# MINUTES

Trustees PresentAnnie Egan (Vice Chair), David Fenner, Wilfredo Gonzalez, Kevin Hyde, Stephen Joost

## Trustee Absent (Excused):

Adam Hollingsworth

Vice Chair Egan opened the meeting at 1:10 p.m. She called for any public comments. As there were none, Vice Chair Egan directed the Committee to the consent agenda. There being no questions regarding the consent agenda, Trustee Gonzalez made a MOTION to approve the consent agenda, and Trustee Joost SECONDED. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

Vice Chair Egan turned the meeting over to Dr. Simon Rhodes, UNF Provost. Dr. Rhodes addressed the Committee and spoke about a new program proposal for a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and Digital Media (Agenda Item 4) and explained that the University currently offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a concentration in Graphic Design and Digital Media. Students would gain knowledge and skills, from the proposed program, in print, web and motion graphics and could use them in research, process, technology, typography and layout in Graphic Design. Total credit hours would remain at 120. The Provost relayed that graduates would be able to find employment opportunities in web/mobile design and motion and print design. He confirmed that the proposed program would be considered a Program of Strategic Emphasis, within Critical Workforce-Gap Analysis category, as outlined in the SUS Strategic Plan. He also stated that he had reviewed the proposal and recommends that the Committee approve it. Trustee Gonzalez made a MOTION to approve, and Trustee Joost SECONDED. The proposal was approved unanimously.

As the program proposal to create a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and Digital Media had been approved, the Provost spoke to the Committee about the request to make the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and Digital Media degree program a limited access program (Agenda Item 5). The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program with a concentration in Graphic Design and Digital Media had been a limited access program. The Provost explained that there are a number of reasons why the University seeks limited access for certain programs. He stated that UNF seeks limited access for the program, in accordance with the Florida Board of Governors Regulations 6.001 (on general admissions) and 8.013 (on limited access) for the following reasons:

* the program is limited by space and instructional equipment;
* it is required that the students develop a baseline skillset, and portfolio reviews are used to determine student competency in that skillset;
* there is a minimum requirement of a 2.75 GPA for students applying to the program and they must demonstrate a certain level of competency in their overall academic performance.

The Provost confirmed he had reviewed this request to make the new Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and Digital Media a limited access program and recommends that the Committee approve the request. Trustee Joost made a MOTION to approve the limited access request, and Trustee Hyde SECONDED. The request for limited access was approved unanimously.

The Provost, then, spoke to the Committee about the new program proposal for a Doctorate of Education degree program in Curriculum and Instruction (Agenda Item 6). The proposed program would fill a need in the Northeast Florida region by preparing PK-12 administrators and teachers with the advanced knowledge and skills in curriculum and instruction necessary for work and leadership roles in PK-12 school systems. He stated that it would require 60 graduate credits, after the master’s degree and that students would be able to find employment as curriculum and instructional professionals in their schools and districts. The Provost confirmed the program would be considered a Program of Strategic Emphasis, within the Critical Workforce-Education category, as outlined in the SUS Strategic Plan. He also confirmed that he had reviewed the proposal and recommends that the Committee approve it. Trustee Gonzalez made a MOTION to approve the program and Trustee Egan SECONDED. The program was approved unanimously.

The Provost addressed the Committee about the final, new, proposed program – a Master of Science in Construction Management (Agenda Item 7) degree program. He shared that, in this program, students would deepen their understanding and skills in construction management. He relayed that the degree would require 30 graduate credit hours and would prepare students for employment opportunities in construction management of single and multi-family residential structures, civil and transportation projects and multiple other areas in construction management. The program would be considered a Program of Strategic Emphasis, as outlined in the SUS Strategic Plan, under the Economic Development – STEM Category. The Provost confirmed he had reviewed the program proposal and recommends to the Committee that they approve the program. Trustee Hyde made a MOTION to approve and Trustee Joost SECONDED. The program proposal was approved unanimously.

The Provost moved to Agenda Item 9 – Academic Departmental Guidelines. He reminded the Committee that, per the UNF BOT-UFF Collective Agreement, academic departments may develop guidelines with regard to faculty annual performance evaluations, tenure and promotions. The Provost referred to the guidelines developed for Art and Design, Psychology, Public Health and Health Administration, which were ratified by UNF-UFF at its November 19, 2019 meeting. The Provost confirmed he had reviewed the guidelines and recommends that the Committee approve them. Trustee Joost made a MOTION to approve and Trustee Gonzalez SECONDED. The guidelines were approved unanimously.

