



**Board of Trustees Academics and Campus Environment Committee  
Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

Chair Oscar Horton welcomed everyone to the ACE Committee meeting and asked Kiara Gayle to call the roll.

Trustee Cesar Esmeraldi  
Trustee Oscar Horton  
Trustee Jenifer Jasinski Schneider  
Trustee Luran Monbarren  
Trustee Fredrick Piccolo  
Trustee Melissa Seixas Did not participate.

**Public Comments Subject to USF Procedure**

There were no public comments.

Chair Horton proceeded with the meeting.

**New Business Action Items**

Approval of the November 20, 2023, meeting minutes.

Chair Horton requested a motion to approve the November 20, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was given by Trustee Piccolo, seconded by Trustee Monbarren, and approved.

**New Degree Proposal**

Dean Anthony Rolle provided a summary of the new degree proposal.

This new degree will create an Ed.S. in the School of Psychology. The proposed new degree will



Trustee Jasinski Schneider commented on the Bathroom Bill. This has had an impact on both faculty and students and is a significant issue.

Dean McDonald commented that the Bathroom Bill is a new addition to the Student Code of Conduct in the unauthorized access and or use section of the regulation, under #5.

The USF General Counsel Gerard Solis comments were on the process of BOG directives. They are statutory requirements that we must add into the Student Code of Conduct. Dean McDonald and her team will establish how they will process these matters moving forward. There is also a disciplinary possibility for employees required in the statute.

Trustee Esmeraldi commended Dean McDonald, her team and everyone who worked on the

Trustee Jasinski Schneider discussed two regulations and the impact that they have had on faculty recruitment, retention, and graduate student recruitment. These are called DEI Prohibited Expenses and the Foreign Influence regulations. Trustee Jasinski Schneider thanked the USF General Counsel Gerard Solis and his team for their guidance as well as the Research Council and HR.

General Counsel Solis' comments surrounded the fact that these regulations are new territory. The Foreign Influence regulation guidance that they will give does align with what the other preeminent universities are doing. Trustee Jasinski Schneider and the Faculty Senate will be the first to hear of the regulation guidance.

Chair Horton asked when will the Board have a full explanation of the regulation guidance. General Counsel Solis explained that these topics can be presented, as they do have an impact on how we operate.

President Law provided an update. Per conversations last night, the BOG is looking for an expedited process on how to deal with students from countries of concern. There were no discussions concerning faculty, however the BOG is fully aware of the hardships and impact and will continue to seek solutions.

Trustee Esmeraldi thanked President Law, General Counsel Solis, and Trustee Jasinski Schneider for their communication with the Board of Governors. This is very important to the students, our research and for the development of all schools in Florida.

Having no other business to discuss Chair Horton adjourned the ACE Committee meeting.