



Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2026
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
ZOOM

Members Present: William Trapani, Kim Dunn, Bruce Arneklevn, Khaled Sobhan, David Newman, LeaAnne DeRigne and Chris Beetle

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair, Dr. William Trapani.
2. UFS Steering minutes
The UFS Steering minutes from [November 20, 2025](#), were **approved by the committee**.
3. President's Report
Dr. Trapani's Report Highlights:
 - Provost Ken Dawson-Scully was welcomed to the meeting in his role as Provost.
 - An update was provided regarding the Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 8.003 related to syllabus posting requirements.
 - A Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting is scheduled for January 26 (virtual) to re-certify metric selection.
 - FAU is pursuing Carnegie Community Engagement recognition.
 - The January 31 "Pack-to-Give-Back" Food Bank event in partnership with the Palm Beach County Food Bank was announced.
 - Improved institutional visibility in Tallahassee following recent legislative sessions was noted.
4. Guest Speakers (Speakers will present at Senate, not Steering)
 - James Capp, Associate Vice President Strategic Planning & Student Success to present a report on Admissions
 - James Capp was confirmed as a speaker for January's Senate meeting.
5. Open Forum with the Provost
Provost Ken Dawson-Scully reported on the following:
 - **Enrollment updates**
 - Increased admissions and deposits for Fall 2026, including record numbers for first-time-in-college students.
 - A decrease in graduate headcount but an increase in undergraduate enrollment for Spring 2026.

- Concerns raised regarding summer course capacity due to a significant increase in summer admits.
- Updates were provided to the Strategic Listening Sessions.
- Discussion occurred regarding BOG Regulation 8.003 and syllabus posting requirements, including implications for faculty workload and public access.

6. Committee Reports

- Academic Planning and Budgeting Committee, Kim Dunn
 - [26-27](#) and proposed [27-28](#) Academic Calendars
 - [Academic Calendar Overview](#)
 - [Class Minutes 2026-2027 Academic Calendar](#)
 - [Class Minutes 2027-2028 Academic Calendar](#)
 - [Summer 2026](#)
 - [Class Minutes Summer 2026](#)
- **Motion:** Motion to approve the 26-27 academic calendar was made. **Motion carries.**
- **Motion:** Motion to approve the 27-28 academic calendar was made. **Motion carries.**

Discussions

- Summer 2026 Breaks:
 - Approval of two days off for Independence Day.
- Equity and Contact Hour Discussion:
 - Concerns were raised regarding equity in contact hours across varying course schedules.
- The Academic Planning and Budget (APB) Committee was charged with reviewing:
 - Equity of contact hours
 - Impact of missed instructional days
 - Inclusion of contact hour information on syllabi
 - Fall break scheduling
 - Possibility of a full Thanksgiving break week
- APB will report recommendations back to Senate.

7. [UPC Consent Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering.
Motion carries.

8. [UPC Action Agenda](#)

Motion: A motion was made to move forward with positive recommendation by steering.
Motion carries.

9. UGC Consent Agenda

None.

10. UGC Action Agenda

None.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

- Elections
 - Announcement of a vacant Steering Committee seat.
 - Upcoming Senate committee elections were discussed.
 - Bylaw changes regarding administrative eligibility for Senate positions were reviewed.
 - The committee agreed to grandfather current sitting senators, with new restrictions applying to future elections.
 - The Policies and Procedures Committee was charged with reviewing committee membership eligibility criteria.

13. Good of the Steering Committee

A Faculty and Staff Appreciation Ice Hockey Game scheduled for January 17 at Boca Ice was announced.

14. **Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.**