# **MINUTES**

**Trustees Present**

Annie Egan (Chair), Alison Korman Shelton (Vice Chair), Selma Besirevic, Jill Davis, Stephen Joost, Christopher Lazzara, John White, Kevin Hyde (ex officio)

**Trustees Absent:** Jason Barrett (Excused)

**Guests:** Mr. Michael Mattimore, Ms. Ruth Lopez, Dr. Luisa Martinez Joyce

## Item 1 Call to Order

Chair Egan called the meeting to order.

## Item 2 Public Comment

Chair Egan offer those in attendance the opportunity for public comment. There were no requests for public comment.

## Item 3 Consent Agenda

## The Committee considered the consent agenda with the draft

## October 11, 2021 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes and the annual review of the Academic and Students Affairs Committee Charter. Trustee Joost made a MOTION to APPROVE the consent agenda, and Trustee White SECONDED. The Committee approved the consent agenda unanimously.

## Item 4 Approval of Academic Departmental Guidelines

Outside legal counsel, Michael Mattimore presented academic departmental guidelines for the Committee’s review and potential ratification. He reminded the Committee that Article 9 of the collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Trustees and the United Faculty of Florida allows for the departments to develop guidelines. The guidelines are intended to inform faculty and those who supervise faculty as to their expectations for performance evaluations, tenure, and promotion. Mr. Mattimore presented the following academic and departmental guidelines:

1. Promotion and Tenure Guidelines from the Departments of
2. Leadership, School Counseling and Sports Management
3. Criminology and Criminal Justice Department
4. Annual Review Guidelines from the Departments of
   * + 1. Criminology and Criminal Justice
       2. Nutrition and Dietetics

Mr. Mattimore confirmed that the Provost had reviewed the guidelines and determined that they are consistent with the mission and goals of the University. He shared that the guidelines had been submitted to the entire faculty within the collective bargaining unit and had been overwhelmingly approved.

Trustee Korman Shelton asked a question about the process – why the Board was considering guidelines for these departments and not all academic departments at this time. Trustee White relayed that each department had been charged by the collective bargaining agreement with developing criteria for identifying success in its academic discipline. He stated that the different departments have created those guidelines at different times, and after the guidelines are voted upon by the faculty in the collective bargaining unit, if approved, they are brought to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and the full Board for consideration. Trustee White stated that the guidelines cannot be contradictory with the collective bargaining guidelines. He added that the guidelines provide additional information regarding measured success in the different academic disciplines and provide chairs with guidelines for evaluation of faculty in their respective departments. Provost Patterson stated that the academic departmental guidelines are also particularly helpful, for the Promotion and Tenure Committee, as to what is important for the faculty in teaching, research and service.

Trustee Egan asked if there were additional questions. There being no further questions, she asked for a MOTION to approve the recommendation that the Board ratify the guidelines. Trustee White made a MOTION, and Chair Hyde SECONDED. The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation.

## Item 5 “Study Abroad in the COVID Era”

Ms. Ruth Lopez, Assistant Vice President, Student Engagement and International Affairs, and Dr. Luisa Martinez Joyce, Director of Study Abroad in UNF’s International Center provided an overview of the effects the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the University’s study abroad programs and international student enrollment. They described the coordinated effort in Spring 2020 of the International Center, campus partners, students, faculty and staff to bring home 43 UNF students who had been studying abroad and the impacts of coordinating the cancellation of trips, helping students return, and processing refunds for over 500 students.

They emphasized that travel remains limited and tightly controlled. Travel restrictions and mandates in each country have been different, and the International Center has needed to practice location-based risk assessment. Managing different protocols for different populations (unvaccinated, vaccinated, boosted) has created additional challenges, and the cost of study abroad programs have increased due to fluctuations in currency, COVID protocols while abroad, increases in the costs of travel, and the need for cancellation insurance.

UNF’s international students were also highly impacted by COVID. The University saw a decrease in this student population in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 due to COVID. Enrollment of international students rose in Fall 2021, but has decreased again in Spring 2022 due to variant.

Despite the challenges associated with the pandemic, Ms. Lopez and Dr. Martinez Joyce offered optimism in terms of the stronger relationships that the UNF International Center has forged with its university partners and the other SUS institutions during this time. They also highlighted “virtual study abroad” opportunities which have provided more access to students with financial constraints and non-traditional students, whose responsibilities may prohibit them from participating in traditional study abroad experiences.

## Item 6 Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Egan adjourned the meeting at

12:45 p.m.