



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Chairs and Directors Regular Meeting
May 5, 2021, 1pm, Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance

Dean's Office: S. Cruz, M. Dagley, E. Del Barco, R. Caldwell, T. Dorman, T. Dupras, K. Matta, D. Orchard, J. Steele, L. von Kalm,

Chairs: F. Jentsch, X. Li, E. Mucciolo, L. Mustaine, J. Schultz, C. Yestrebky, S. Zhang, M. Neider, G. Worthy

Directors: D. Beidel, P. Bohlen, K. Hamann, B. Lindsley, J. Bacchus, R. Littlefield, Mary Williams (For M. Sigman)

• **Legislative Budget Decisions**

Dupras

- The good news – If signed off on by Governor DeSantis - 6% of general revenue “held back” by the state at the start of the fiscal year will be returned to the university.
- There is potential opportunity for the President’s Strategic Initiative Fund.
- Two of the big areas discussed were graduate stipends and number of tuition waivers. These issues are problematic university wide. Dr. Liz Klonoff is aware of the concerns and we will work with her to bring forward.
- There are a couple of laws which may have some impact on UCF:
 - BOGO – For students enrolled in one of the strategic courses (in the programs adopted by the BOG), the university must waive 100% of the tuition and fees for an equivalent course.
 - Grandparent Waiver – Will allow students from out-of-state who have a grandparent who is a legal resident of the State of Florida, to pay in-state tuition and fees.
- Janet Owen keeps us informed regarding updates from Tallahassee. The Dean will pass along.
- One of the items discussed was the Dashboard that the BOG is expected to put out soon. Some of the criteria will include: graduation, jobs, mean salary, etc. The university will be waiting for direction from the BOG. It was mentioned that the university has had considerable difficulties trying to track alumni.
- Dr. Jentsch initiated discussion on the potential impact of the amendment added to HB 845 that, “state funds may not be used to join or maintain membership in an association” which has boycotted meeting in the State of Florida. Would this apply to our institutional membership or individuals? How will this impact faculty? Which funds can be used, and which cannot? How do we define? Will it impact registration fees as opposed to membership? Will follow up with Janet Owen. Will need to decide quickly before memberships are paid.

- Dr. Littlefield pointed out that most organizations plan years ahead. They move meetings and conferences around the country. It is going to be a complex process to track unless the organizations are vocal about boycotting Florida. APSA had a public debate about boycotting Super DOMA states a few years back.

- **Governor's Executive Order**

Dupras

- Governor DeSantis signed a bill suspending COVID-19 emergency orders, thereby lifting mask mandates, social distancing etc.
- UCF administration is currently following up on how the SUS system will assess the Executive Order.
- There may be changes on campus as a result.
- Discussion about the question of when staff should come back. The administration working on date close to Summer B for staff to come back to campus– particularly support staff working with students. Should hear from the administration in the next few weeks.
- Encouraged to make plans with staff to return July 1.
- Logistics discussed about removing plexi-glass, hand sanitizers. Keep for now. Still want to follow CDC guidelines as best we can.
- Currently working on hybrid model for the return of COSAS staff to broaden services to students including extending hours to evening. Returning gives us the opportunity to examine valid reasons to change service if beneficial to students.
- If staff members need accommodation, the conversation will be individual - with permissions to work remotely as we did before pandemic.
- Seresa reported that the Research Office has asked staff to return to campus June 28.
- The Dean and Seresa will try to get answers as soon as possible with hopes that a campus wide message will come soon.
- Melissa Dagley asked about the possibility of using COVID funds to pay for smaller plexi-glass screens in smaller offices if staff must return full-time. Seresa will follow up but it is possible that the Executive Order will change that.

- **Advancement Progress**

Orchard

- COS is at 54% of goal. Given that there has been so much team transition, this is good.
- Working to close out this year and begin work on next.

- **Website Update**

Orchard

- At beginning of Fall, Foundation is rolling out a new web platform.
- Will then move on to colleges and units. Have requested COS be first.
- The system will be a much more direct way for alumni and donors to give to their departments directly. There will be a 'Give Now' on main COS site and on each department page. There will be a drop down for each area. Requested that Chairs and Directors think about what they want on drop down.
- Discussion took place about the drop down and Give Now page links.
- Can have a vanity name.
- Chair and Director input will be solicited.

- **General Discussion**

- Dr. Dorman reported that UCFIT will be sending out an email soon to acknowledge that some instructors have been erroneously removed from the ability to assign grades.
- IT is working on fixing and will let college know when fixed.

- Dr. Hamann asked about the new MOU relating to COVID restrictions and how this will affect faculty evaluations, applying for tenure and applying for a COVID extension, as well as time sensitive annual reports.
- The Dean indicated that she would check on this and share information as soon as possible.

- Dr. Hamann reported on terrific students – Ph.D. Post Docs going to MIT and other top institutions.
- Asked about GTA extensions for summer. They are due Friday and do not know what to tell students. Seresa indicated that she was attending meeting today where this would be discussed, and she would report back.

- Dr. Littlefield asked if anyone could mentor him in assisting Post Docs since this was his first experience with the process. Dr. Mucciolo is happy to help.

- Dr. Jentsch asked about make-up, in-person graduation ceremonies. Nothing has been shared yet. Perhaps in Summer since this is a smaller ceremony.

Meeting Adjourned 1:55pm

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie LeClair

Reminders

Chair/Director **ONLY**

May 12| 21, 1pm, Zoom

Chairs/Directors **REGULAR**

June 2, 1pm, Zoom