

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Board of Trustees



Academic Affairs Committee
Grand Ballroom
August 7, 2013

Committee Members: Marjorie Turnbull, Chair
Torey Alston
Glen Gilzean
Narayan Persaud
Anthony Siders

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

Action Items

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| II. Approval of Minutes for April 10, 2013 Meeting | Chairman Marjorie Turnbull |
| III. Approval of Multi-Year Employment Contract for Dr. Ruena Norman | Interim Provost Rodner Wright |
| IV. Request for LWOP – Gikiri Thuo | Interim Provost Rodner Wright |
| V. Realignment/Reduction of General Education Outcomes | Dr. Gita Pitter |

Information Items

- | | |
|---|--|
| VI. Black Television News Channel | Dr. Ann Kimbrough |
| VII. Student Financial Education Programs (CGS) | Dr. Verian Thomas and
Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud |
| VIII. SACS Update | Dr. Maurice Edington |
| IX. ABA Update | Dean Leroy Pernel |
| X. Donation of Brooksville Property | Dr. Robert Taylor |
| XI. Adjournment | |



Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Board of Trustees Action Item

Meeting Date August 7, 2013

Agenda Item _____

Item Origination and Authorization

Policy _____ Award of Bid _____ Budget Amendment _____ Change Order _____
Resolution _____ Contract _____ Grant _____ Other _____

Action of Board

Approved _____ Approved w/ Conditions _____ Disapproved _____ Continued _____ Withdrawn _____

Subject: Academic Affairs – Minutes (April 10, 2013)

Rationale: In accordance with the Florida Statutes, a governmental body shall prepare and keep minutes or make a tape recording of each open meeting of the body.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes of April 10, 2013.

Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee
April 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Marjorie Turnbull. The following Trustees were present: Torey Alston, Glen Gilzean, Michael Jefferson, Narayan Persaud, and Marjorie Turnbull. A quorum was established.

Trustee Turnbull asked the members to review the minutes of the February 6, 2013, committee meeting and asked if there were any corrections. Trustee Alston moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jefferson and the motion carried.

Trustee Turnbull called on Provost Wright to introduce the new dean for the College of Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities. Provost Wright introduced Dr. Valencia Matthews as the new dean for the College of Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities. Dr. Matthews served as interim dean of the College of Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities since July 1, 2012, and served as interim chair of the Department of Music from December 2011 - June 2012. In addition, she served as assistant dean in the College of Arts and Science from 2002-2012 before the college was split in 2012 to form the College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities and the College of Science and Technology.

Next, Dr. Maurice Edington, SACS Liaison, presented the SACS update. Dr. Edington reiterated the concerns by SACS regarding FAMU's compliance with the following four accreditation standards: Principal 1.1 (Integrity), C.S. 3.2.8 (Qualified Administrative/Academic Officers), C.S. 3.10.3 (Control of Finances), and C.S. 3.11.2 (Institutional Environment).

Dr. Edington briefly discussed the timelines:

- The First Monitoring Report is due to SACSCOC by **August 26, 2013**.
- The Special Committee Site Visit is **September 24-26, 2013**.
- A decision on the probation sanction will be rendered at the SACSCOC Annual Meeting in **December 2013**.

He also discussed some of the activities taking place to address the sanction, including oversight and coordination by President/Provost/SACS Team; weekly meetings of SACS team; biweekly meetings of SACS Team and "probation units" on implementation of corrective actions; and the President's Corrective Actions Workshops.

The SACS Team is utilizing strategies to address the specific concerns raised by SACSCOC; identify root causes and implement long-term solutions; and enhance campus culture of continuous improvement.

Finally, Dr. Edington stated that the Title IV Monitoring Report which deals with financial aid is due by April 15, 2013, and the Fifth-Year Interim Report is due to SACS in March 2014.

