

**Board of Trustees  
Academics and Campus Environment Committee**

Tuesday, May 30, 2023  
Microsoft Teams

**MINUTES**

ACE Committee Chair Oscar Horton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Chair Horton asked Kiara Gayle to call the roll.

**Kiara Gayle called the roll**

Trustee Oscar Horton  
Trustee Cesar Esmeraldi  
Trustee Jennifer Jasinski Schneider  
Trustee Luran Monbarren  
Trustee Fredrick Piccolo  
Trustee Melissa Seixas

There were no public comments.

**New Business- Action Items**

**a. Approval of the Minutes**

February 21, 2023, and April 19, 2023, Minutes

Having no changes to the minutes, Chair Horton requested a motion for approval. The motion was given by Trustee Seixas, seconded by Trustee Monbarren and the minutes from February 21, 2023, and April 19, 2023, were approved.

**b. Faculty Nominations for Tenure**

Faculty nominees for tenure for review and approval by the USF Board of Trustees.

*Please refer to the BOT Website for the list of Faculty nominations for tenure, their rank, and departments.*

President Rhea Law has certified that the nominations for tenure have met the requirements and conditions contained in USF Regulations, Policies, and Procedures. She is satisfied that the nominees will make a significant professional contribution to USF and the academic community in general. If approved, tenure will be awarded effective August 7, 2023.

Interim Vice Provost Elizabeth Bell presented.

Interim Vice Provost Bell briefly described the long and vigorous review process of selecting faculty nominations for tenure.

Chair Horton asked if faculty members were ever denied tenure. The Chair also questioned if the process of nominating for tenure were similar at other universities.

The Interim Vice Provost commented that faculty members occasionally withdraw from nominations. It allows them the opportunity to reassess. The selection process is similar at most universities.

Trustee Monbarren had a question concerning faculty members who choose to withdraw from a nomination for tenure. Can they reapply for tenure at USF in the future? To withdraw from a nomination would be nonrenewable at USF. Faculty members would be eligible to reapply and go through the process at another university.

Trustee Jasinski Schneider commented on the advertisement for faculty positions at USF. In the description it's clear that the positions are tenure earning lines. We're looking for people who have teaching and research backgrounds. Faculty members who are hired must earn tenure by a certain time.

Trustee Esmeraldi had questions concerning faculty members who unsuccessfully go through the process.

Denials are mainly because faculty members didn't meet the expectations at the department level. Our expectations are very clear. The resources are there. Faculty members undergo constant evaluation.

Interim Vice Provost Bell announced the 25 faculty members nominated for tenure.  
*(Please refer to the BOT website)*

Chair Horton commented on the number of nominees listed this year and requested a motion to approve the faculty nominations for tenure. The motion was given by Trustee Jasinski Schneider and seconded by Trustee Monbarren. The list of faculty nominees for tenure was approved.

**c. Tenure as a Condition of Employment.**

Interim Vice Provost Elizabeth Bell and Sr. Associate Vice President Hayward Brown presented

In nominating these faculty members for tenure as a condition for employment, President Rhea Law certifies that the requirements and conditions contained in USF Regulations, Policies, and Procedures for granting tenure have been met. The President is satisfied that the Nominees will make a significant professional contribution to USF and the academic community.

Interim Vice Provost Bell presented 5 nominees from Academic Affairs.

Sr. Associate Vice President Hayward Brown presented 2 nominees from USF Health.

*Please refer to the BOT Website for the list of candidates nominated for Tenure upon hire as a Condition of Employment.*

Chair Horton commented on the high caliber of people who are hired at USF and had questions concerning the recruiting process.

Sr. Associate Vice President Brown commented on the recruitment cabinet that meet on a weekly basis, the Blue Ridge Ratings in Health Sciences. Vice President Brown commented that most faculty members who hold leadership positions already know about the talent that's available in the country. There are also other advertising strategies used for recruiting purposes.

Interim Provost Bell commented on recruitment strategies in Academic Affairs. They initiate through word of mouth by reaching out to colleagues at other universities. We recruit at a discipline level, to post doctorates. We get the word out at conventions and advertise through several digital formats.

Chair Horton had a question concerning pay, and how it ties in with recruiting strategies.

Discussing pay is where the challenge steps in.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve the 7 nominees selected for Tenure as a Condition of Employment. The motion was given by Trustee Jasinski Schneider and seconded by Trustee Seixas. The motion was approved.

**d. UMatter Continuation Grant**

USF Regional Chancellor Christian Hardigree and Exceptional Student Education, Principal Investigator of U Matter, Professor Lyman Dukes III presented.