Vice Chair Egan asked the Provost to speak to the Committee about the request for approval of tenure, as condition of appointment, for Dr. Pamela Williamson, Chair of the Department of Exceptional, Deaf and Interpreter Education (Agenda Item 8). The Provost invited Dr. Diane Yendol-Hoppey, Dean of the College of Education, to address the Committee. Dean Yendol-Hoppey stressed that, given Dr. Williamson’s leadership in the field, she expects that UNF will see a growth in enrollment in the Department’s programs. She added that Dr. Williamson comes to UNF from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, after having served as the Director of Graduate Studies and the doctoral program. Dean Yendol-Hoppey also highlighted that Dr. Williamson was named a Provost Fellow at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and an “Outstanding Educator” by Cincy Magazine. She relayed that faculty in the Department had voted to support the request for Dr. Williamson’s tenure upon appointment. The Provost confirmed that he and the President had reviewed the request and that they both recommend that the Committee approve the request. Trustee Gonzalez made a MOTION to approve the request, and Trustee Joost SECONDED. The request was approved unanimously.

Vice Chair Egan invited Dr. David Fenner, UNF Trustee and President of the UNF Faculty Association, to speak to the Committee about recent Faculty Association activities that support excellence in teaching. Dr. Fenner referred to one of the principles – innovation – in the UNF 2020 - 2025 Strategic Plan, and to the President’s mention of Dr. Jason Haraldsen’s work with students and the Los Alamos National Lab. Dr. Fenner emphasized that at least 90% of UNF Faculty have stories such as these, and it is important to share such stories with the UNF community and beyond. He remarked on how important it is to focus attention on what is of central importance to UNF’s success as an educational enterprise: our faculty, our programs, and our courses. He made special mention of the importance of our General Education program and how it is crucial that students approach every course they take at UNF – including each course they take in its General Education program – with full and equal enthusiasm, seeing the value in each. Dr. Fenner thanked Trustee Egan for her generosity in hosting dinners for faculty at her home, during which faculty have the ability to interact with a Trustee. Trustee McElroy stated that he appreciates opportunities to interact directly with faculty. He expressed that, through those opportunities he has participated in, he has found the UNF Faculty to be passionate about the University’s mission. Dr. Fenner reminded the Committee that Chair Hyde had started an initiative in 2019 through which faculty and Trustees participate in one-on-one lunches. He relayed that faculty have enjoyed and valued those discussions for the reasons Trustee McElroy stated.

Dr. Fenner relayed that the Faculty Association and UNF-UFF had recently jointly conducted a campus survey on Faculty Life and Job Satisfaction (during fall 2019) and that they will share the results of the survey soon. He reported that the *Bureaucracy Task Force* is working to identify several functional areas on campus that can work together to streamline processes and reduce unnecessary levels of bureaucracy. Dr. Fenner concluded his update. Vice Chair Egan, then, asked Mr. John Aloszka, UNF Trustee and Student Body President, to provide an update on student activities since the Board’s October 17, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Aloszka relayed that he and Ms. Nat Costello, UNF Student Body Vice President, had spoken recently at the National Campus Leadership Council meeting at Ohio State University. The purpose of their presentation was to share their experiences with establishing new campus initiatives (which resulted in expanding resources for the student body). Ms. Costello and he spoke of the UNF Student Government’s work to reduce student food insecurity and increase accessibility and awareness of UNF’s Lend-a-Wing food pantry. The students’ efforts resulted in a 40% increase in student usage of the pantry and a doubling of donations.

Mr. Aloszka also spoke of the student government’s work with Associate Provost Dan Moon on the *A Healthy Osprey Initiative.* (Associate Provost Moon would share a presentation on the Initiative, later, in the meeting.) Mr. Aloszka described the Student Government’s work with the Dean of Students to create an interactive canvas page for student resources. The page makes campus resources for students easier to find. With regard to developing its budget for the next year, Mr. Aloszka, relayed that priorities for the Student Government included increasing funding for involvement, increasing student employment, increasing minimum wage for students, and reducing administrative costs. Mr. Aloszka concluded by highlighting the following upcoming campus events: January 22, 2020 “Mental Health Market Day” and the February 18 opening of the Student Involvement Center. He shared that, as April 3, 2020 will be his last day in office, the March 12 Board meeting will be his last and that he will bring the next UNF Student Body President to the meeting. Vice Chair Egan thanked Mr. Aloszka for not only his presentation, but also his service on the UNF Board of Trustees. The other Trustees expressed their thanks for his contributions while serving on the Board.