The next informational item on the agenda was presented by Dr. Gita Pitter, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness. Dr. Pitter presented the 2013 goals update for Academic Affairs. Some of the highlights include:

- The initial accreditation site visit for Veterinary Technology will be in the Fall 2013.
- Our response to the American Bar Association is due May 1, 2013.
- The School of Business and Industry had a site visit February 24-27, 2013 and a decision is expected in May 2013.
- Occupational Therapy is still on probation and we have not received a response.
- The current enrollment for the distance learning program is 68 students.
- The current pass rate for the BS Education program is 100% because passing the FTCE is a condition for graduation.
- The target for research doctoral graduates annually is 24; however, we currently have 13.
- The College of Pharmacy, School of Business and Industry, and College of Education are re-advertising eminent scholar positions. School of Journalism and Graphic Communication, and the College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities are also exploring options for their eminent scholar/endowed chairs.

The committee members requested that information be provided by e-mail on the procedures and strategies being used to advertise and recruit eminent scholars. They also requested that the next update include targets for distance learning and information on the number of education graduates in relation to an entering cohort of students.

Next, Dean Pernell provided responses to the committee's request for additional information regarding adjunct faculty teaching evening courses and the demographics of the College of Law. Dean Pernell stated that courses taught by adjuncts are almost exclusively practice skills courses with controlled enrollment. Therefore, practicing lawyers and judges are only available in the evening. This practice is common at all ABA approved law schools. For academic year 2012-2013, of the 564 total credit hours taught, only 116 hours are taught by adjuncts.

Dean Pernell stated that FAMU ranked in the top five HBCU's for production of African American lawyers and FAMU College of Law continues to be in full compliance with the ABA standard on bar passage rate with over 82% of our graduates for the past five years now members of the Florida Bar.

Trustee Warren suggested that issues brought before the Board relate to policy not procedural issues with regards to the law school.

Dr. Green-Powell and Dr. Hodge presented additional information that was requested during the February BOT meeting. Dr. Hodge briefly discussed the strategies to be used for the school improvement initiatives; the types of research and university involvement, and resources needed.

The discussion will be continued at the next BOT meeting and committee members were instructed to forward all questions regarding DRS to Provost Wright as soon as possible.

Trustee Turnbull recognized Dr. Mark Weatherspoon and Dr. Dhyana Ziegler for their outstanding sabbatical reports. Copies of the reports were provided in the committee material. The reports will be presented at a later BOT meeting.

Finally, a copy of the Technology Transfer, Licensing and Commercialization current effort was provided for informational purpose.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Turnbull, Committee Chair



**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
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Action of Board				
Approved _____	Approved w/ Conditions _____	Disapproved _____	Continued _____	Withdrawn _____

Subject: Approval of Multi-Year Employment Contract for Dr. Ruena Norman

Rationale: Interim Provost Rodner Wright and Interim President Larry Robinson recommend the approval of a two-year contract for Dr. Ruena Norman. This two-year agreement will allow Dr. Norman to serve as Dean of the School of Nursing with Florida A&M University.

In accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, two-to-five year fixed multi-year appointments may be offered to faculty if:

1. Individuals who have officially retired from universities or other organizations and who are at least 55 years of age or
2. Individuals who have held the rank of full professor for at least seven (7) years at an institution of higher education.

Recommendation: Approval of the two-year employment contract for Dr. Ruena Norman as the Dean of the School of Nursing at a salary of \$160,000 per year.



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Subject: Request for Leave Without Pay – S. Gikiri Thuo

Rationale: A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was established between the Kenya government and Florida A&M University. Professor S. Gikiri Thuo is requesting leave without pay from August 5, 2013, through May 6, 2014. This leave of absence will allow him the opportunity to initiate the reestablishment of the MOU between FAMU and universities in Kenya. The MOU is currently inactive.

One specific project that Professor Thuo plans to undertake is an outreach program to explore international collaborative projects between FAMU and universities in Kenya on sustainable energy that will lead to a cleaner environment and safe reliable energy technologies. This is a multi-disciplinary project that will involve different school/colleges within the university.

In addition, Professor Thuo would like to devote more time to writing research papers for publication, to include a Calculus book.

See attached Leave of Absence Explanation.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Request for Leave Without Pay for one year.

