

**University of North Florida
Educational Policy Committee
March 15, 2007**

Minutes

Committee Members Present: Mr. Luther Coggin, Ms. Toni Crawford, Mr. Wilfredo Gonzalez, Dr. William Klostermeyer, Ms. Joan Newton

Committee Members Absent: Ms. Ann Hicks

Item 1: Call to Order. Vice Chair Crawford called the meeting to order.

Item 2: Approval of the Minutes, December 13, 2006. Vice Chair Crawford asked for a motion to approve the minutes for December 13, 2006. The motion was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

Item 3: Open Comments. There were no comments from the public.

Item 4: Bachelor of Science in Sign Language Interpreting. Vice Chair Crawford asked Provost Workman to speak about this item.

Provost Workman stated that approval was being sought for this new program, which would be the second of such program in the State of Florida. There were three such programs in the southeast and 16 in the United States.

Provost Workman presented justification for the new program, stating that there was anticipation that new licensing requirements would require a bachelor's degree and approval of this program would put UNF ahead of the curve. He said that UNF would build on existing strengths within the department.

Provost Workman discussed possibilities for the future of the program, stating that it was currently integrated with a two-year program at community colleges and had the potential to integrate with the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind. This would provide internship opportunities for students.

Provost Workman said that this program was consistent with UNF's mission – to serve the needs of the public and the region. He said that this program particularly demonstrated all of the positive aspects in other language studies programs, by focusing on the culture of speakers of the language and on the language itself.

Trustee Klostermeyer asked if there would be a role for the graduates from this program in K-12. Provost Workman stated that K-12 would be the largest employer of these graduates and internships would also be provided to these students.

Trustee Crawford asked about licensure – would this be similar to nursing. Provost Workman stated that licensure for this program would require a state board exam. He also stated that 17 states already required a license to work in the field.

Vice Chair Crawford asked for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Science in Sign Language Interpreting. The motion was offered, seconded and approved unanimously. This program will be presented to the Board for approval at their April 26th meeting.

Item 5: Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Sciences. Vice Chair Crawford asked Ms. Shawn Brayton, Assistant Director in Academic Affairs, to speak about this item.

Ms. Brayton stated that UNF was seeking approval to terminate a degree program. This program was a legacy program from the early 1970's and UNF now had majors to provide the depth that the interdisciplinary program did not provide. She said that this action had been approved through the departments and the Faculty Association.

Ms. Brayton stated that currently there were seven students in the program and these students would be moved into biology, chemistry or physics - one student close to graduation would be allowed to graduate in the program

Trustee Gonzalez asked if there were any issues with the union. Dr. Dale Clifford, Acting Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, stated that there were no faculty dedicated to this program.

Chair Taylor commended UNF for this action, stating that so often institutions created new programs without objectively and critically reviewing the programs in place.

Vice Chair Crawford asked for a motion to approve the termination of the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Sciences. The motion was offered, seconded and approved unanimously - this program will be presented to the Board for approval at their April 26th meeting.

Item 6: Update on UNF's Flagship Programs. Vice Chair Crawford asked Provost Workman to speak about this item.

Provost Workman stated that questions were raised at an earlier Board meeting about the state of the flagship initiative. He provided the committee with a document and stated that he would start with general observations about the program.

Provost Workman spoke about the inception of flagship programs at UNF, stating that there was much skepticism but it had proven to be a very smart move by creating a tradition of opportunity for program growth. He spoke about these opportunities, stating that flagship programs had made UNF's topography more complex and generated real advances in certain areas of the University, with all areas ultimately benefiting.

Provost Workman talked about how flagship programs were named, stating that the University currently had four flagship programs which had all been reviewed by a flagship program committee. He spoke about this committee, stating that its members were wise enough to recognize the lack of sufficient diversity, in terms of academic expertise, and had sought to add five new members. The University had asked the committee to remain in tact to provide continuity as the initiative develops, further defining criteria for selection as well as criteria to judge success.

Provost Workman discussed the initiative's history, stating that in the first year there were 15 proposals for flagship status, representing all areas of academic programs, with the Community-Based Nursing Program being chosen in 2005. In the second year, nine proposals were submitted,

including some from the first year. The Coastal Biology Program, the International Business Program and the Transportation and Logistic Program were selected in 2006. He stated that in the third year, there were three proposals submitted – a real diminution in the numbers received. The committee had not completed their review of these proposals and it was not determined if they would recommend one or more programs for flagship status. They also might recommend none of the proposals, which would be acceptable.

Provost Workman spoke about the future of the flagship initiative, stating that the intention was to pause after this year and take stock before we venture forward. He stated that if the University deemed it appropriate to rethink its strategy for the selection of programs, they would do so.

Provost Workman further discussed the future of the initiative, stating that every flagship program would package an annual report and present this to the flagship committee, and based on that report, the committee would use this information to create a synopsis to determine criteria for subsequent programs.

Provost Workman provided a summary of the progress of the Community-Based Nursing Program. There was evidence of an immediate impact on student learning, including student engagement and interaction in the community. Faculty had been freed up by funding from the program and had devoted attention to these students. Attention was being paid to how to measure the impact of the program on community health and also on student learning. There was little evidence of the faculty scholarship that the University had hoped to see emerge as a result of the flagship program.

Provost Workman asked Dean Chally to provide further information about the Community-Based Nursing Program. Dean Chally stated that it was an extreme honor for the College of Health to receive flagship status for this program, but was also an extreme responsibility. She stated that the program was not satisfied with the scholarship aspect but was delighted with the student engagement and interaction with the community, both of which included measurements with validation.

Dean Chally spoke about other benefits of the program, naming scholarship as a primary side benefit. She stated that the scholarship money awarded, as a direct relationship to the attention received by being the first flagship program, was over \$1 million, which was matched at certain levels. She stated that it was clear to all nursing faculty that the college needed to keep working hard to accomplish their objectives.

Dean Chally spoke about other outcomes, stating that the hiring of nursing faculty at the associate professor level was yet to be accomplished, which was attributable to the lack of nursing faculty across the country.

She talked about scholarship, stating that faculty had worked with a consultant who was gifted in writing and, as a result, there were many submissions with several being accepted for publication. Plans were for publications to be stronger next year.

Provost Workman spoke about the other flagship programs, stating that the International Business Program was getting stronger as a result of flagship funding. In January, UNF hosted another international conference in collaboration with The University of Warsaw, which included 12 other nations. This conference had grown in scope, resulting in faculty recruitment from abroad and enriching the texture of education.

Provost Workman asked Dr. Butler, Chair of the Biology Department, to speak about the Coastal Biology Program. Dr. Butler stated that the faculty of this program were very appreciative of the flagship status. He stated that this status had helped with cohesiveness within the department, as well as throughout the College of Arts and Sciences (COAS). Dr. Butler spoke about the future of the program, stating that plans were to hire a director and another full professor.

Trustee Coggin offered insight about the Transportation and Logistic Program, stating that there was much excitement in the community about this program.

Chair Taylor stated that UNF's flagship programs were fantastic and were going to be a wonderful keystone to what UNF was trying to achieve. He spoke about the future of the programs, stating that the University should be mindful and continue debate about how many flagship programs the institution should have.

Trustee Crawford stated that the University should not dilute what a flagship program stands for because these programs would define the institution.

Chair Taylor stated that it might be reasonable to charge the flagship committee with some realistic intervals to review each program to determine if it merited continuous support, and at the same time, allowing the program time to germinate and blossom. Provost Workman stated that the University intended to review each program within the first five years. President Delaney stated that the Board would be informed about the existing flagship programs yearly.

Item 7: Adjournment. Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting.