

**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Board of Trustees**



**Academic and Student Affairs Committee Minutes
Trustee Nicole Washington, Chair**

**September 18, 2019 @ 8:30 am
Grand Ballroom**

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Nicole Washington. Ms. Valeria Singleton called the roll and the following committee members were present: Ann Marie Cavazos, David Lawrence, Rochard Moricette, Nicole Washington, and Robert Woody. A quorum was established.

Trustee Lawrence moved to approve the minutes for the meeting on June 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moricette and the motion carried.

Student Affairs Updates – The following informational updates were provided:

- Updates were provided on the Financial Aid Debt Reduction Plan, the IGNITE program, and the Anti-Hazing Initiative:
 - Dr. William Hudson, Jr., provided an update relating to FAMU's debt reduction plan. FAMU has developed a three-pillar approach to guide the strategies for decreasing student debt and increasing student success. The three pillars are: Financial Aid Budgeting and Packaging; Education and Training; and Student Success.
 - Trustee Woody asked for an update regarding the hiring of the 17 new positions. Dr. Hudson stated that they are in the process of hiring the advisors, academic coaches, and career counseling for the 17 new positions.
 - Trustee Cavazos asked if the University was monitoring the students that were receiving scholarships and loans. Dr. Hudson stated that the University is monitoring the students' debt, but the federal guidelines does not allow the University to persuade the students from borrowing additional funds.
 - Trustee Washington noted the disparity between the undergraduate and graduate borrowing, and potential compounded debt for graduate students who have already accumulated undergraduate debt.
 - Dr. Hudson provided an update on the IGNITE program including the first annual Summer Summit hosted by FAMU for high school guidance counselors and community college liaisons. An update was given on the 15 articulation agreements with FCS partners. In addition, there are three institutions under discussion—Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg; College of Central Florida in Ocala; and Eastern Florida State College in Brevard County.
 - Trustee Lawrence asked why we did not have an agreement with all of the state colleges. Dr. Hudson stated that it's a process and we are trying to make sure that we grow in the areas of strategic emphasis. If we grow gradually, it will give more time to ensure that we are able to provide the services needed to make the transfer students successful.

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- Mr. Bryan Smith provided an update on the hazing prevention initiatives.
 - National Hazing Prevention Week is September 23 through September 27.
 - It's early in the semester, so we are in our educational component. We have held or plan to hold safety meetings with organizations that plan to have intake this year.

Academic Affairs Updates – The following informational updates were provided:

- Provost Edington provided updates on the key initiatives.
 - A summary of the plan of action to move the needle on student success to include the Office of Freshmen Studies, Data Analytics, Academic Coaching, Early Alert & Tracking System, Math Boot Camp, Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR), and Peer Mentors.
 - Trustee Lawrence asked if incoming freshmen are required to enroll in classes for the summer semester prior to the start of classes in the fall semester. Dr. Edington stated that our at-risk students (incoming freshmen) are currently required to attend the summer semester and we are developing different strategies to enhance the students' deficiencies.
- Key strategies and best practices were provided for Physical Therapy, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Law.
 - A Licensure Pass Rate Task Force will conduct an in-depth evaluation of each of the programs and generate actionable recommendations to increase performance of first-time takes on licensure exams. In addition, the task force will provide ongoing monitoring and evaluation of program outcomes and achievement goals.
 - Trustee Cavazos asked about the academic success for the students to enhance the students' skills set. Interim Dean Boothe-Perry stated that the curriculum committee is looking at how the classes are taught. In addition, a consultant will be hired to evaluate the entire process of teaching the students the skills set needed to pass the Bar.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Washington, Committee Chair