollment Management had asked for faculty volunteers to assist with the recruitment of these students. It was reported that 48 faculty members had submitted their names as volunteers with an additional 25 faculty members expected to sign on. Ten to fifteen students had also volunteered to make phone contact with applicants who have been offered admission. While making phone calls faculty will be collecting data to help FAU understand

(a) why students applied to FAU; (b) what they are looking for in an institution, and (c) to which other universities they have applied. The data gathered will help the institution be better prepared to respond to another influx of students next year.

Dr. Kaul was asked to put into perspective the large number of current applicants versus the small number of students who can be accepted at FAU in any given year. Dr. Kaul responded that because this had been the first year FAU had seen such a surge in applications it was not possible to give a definitive and confident answer as to how many qualified students would ultimately enroll this year. She said that the focus had been on the recruitment and enrollment of the best and most prepared students.

President Saunders stated that FAU would be able to accept an additional 500 students without straining its capabilities. She said that it was more important to give freshmen the experience of a good quality education rather than one where they might be unhappy. She indicated that the additional 500 freshmen students that the Board had approved were certainly a number that FAU could work with.

SP: 1-2 Update on FAU's New Strategic Planning Steering Committee

Dr. Kaul reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had been formed and given its charge by President Saunders. Trustee Lenz agreed to co-chair the Committee along with Dr. Kaul. The committee is comprised of administrators, several faculty members, and a community member, Dr. Claudia Hillinger, President, Max Planck Foundation.

Trustee Maher asked that he be considered as a student representative to the Committee and was assured that this would be done. The committee has begun reviewing the strategic plans that have been created by other universities around the state.

President Saunders stated that she had invited a group of consultants from the Learning Alliance to work with the Committee to facilitate discussions about FAU's identity; what the university wants to accomplish, and to assist in identifying those academic areas for which FAU could be best known. She reported that the consultants were currently interviewing faculty and staff and their findings would be the agenda for a one-day roundtable discussion scheduled for March 15, 2011.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.