

Minutes of the Meeting of the
COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY, RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT
Thursday, July 11, 2002
Hillsborough Community College
Dale Mabry Campus
Tampa, Florida

Members Present: Akshay Desai
Diane Leone
Bob McIntyre
Philip Morgaman
Robert Taylor
Pat Telson

Members Absent: Ed Moore
Jacob Stuart
Mary Watts

Chairman Philip Morgaman opened the meeting by way of conference call, and welcomed the Council members present.

The minutes of the May 7, 2002, meeting were approved as circulated.

Faculty Productivity Issues in the State Universities

Dr. Proctor presented staff revisions to a draft memo that will accompany the consultant's report on Faculty Productivity. The memo provides context to the study and highlights the role of the local boards of trustees in evaluating faculty workload and instructional activity and CEPRI's role in the development of a K-20 Performance Plan, which will include a broad series of performance measures. The memo now includes examples of faculty activity that will promote a seamless educational delivery system. Mr. Bob Taylor endorsed the revisions and recommended that the report conclude steps that CEPRI will take to enhance the applicability of the report. He recognized the need for a statewide trustee-training program on these issues. Mr. Morgaman recommended that the concluding section should note the work of CEPRI's Committee on the Teaching Profession that is undergoing a review of all levels of teaching personnel.

Dr. Roy Weatherford, representing the United Faculty of Florida, presented the UFF report and reviewed four recommendations that were added to the report. The Council recommended attaching the UFF report as an appendix to the Faculty Productivity report, without commenting on the UFF recommendations. Following further discussion, the Council approved the report.

Constitutional Amendments

Dr. Nancy McKee explained the fiscal impacts of the proposed constitutional amendments, as determined by the Revenue Estimating Conference on June 27, 2002. Those results were used

in the draft papers and brochures prepared by staff on each of the three amendments. Following discussion, the Council agreed that CEPRI estimates should be included as well as the estimates from the Conference. Format changes to the brochures were discussed. Chairman Morgaman and Mr. Ed Moore were given the authority to review and approve these changes prior to release of the documents.

Master Plan

Mr. Taylor reported on the last meeting of the Governance Committee held on June 14, 2002. He said that excellent presentations were made by representatives of New York and Idaho, two states with unified governance structures similar to what Florida is initiating. Mr. Taylor said that Joe Burke, a former interim chancellor of the State university system of New York, observed that Florida's new system might be more successful because it is starting with a clean state. He said that Mr. Ed Moore participated in the meeting and that the Committee is ready to move from a philosophical discussion to addressing specific issues in more detail. Chairman Morgaman again stressed the importance of staff research being compiled with regard to the relationship between district/school/class size and student performance.

Dr. Bill Proctor noted that two excellent meetings of the Teaching Profession Committee have been held. Dr. Proctor said that in yesterday's meeting, it was noted that several Florida teachers of the year came to teaching through alternative certification, or other, non-traditional routes, and suggested that this area warranted further attention. He said that the next meeting of the Committee would be on August 20, 2002, in Tampa.

Mr. Bob McIntyre said that the Workforce and Economic Development Committee will convene immediately following the Council meeting and is also scheduled to meet on August 15, 2002, in Tampa at 9:30 a.m. He said the Committee is in the information-gathering phase and will have a more detailed report at the next Council meeting.

Dr. Proctor referred to the development schedule provided in the packet and reiterated that the overall focus of the Master Plan will be on long-range issues.

Other Items of Interest and Member Concerns

Mr. Taylor said that the trustee training issue came up in the Governance Committee. He said that attention is needed in this area both to assist the members of the newly created university boards as well as the members of the community college boards to assure that their potential contribution to Florida's new K-20 system is fully realized. The Council directed Dr. Proctor to draft a letter to Secretary Horne outlining this issue and offering the assistance of the Council in addressing this need.

Mr. Taylor said that one of the major benefits of the K-20 system is the potential for collaboration. He noted that at the last Governance Committee meeting, Dr. Burke had suggested that it would be useful to identify key areas for collaboration, identify measures for monitoring this collaboration, and allocating funds to reward progress in this regard. Mr. Taylor said that approving a number of new stand-alone programs at this point might not be the most productive course of action. He referenced the analogy of a community undergoing rampant expansion, recommending a building moratorium until a growth plan is developed. Dr. Proctor said that current law grants approval authority to the Florida Board for Doctoral and Professional programs, however, he noted that some Master's programs can be extremely

expensive and may warrant similar attention. It was agreed that the short paper would be prepared for the September Council meeting, which would address several questions: 1) Is a breathing spell needed? 2) Why or why not? 3) If so, how should it be implemented?

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Seminole County School Board Office in Sanford, Wednesday, September 18, 2002.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2002.

William B. Proctor
Executive Director