

**University of North Florida  
Educational Policy Committee  
March 12, 2008**

**Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Edythe Abdullah, Mr. Luther Coggin, Ms. Toni Crawford, Mr. Wilfredo Gonzalez, Mrs. Ann Hicks, Dr. William Klostermeyer, Ms. Joan Newton, Dr. Bruce Taylor

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Item 1: Call to Order.** With a quorum being present, Chair Hicks called the meeting to order.

**Item 2: Approval of the Minutes.** Chair Hicks asked for a MOTION to approve the minutes for September 20, 2007. The MOTION was offered, seconded and passed.

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

**Item 4: University of North Florida Board of Trustees – United Faculty of Florida 2007 Supplement to the 2004-2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement.** Chair Hicks asked Dr. Joann Campbell, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, to present this item.

Dr. Campbell noted that there was a typo in Article 11, line 2, whereby the word *announced* should be changed to *unannounced*. The record reflected this error. The administration agreed to make appropriate changes.

Dr. Campbell explained that many of the changes to the supplemental agreement were made to clarify existing language. She provided highlights, noting that all changes were in keeping with the nature of the agreement and, therefore, non-substantive.

Dr. Campbell verified that the agreement was overwhelmingly ratified by faculty and the administration agreed that the University's position was improved by these changes.

Trustees discussed Article 11, Nondiscrimination, speaking about concerns regarding unannounced visits to the classroom. Additional discussion addressed Article 19, Tenure, and the need to further clarify exceptional teaching and scholarship. The administration acknowledged trustees concerns and responded that these issues would be considered during upcoming bargaining sessions.

Chair Hicks asked for a MOTION to approve the supplement to the collective bargaining agreement. The MOTION was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

**Item 5: UNF Reads! Program.** Chair Hicks asked Provost Workman to speak about this item.

Provost Workman stated that this program was introduced by the Undergraduate Studies Council and adopted as a reading program to help freshmen transition into college. He introduced Dr. David Jaffee, Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies, and asked him to speak about this program.

Dr. Jaffee stated that the Undergraduate Studies Council, in collaboration with the General Education Counsel, had chosen the book, *Freakonomics*. Dr. Jaffee stated that this selection fit the criteria set by the selection committee and was chosen because it asked questions, based on economic logic, about social life and human behavior.

Dr. Jaffee explained that all freshmen attending orientation for the fall 2008 semester would receive a free copy of *Freakonomics*. He noted that handing out the book would be prefaced by faculty advisors who would provide information on upcoming discussions.

Additional discussions clarified that the intent of this program was to create a sense of community with the freshman class and to fulfill the mission of the University. Trustees stated that, in the future, this program might be expanded to include all four years, and include regional libraries.

This item was for discussion only. There was no further action required.

**Item 6: Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA).** Chair Hicks asked Provost Workman to speak about this item.

Provost Workman stated that the VSA project was a collaborative effort among the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), and the public higher education community. He stated that the institutions who were members of the organization generated 70 percent of all bachelor's degrees in the U.S. every year.

Provost Workman outlined the goals of the VSA as follows:

- provide consistent, comparable, transparent information for higher education stakeholders;
- aid students and families in college choice process; and
- demonstrate greater institutional accountability for student learning and development.

Provost Workman noted that UNF had decided to participate in the VSA because it was an initiative designed to demonstrate accountability and stewardship to the public; measure educational outcomes to identify effective educational practices; and assemble information that would be accessible, understandable, and comparable.

Provost Workman discussed the benefits UNF might receive from the VSA project. He stated that collected data would provide information on the cost of education, retention, financial aid, student profile, areas of study, range of programs, student/faculty ratios, safety records, etc. Provost Workman felt that the VSA project would be a very useful instrument and had received credibility across the nation.

This item was presented for discussion only. There was no further action required.

**Item 7: Admissions Regulations.** Chair Hicks asked Vice President and General Counsel Stone to present this item.

Vice President Stone stated that the administration was requesting that the Board repeal old Admissions regulations and approve new regulations that were current and consistent with the

BOG's regulations. She asked Ms. Deb Kay, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services, and Mr. John Yancey, Director of Admissions, to provide further information.

Mr. Yancey stated that the administration had reviewed all of Admissions' rules and the State statutes and had developed a set of regulations that were consistent with the BOG and specific to UNF. He noted that there were no significant changes and the regulations being presented for review and approval were in compliance with the State statutes and the BOG's standards.

Trustees asked for clarity on student athletes. The administration responded that student athletes were not exempt from these regulations. Further information was requested on admitting transfer students from local community colleges. The administration responded that the admission of Associate in Arts degree graduates from Florida Community College would be governed by the articulation agreement between the state universities and public junior colleges of Florida.

Trustee Abdullah asked for clarification on transfer students from FCCJ with Associate in Science degrees, specifically in business administration. She referenced the regulation under review addressing this issue and asked that the administration add specific language regarding the articulation agreement between UNF and FCCJ that integrated this degree. The administration agreed to incorporate the language.

Chair Hicks asked for a MOTION to approve the Admissions regulations. The MOTION was offered, with the understanding that additional language would be added to address the Associate in Science degree articulation agreement. The MOTION was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

**Item 8: Student Loan Practices Code of Conduct Policy.** Chair Hicks asked Vice President and General Counsel Stone to speak about this item.

Vice President Stone mentioned that this was a state-wide priority and in response to the BOG's recommendation for a set of standards to secure and process college loans. She stated that the policy being reviewed was the result of UNF's effort to put these standards in place.

Vice President Stone noted that the administration had reviewed the process in place and found no major issues or practices that needed changing, therefore the University was comfortable with current practices. She clarified that the BOG did want local boards to review and formally approve the policy.

Chair Hicks asked for a MOTION to approve the Student Loan Practices Code of Conduct Policy. The MOTION was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

**Item 9: Approval of Tenure by Reason of Appointment (Dr. Ronghua "John" Ouyang, Chair and Professor, Department of Childhood Education, College of Education and Human Services).** Notes included in Item 10.

**Item 10: Approval of Tenure by Reason of Appointment (Dr. Jeffrey Cornett, Department of Foundations and Secondary Education, College of Education and Human Services).** Chair Hicks asked Provost Workman to speak about items 9 and 10.

Provost Workman stated that Dr. Ouyang and Dr. Cornett had impressive credentials, including strong records of scholarship and positive records off administrative effectiveness. The candidates were coming as professors and chairs within the College of Education and Human Services. He noted that these candidates were people who could advance scholarly activity and the quality of teaching.

With no further discussion, Chair Hicks asked for a MOTION to approve tenure for Dr. Ronghua “John” Ouyang. The MOTION was offered, seconded and approved unanimously. She then asked for a MOTION to approve tenure for Dr. Jeffrey Cornett. The MOTION was offered, seconded and approved unanimously.

**Item 11: Adjournment.** With no other business arising, Chair Hicks adjourned the meeting.