

USF Board of Trustees  
ACE Committee  
Microsoft Teams Meeting  
November 25, 2024

MINUTES

ACE Committee Chair Oscar Horton welcomed everyone and convened the meeting.

Chair Horton asked Brittany Dix to call the Roll.

Trustee Suryakanth Gottipati

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researcher. His research focuses on neurological disorders and aging, statistical genetics, clinical trial design and simultaneous statistical inference and data privacy technologies. He meets all of our qualifications for tenure at the rank of Professor.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Simmons and approved.

Vice Provost Terry Chisolm presented:

The State University System, Board of Governors Regulation 8.014 states that if we want to have a bachelor's degree that is more than 120 credit hours, we need to bring this to the Board of Trustees. This can happen when we have specialized accreditation standards or state or federally mandated criteria for professional licensing. This can occur in some of the teaching areas which may be required to provide all the information, knowledge and skills which a student needs.

Vice Provost Chisolm explained that through a vigorous review of the curriculum it is possible that it no longer needed to be at an approved level. This is the case with Civil Engineering where it can decrease the required credit hours from 131 to 128 after consultation with the faculty and advisory board members. The ABET standards were also reviewed before this decision was made.

There are 4 programs that are currently greater than 120 and they are all in the College of Engineering which makes sense since engineering programs are very intense. Making this change would also put us in alignment with undergraduate civil engineering programs in the SUS: FSU, UCF & UF.

Chair Horton commented that he was unaware of any other cases where we reduced the number of credit hours. Dean Sanjukta Bhanja shared that Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering had their credit hours reduced some time back. Dr. Chisolm explained that this had been done prior to the change in the BOG regulation where our BOT had to approve the credit hour reduction.

Trustee Simmons commented on the importance of maintaining rigorous training for engineers and supported the change.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve. The motion was given by Trustee Gottipati and seconded by Trustee Simmons and approved.

Vice President Carole Post and Program Director Daniel Gessman presented on the University GIS/Mapping Applications. This application is a roadmap for facilities management, and it highlighted the use of GIS for campus planning and emergency management. Daniel Gessman