Leave of Absence Explanation

I would like to use my leave of absence to establish international collaboration between Florida A&M University and universities in Kenya. I am also writing a Calculus book and I would like to devote more time on that and also on writing research papers for publication. I would also like to spend my leave of absence writing grants between Florida A&M University and Universities in Kenya.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was established between Kenya government and Florida A&M University through the office of former Prime Minister of Kenya and it is my desire to spend time during my leave of absence to make the envisioned international collaborations and other educational opportunities for students and faculty become a reality. During my leave of absence I would like to initiate the reestablishment of a MOU between FAMU and a Kenyan University (USTU) that is currently inactive. I have talked casually with some faculty members and officials, for example in the FAMU-FSU School of Engineering , FAMU School of Business and Industry, FAMU College of Science and Technology, FAMU School of the Environment, etc., and have received very positive feedback on their willingness to participate and support my endeavors in establishing these international collaborations.

One specific project I would like to accomplish during my leave of absence is an outreach program to explore international collaborative projects between Florida A&M University and Universities in Kenya on Sustainable Energy that will lead to a cleaner environment and safe reliable energy technologies. This is a multi-disciplinary project that will involve different schools/colleges at FAMU. To develop a cohort of ideal mentors and Sustainable Energy projects for FAMU students and Faculty, I will personally meet professors, researchers as well as other potential mentors at various universities and research facilities in Kenya. The primary goal is to assure that eventual FAMU participants in these international collaborative efforts will have a good range of host research groups. My selection of universities and research facilities will consist of those whose project will be designed such that they have support from funding agencies such as USAID, NSF, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Clinton Foundation, IBM Research Lab Africa, General Electric etc., and the potential to lead to peer-reviewed publications.

S Gikiri Thuo

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RECEIVED
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY



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Subject: Realignment/Reduction of General Education Outcomes

Rationale: The General Education Committee works to maintain close alignment between the general education outcomes, the general education courses, and the assessments used to measure student learning. There is a need to reduce the number of outcomes in order to allow the Committee to more effectively monitor the performance of the University's General Education Program. The reduction will specifically allow faculty and administrators to effectively and efficiently monitor student learning and improve instruction in the core general education courses and demonstrate compliance on the SACS standard on general education assessment. Currently, the University's general education assessment plan identifies student outcomes in the following eight (8) areas:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Diversity
4. Ethical Values
5. Quantitative Reasoning
6. Technical Literacy
7. Life-Long Learning
8. Collaboration

The General Education Committee, Institutional Level Assessment Committee, and Institutional Effectiveness Committee recommend that the number of General Education outcomes be reduced from eight (8) to five (5).

The faculty representatives on the Committees suggest consolidating the focus on the following five (5) General Education Outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Communication
3. Quantitative Reasoning
4. Technology Literacy
5. Social and Ethical Responsibility



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Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the five general education student learning outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Communication
3. Quantitative Reasoning
4. Technology Literacy
5. Social and Ethical Responsibility

It is further recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the Provost to approve future amendments to the general education assessment plan.



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Committee

Academic Affairs

Subject: Proposed partnership between Florida A&M University's School of Journalism & Graphic Communication (SJGC) and the Black Television News Channel (BTNC)

Summary: This informational item will provide an overview of the unique proposed partnership opportunity between FAMU SJGC and BTNC. A brief presentation will outline the academic enhancements and career opportunities for journalism and graphic design students in keeping with accreditation and assessment standards. The FAMU SJGC and BTNC partnership is designed to provide an enriched academic experience for FAMU students while extending the brand of the university nationally and internationally.



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Academic Affairs

Subject: Briefing on Council of Graduate Schools grant to Florida A&M University to Create Student Financial Education Programs

Summary: As a part of the groundbreaking Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) best practice program, **Enhancing Student Financial Education**, co-sponsored by TIAA-CREF, Florida A&M University (FAMU) was one of fifteen universities that was awarded a CGS grant to develop financial education grants for graduate and undergraduate students. This award is very timely for FAMU, since the University has identified **Student Indebtedness** and **Financial Literacy Outreach** to freshmen and sophomores as two of its Key Initiatives for 2013 – 14. This grant will afford us the opportunity to develop programs that will train all undergraduate students and graduate students in proper financial management and allow us to develop relevant research programs.



Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
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Academic Affairs

Subject: SACS Update

Summary: An update will be provided on the University's activities to address the SACS Probation Sanction. The update will include a review of the status of the implementation of corrective actions and of efforts to prepare for the upcoming SACS Special Committee Site Visit on September 24-26, 2013.



Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
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Committee

Academic Affairs

Subject: ABA Update

Summary: An update will be provided by the Florida A&M University College of Law regarding the accreditation decision rendered by the Accreditation Committee of the American Bar Association.



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Action of Board

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Subject: USDA Brooksville Land Acquisition

FAMU FOREVER: To Preserve the FAMU Legacy Through its Land-Grant Programs

Rationale/Background: The US Department of Agriculture operated a 3,800 acre beef cattle research station in Brooksville, Florida, but closed the facility in 2011. Most of the land is under pasture. The US Department of Agriculture is desirous of transferring all the land to Florida A&M University through a Quit Claim Deed at no monetary cost to the university subject to:

- (a) A Memorandum of Understanding between the US Secretary of Agriculture and President of Florida A&M University/FAMU Board of Trustees is signed before September 30, 2013;
- (b) The land be used for agricultural and natural resource research for 25 years in conjunction with other areas of its land-grant mission (extension and teaching);
- (c) Implement the beginning farmer and rancher program and work with tribal nonprofit and tribal governments; and
- (d) Assume responsibility and maintenance of the land and buildings to be conveyed.

The US Department of Agriculture had conducted two Site Assessment Environmental Studies (Phase I and Phase II) and found some contamination in the area and wants the university to do the remedial work before the land could be transferred. FAMU Environmental Health and Safety Department is looking into the cost of the remedial work involved.

FAMU has a strong interest in strengthening its teaching, research, extension, and development activities, and the acquisition of the land will provide the university with the economic resource base that will enable it to sustain, grow and preserve the FAMU Legacy: FAMU FOREVER. The perceived benefits are:

- (a) Its value will increase significantly after 25 years and provide a potential source of revenue and equity for future growth and development, investment, and joint-venture for the university;
- (b) There are no contractual restrictions after the 25 year period, and the land can be put to multipurpose uses;
- (c) Provides FAMU with the ability and capacity to participate in large scale farming enterprises, develop new program areas in agricultural and biological sciences, and strengthen its land-grant mission; and
- (d) Provides FAMU with the largest land equity among HBCUs.



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The College of Agriculture and Food Sciences will manage and operate the facility with oversight from the Office of the President and Academic Affairs. A Task Force will be formed to provide assistance and guidance for planning and developing a master plan for the land.

Initially, funds for the operating budget will come from USDA grants to be supplemented by FAMU Administration (E&G), Florida State Legislature, sale of hay, and leasing part of the land to beginning farmers and ranchers. The total operating budget is estimated to be \$750,000. In the long run, operating funds will come from collaborative and partnership projects with private and public institutions, corporations, foundations, and grants. State funding may be requested to maintain the buildings on the facility.

The proposed Brooksville land acquisition has to be approved by the FAMU Board of Trustees, the Florida Board of Governors and the Legislature. The College of Agriculture and Food Sciences is seeking the FAMU Board of Trustees' support for its proposed plan to acquire the Brooksville land for FAMU.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees:

1. Expresses support for the FAMU Forever concept to acquire the Brooksville property for FAMU;
2. Authorizes the President to continue deliberations with the US Department of Agriculture/US Secretary of Agriculture on the remedial work to be done on the proposed property/land;
3. Authorizes the President to evaluate the feasibility of acquiring the proposed property; and
4. Authorizes the President to return to the Board of Trustees with a recommendation regarding the acquisition of the proposed property after deliberations with the US Department of Agriculture and FAMU Environmental Health and Safety.

Attachment: "FAMU Forever: To Preserve the FAMU Legacy Through its Land-Grant Programs"