

New College of Florida Board of Trustees
Approved Minutes of BOT Teleconference, October 21, 2013
Cook Hall Conference Room

Trustees Participating: Brad Baker; Daniel Ducassi; Bob Johnson; Vice Chair Keith Monda; Mary Ruiz, Felice Schulaner; George Skestos; Steve Snyder. **Not Participating:** Audrey Coleman; Chairman William Johnston; Elaine Keating; John Saputo; Suzanne Sherman.

Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Notice of Meeting

Vice Chair Keith Monda called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Chairman William Johnston was traveling and unable to participate. Ms. Janney stated that the notice of meeting was published on the New College website and circulated via email to all campus constituents.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Monda asked for approval of the Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of September 7, 2013. Trustee Schulaner so moved, seconded by Trustee Baker. Trustee Ducassi then offered a correction to his statement on page 3, at the end of the Foundation report, to read “Trustee Ducassi, who thinks the Foundation should divest from fossil-fuel related companies.” The correction to the Minutes was accepted and the corrected minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

BOT’s Metric of Choice for BOG Performance-Based Funding

Vice Chair Monda introduced the main item of business, explaining that the New College administration recommends that the NCF BOT select the following metric from the menu of metrics made available by the BOG to all SUS institutions: **Percent of Undergraduate Seniors Participating in a Research Course, No. 5.** Seven other metrics are common to all, and an eighth was assigned to New College by the BOG, as a substitute for a Master’s program metric: Freshmen in Top 10% of Graduating High School Class, No.8. Trustee Johnson moved to approve metric No.5, Percent of Undergraduate Seniors Participating in a Research Course, seconded by Trustee Ruiz. Trustee Ducassi stated that the system of metrics does not do justice to the New College program, one cannot measure the success of our students with the BOG set of metrics. He asked that President O’Shea write a letter expressing his concern with using these metrics to determine performance-based finding.

Vice Chair Monda interjected that this is not the business at hand; the BOT is only concerned with selecting the one metric the BOG has asked them to choose, in addition to the eight they have assigned to us. Trustee Schulaner noted that this process is mandated by the BOG, and it is the only metric the university boards can select. Provost Miles explained that the metrics have not come out of the blue, in fact, the New College administration has been contributing to the discussion of metrics for the past two years. For example, Metric No. 1, The Percentage of Bachelor’s Graduates Employed and/or Continuing Their Education, did not have “and/or Continuing Their Education” until the SUS Provosts argued for adding it. He has been in conversation with Interim Chancellor Jan Ignash regarding the NCF BOT selection of Metric No. 5, and she is in favor of it, because 100% of our seniors complete a research project. Trustee Ducassi remained unconvinced and stated that he did not want to see NCF turn into a diploma mill by the use of metrics. Again, Vice Chair Monda reminded him this is not the issue at hand. If the issue is valid, it will be discussed in another forum.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion to select Metric No. 5, Percent of Undergraduate Seniors Participating in a Research Course, carried; Trustee Ducassi cast the only dissenting vote.

Since there was no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne L. Janney
Assistant Secretary
Board of Trustees

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