The U Matter program was launched in 2020 on the USF St. Petersburg campus with a \$900,000 grant from the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities. This is supported through the College of Education. This program allows those with different intellectual abilities to attend freshman and sophomore level courses and live on campus to get the on-campus housing experience and to have a traditional college life experience. The program helps with life skills to gain meaningful employment and live independently.

In 2021 Eileen and Andy Hafer donated \$1.2 Million to the U Matter

requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Seixas, seconded by Trustee Jasinski Schneider and the U Matter continued grant was approved.

e. **2020-2030 Master Plan Update**

Vice President Carole Post presented.

- 2020-2030 USF Campus Master Plans
- Next Steps

Trustee Piccolo questioned the status of the acquisition of property for Manatee County. President Law reported that there will be a hearing in June.

Trustee Seixas comments were regarding the Master Plan updates to the USFSP and USFSM campuses; Trustee Seixas would like to ensure that a representative from both campuses are involved in the discussions with the city.

Chancellor Hardigree reported that she is in communication with Vice President Post and is engaged in conversations as it relate to the Master Plan updates.

Regional Chancellor Karen Holbrook commented on another key representative from the USFSM campus. Assistant Vice Chancellor Casey Welch has also been instrumental in discussions and working with the Commission as well as President Law and members of the General Counsel's office. We're expecting more progress at the next County Commission meeting.

Chair Horton had questions concerning land acquisitions. When we seek to acquire land, is it available to us at market prices? He also had questions concerning the new USF Stadium and the parking at the stadium.

President Law acknowledged that the art of negotiations determines the price when acquiring land.

Vice President Post commented on the existing parking availability in proximity to where the new stadium will be. Parking will be fully assessable and accommodating in all ways that is required.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve the Master Plan Update. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Esmeraldi. The 2020-2030 Master Plan Update was approved.

**f. Supplemental Education Plant Survey for Nursing Expansion Projects**

Vice President Carole Post and Director of Campus Planning and Space Management Ray Gonzalez presented.

This project has been recommended based on the exception procedure in this Amended USF 2022 – 2027 Educational Plant Survey. This meets BOG requirements and is ready for BOT approval and adoption by the BOG.

A power point presentation was provided on the Supplemental Educational Plant Survey for Nursing Expansion Projects.

Director Ray Gonzalez provided a short power point presentation – *Amended Educational Plant Survey*. It highlighted the following:

- Purpose for this amended Educational Plant Survey
- Proposed Project Development

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve the Amended Supplemental Educational Plant Survey. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Esmeraldi. The Supplemental Educational Plant Survey was approved.

**g. BOG Regulations**

**i. New Regulation – Testing and Final Examinations**

Dr. Cindy DeLuca presented

As part of the USF's biennial review of all University regulations and policies, the following updates have been made for clarification purposes and to comply with the BOG Regulation 3.005, which requires each University to adopt a Regulation regarding testing and record keeping. Accordingly, the USF Policy is being brought forward as a USF Regulation.

**ii. Regulation 3.018 Admission to Baccalaureate Programs of University of South Florida**

Dr. Cindy Deluca Presented.

This regulation has been amended to adhere and more fully align with BOG Regulation 6.005, discontinuation of a program (INTO), and other technical regulation updates.

**iii. New Regulation – Educational Sites: Establishment, Reclassification, Relocation and Closure**

Vice Provost Theresa Chisolm presented.

This Regulation provides authority for administration related to the establishment, reclassification, relocation, and closure of educational sites. Pursuant to that BOG Regulation, all sites separate from the main campus including international sites, sites located in other states, the acquisition of real property, and the leasing of sites fall under this Regulation.





The Chair requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Esmeraldi. The Foreign Language Teacher Education-degree Program Termination was approved.

#### **IV. New Business – Information Items**

##### **a. NCAA Rules Education**

Sr. Associate Director Brendan Armitage presented. Talking points were provided on *NCAA Compliance Education*. *The following topics were discussed.*

- Booster / Representative of Athletic Interest
- NCAA's Definition of a Representative of Athletic Interest (booster)
- Definition of a Prospective Student-Athlete (PSA)
- Who is permitted to Recruit PSAs to USF for Varsity Athletics Participation?
- Permissible vs. Non Permissible Booster Activities
- Compliance Assistance

Chair Horton had questions concerning staff recruiting and Trustee interactions with student athletes who are already on campus and pre-established relationships with student athletes.

Director Armitage explained that interactions are allowed, however there are forms that the Compliance Office must monitor.

Trustee Jasinski Schneider commented on potential student athletes who are in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above. She also had comments on NCAA violations.

Having no further questions, Chair Horton thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the ACE Committee meeting.