Vice Chair Egan invited the Provost to provide an update on campus student wellness and mental health initiatives. Associate Provost Moon spoke about the initiatives. The Associate Provost began by stressing that these initiatives were a priority for President Szymanski, himself, the Provost, Mr. Richmond Wynn, Director of the UNF Counseling Center, and the UNF community at large. Dr. Moon underscored that 86% of students experience some difficulty with a mental health issue during their time in college and that 64% of students, who do not return to college, do not return due to a mental health issue. He furthered that, of the percentage of students who do not return due to a mental health issue, 57% never seek assistance from their institution. He highlighted the relationship of the availability of campus mental health services and retention.

Dr. Moon relayed that the *A Healthy Osprey* *Initiative* has been a combined effort, involving the administration, the faculty and students. He thanked Dr. Fenner and Mr. Aloszka for their dedication and many contributions to the Initiative. Dr. Moon emphasized that the overall Initiative includes multiple layers of support for students, proactive efforts to reach and connect with them, and positive programming. Dr. Moon spoke of the recent launch of mental health awareness training for faculty and staff, and shared that it is a type of “mental health" first aid training, developed in partnership with mental health experts in Northeast Florida and designed to help faculty and staff have conversations with students and support and build student resiliency.

Dr. Moon spoke of UNF’s new and established initiatives and its work to support a culture of student health and wellness. He acknowledged Dr. Carlene Taylor’s invaluable participation, stating that she was responsible for conceptualizing the *Prevention, Early-intervention, Resiliency through Counseling &* *Holistic Health (PERCH)* program and that she was an integral part of developing the *A Healthy Osprey* initiative. He relayed that UNF has continued to utilize the *Beginning College Survey of Student* *Engagement (BCSSE*) survey, which asks incoming first-year students about their academic and co-curricular experiences in high school and their expectations for the first year of college. Vice President Coleman added that UNF piloted the BCSSE two summers ago, and that during this past summer, 43% of our incoming freshmen completed the survey. He shared that UNF is evaluating mechanisms to push the response rate much closer to 100% in summer 2020. Dr. Coleman added that we will be able to combine the data from the BCSSE with other data for the same students to help us better analyze and predict student success. He stressed that this may prove to be UNF’s richest set of data yet.

Associate Provost Moon also spoke of the Rise Above resiliency online toolkit, which includes an array of student resources to build resiliency and of changes to the UNF Counseling Center, and introduced the new Director and Associate Professor, Dr. Richmond Wynn, who formerly directed the UNF Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program.

Dr. Wynn thanked Dr. Moon and spoke of the Center’s work to assess its service delivery model. The Center found that it had previously used a “one size fits all” model, which it concluded did not best meet the differing needs of students. It now offers many ways to support students, including individual counseling, psychotherapy groups, psychoeducational support groups and an open art therapy studio. He relayed that the Center also offers two internship programs – the Doctoral Internship in Psychology and the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Internship.

President Szymanski thanked Dr. Wynn for all of his hard work. Vice Chair Egan inquired about ways that UNF reaches students who need help, but don’t seek it. Dr. Wynn referenced the PERCH program, that had been mentioned earlier, as an effective tool to reach students, where they live, work, and play, through other trained students. He further explained that PERCH is an implementation science research project housed in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) program in the Brooks College of Health (BCH), Department of Public Health. The program was developed to increase student access to mental health services. Dr. Wynn relayed that PERCH places CMHC and Social Work interns in locations throughout campus that are convenient to students (e.g. Athletics, RecWell, Housing and Residence Life). He added that here are currently 5 CMHC/1 Social Work interns and a half-time faculty coordinator to oversee the program and to provide intern supervision. Dr. Wynn, then, introduced Mr. Kellen Hill, a student, from the PERCH program and Ms. Mary Lynn Geier, a Resident Assistant (RA) who spoke of their work connecting with students through their roles. Vice Chair Egan thanked them for their service. As there was no further Committee business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.