# MINUTES

**Committee Members Present**Adam Hollingsworth, Wilfredo Gonzalez, Paul McElroy, Radha Pyati, Sharon Wamble-King, Kevin Hyde, Annie Egan

## Item 1: Call to Order

As chair, Trustee Hollingsworth called the meeting to order.

## Item 2: Approval of Minutes

Trustee Hyde made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2017 meeting and Trustee Gonzalez seconded the motion. All approved.

## **Item 3: Open Comments**

There were no requests to make comments.

## Item 4: New Program Proposal

Interim Provost Pam Chally introduced Dr. Lori Lange, chair of the department of Psychology to present the new program proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Neuroscience degree. Dr. Lange discussed the potential growth for this program and that it supports an Area of Strategic Emphasis as defined by the BOG. Students have requested this program and it should support the community, the region and increase UNF’s profile. It is a multi-disciplinary program including healthcare, biology, law, business and psychology. The program is modeled after the program (only other one in the SUS) offered at FAU. Questions included whether this program would be limited access and Dr. Lange responded that it will not be considered limited access initially but that might change depending on resources and demand. Currently we have enough faculty to offer this program without adding additional faculty. There will be a program coordinator and advising will be addressed by Biology and Psychology advisors.

Other questions related to whether our current Psychology students would simply transfer into this new program and Dr. Lange responded that currently 20% of our

Psychology majors have asked for this program. We would tap into that population which has been interested in BioPsych. Regarding career placement, Dr. Lange noted that there has already been interest in this program from Mayo. Students who are interested in med school will be attracted to this program.

A question about process and whether this program approval is just at the BOT level or whether the BOG needs to approve this program as well. Programs at the baccalaureate level do not get approved by the BOG.

The degree is scheduled to be offered in August, 2018.

Trustee Hyde made a motion to approve. Trustee Pyati seconded. Approval was unanimous.

## Item 5: Presentation on “RPG” (Retention, Progression, and Graduation) Efforts

Interim Provost Chally introduced the presentation by Drs. Patterson and Moon which was focused on informing the trustees of the efforts and strategies underway to increase RPG.

Dr. Patterson, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and AVP for Faculty Resources began her presentation as a follow-up from the January 2017 BOT meeting. She discussed the communication strategies we currently employ to reach out to students, particularly those at risk for failing. Efforts include changes to advising, early alert student, peer-tutoring, supplemental instruction. Dr. Patterson noted that importantly, we are providing a consistent level of advising through coordination and collaboration with all units.

Questions included the following:

When we say we communicate with students, is this verbal communication, email? Dr. Patterson noted communication takes any and all forms including emailing students.

Which students are required to see an advisor when we indicate they are “mandated”? Kellie Woodle, Director of the Center for Academic Success indicated that first year students are required to attend advising sessions.

What happens with students who do not reach the 2.0 GPA threshold? We implement tutoring for those students. Who needs to know about mid-term grades? Ms. Woodle responded that once a mid-term grade is entered, it initiates a communication flow to notify a student’s advisor. We also encourage students to attend office hours and we have noted an increase in a student’s GPA when they attend a faculty member’s office hours.

There was discussion on what occurs for students who do not have a faculty member using the mid-term grading system. Trustee Pyati explained that there are many ways for student grades to be communicated and this is only one system. The increase in faculty participation is a result largely of moving from a freshmen only system to availability for all students.

Demonstration of the positive results from supplemental instruction was presented. There was discussion about self-selection of students who participate in supplemental instruction and Dr. Moon noted that when we studied the impact of supplemental instruction, we controlled for self-selection. In terms of faculty participation in establishing supplemental instruction for classes with high DFW rates,

Dr. Moon noted we are working with our deans and chairs to encourage more use of this initiative as well as all strategies in our toolbox.

Dr. Moon (Associate VP for Budgets and Personnel) presented on the allocation of resources and the focus on data-driven decision-making. He noted how we are really using data to take a critical view of what efforts we need to step up and what efforts have less impact and we should discontinue. We are in effect, changing our business practices and while some of the AA budget is set and not available for reallocating (eg: promotional increases), some percentage of the budget where we have flexibility, we are looking at reallocation. This redirection of resources tends to be in the areas of

retention and graduation and support for student success (supplemental instruction, placement testing, 1st year seminars, software upgrades). Reallocation of resources to these areas should increase production and be sustainable.

Interim Provost Chally presented current efforts out of the Provost’s office to create more participation and engagement with faculty. Regular conversations with deans

and chairs have focused on how to increase use of these initiatives to achieve greater student success. One idea that Dr. Chally will follow-up on is the idea of a “winter session” in order to increase our metric on progress to graduation. Adding an additional “mini” semester to a student’s graduation plan might be effective in improving this metric.

This item was information only. No approval necessary.

## **Item 6:** Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.