

New College of Florida Board of Trustees
Approved Minutes
February 9, 2002 Meeting

Members in Attendance: Bob Johnson, Chairman; Robert Blalock; John Cranor; Rev. Jerome Dupree; Gen. Rolland Heiser; Andrew Hossack; Meg Lowman; Kenneth Misemer; Mickey Presha; Vicki Raeburn; Alexis Simendinger; Jane Smiley. Ex Officio: Gordon E. Michalson, Jr., President.

Call to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 10 A.M.

Acknowledgement of Notice of Meeting

Chairman Johnson requested and received acknowledgement from General Counsel David Smolker that the meeting had been duly noticed and the Notice of Public Meeting had been published.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Misemer moved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of January 5, 2001 as presented with corrections in Schedule of Future Meetings (p. 1) from Feb. 15, 2002 to Feb. 15, 2003 and April 26, 2002 April 26, 2003. Mr. Cranor seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Johnson referred the Board to the revised Committee Assignment List which includes students and alumni. Since Trustees are expected to serve on a maximum of two committees, he noted that he had, with their approval, relieved two overburdened trustees of service on a third committee: Meg Lowman, relieved of service on Buildings & Grounds and Ken Misemer on External Affairs. Mr. Johnson stated that New College continues to be blessed with good leadership, faculty, staff, and students. Since July, the College has been highlighted in four national publications as one of the "best" public colleges; it is the only Florida school listed in *Barron's Guide to the Most Competitive Colleges, 2001*, a fact that he brought to Governor Jeb Bush's attention during a recent visit. Moneywise, he expects this will be a tight year. He announced that today the Board will act on its first two tenure decisions.

President's Report

President Michalson welcomed parents to the first two-day New College Weekend, noting that this February is a very busy month. The New College Foundation, Inc. trustees met yesterday, and a seven-college consortium to which New College belongs (Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning – CIEL) funded by a three-year federal grant to highlight best practices in undergraduate education, will gather here next week. Later in the month, the Florida Collegiate Honors Council will meet at the College. In this year of transition and consolidation, some things will be finished. The application for independent accreditation is nearing completion, the negotiations with USF over Central Service agreements are continuing, as is the work with USF Sarasota/Manatee to allow both institutions to achieve their enrollment goals and growth plans. By next year, the new President should be able to reinforce the building of a national alumni network and step up to an appropriate level of national outreach, initiating overtures for corporate and foundation funding together with alumni and members of this board. President Michalson concluded by stating that he has been very gratified and personally grateful for the cooperative spirit exhibited by both the NCF and NC Foundation boards and the quick meshing of interests for the good of the College.

Report of Academic Affairs Committee

Mr. Misemer reported on a productive Feb. 7 joint meeting with the New College Foundation's Educational Policy and Planning Committee. The two committees focused on the SACS accreditation process, the New College tenure and promotion process, the Academic Program Review process, and the roles of the two committees. Mr. Misemer

indicated that the committees will meet jointly for the time being, to get input from both sets of Trustees. Provost Callahan explained that SACS accreditation is expected, if all goes well, by July 2003. Academic Program Reviews, conducted according to standard practice by outside experts, have taken place in the last ten years at New College in the Natural Sciences, Fine Arts, and Environmental Studies; the next review will be of Social Sciences. The discussion of promotion and tenure will come later on today's agenda.

Report of External Affairs Committee

Ms. Simendinger reported that the first meeting of the five-member committee was a large one; at 9:00 A.M. they were joined by three BOT members, three staff members, the BOT attorney and lobbyist, a student, and alumni. They discussed communication about NC, both internal and external. Coordinating a coherent message and getting it out is always a challenge. Links among Public Affairs and Admissions, the NC Foundation, NC Alumnae/i Assn. were explored, as well as the external perceptions of the College locally and statewide. Ms Simendinger stressed that the External Affairs Committee intends to be helpful to those "on the ground floor" at the College in getting the NC message out at all levels and will work beyond the regular committee meeting time to do so.

Report of Student Affairs Committee

Meg Lowman reported that the Committee met that morning in Hamilton Student Center and continued discussion of priorities in student life. The first priority remains dormitory renovation and construction, the second is expansion and renovation of the Hamilton Center to accommodate a larger student body and to provide more space for student activities and clubs, perhaps by adding a second floor. Obviously funding will be needed for this. An updating of the Campus Master Plan, which has been in place since 1995, will be required also. Before this can be accomplished, the facilities management position for the campus needs to be filled. Turning from challenges, Dr. Lowman announced that the next Student Affairs Committee meeting will celebrate the accomplishments of New College students by visiting the Cook Library Thesis Room before moving by golf cart to tour the dormitories west of the Trail.

Report of Student Code of Conduct Review Committee

Ms. Smiley reported the Committee met on February 7 and there are no further changes to Student Code of Conduct that was passed by the BOT on January 5, 2002.

Report of Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. Cranor reported that although the Committee did not meet, a recommended strategic plan will be available at the next Board meeting. A joint meeting with the Finance and Audit Committee will be held prior to the next Board meeting.

Report of Finance and Audit Committee

Dr. Raeburn noted that the Committee will report at the next meeting, but in the meantime, asked Vice President for Finance and Administration John Martin to clarify the issue of the annual New College Foundation contribution of \$720,000 to the NCF base budget. Mr. Martin explained that the 1975 merger agreement, a contract still in effect between the former private New College and the State of Florida, specified that the contributions of the New College Foundation would be used to enhance the basic formulaic allotment provided by the state to retain the 10:1 student/faculty ratio. At present, the annual New College E&G state budget of \$11.1 million is made up of three components: general revenue from state taxes (\$7.6 million); lottery dollars (\$400,000); and incidental revenues, made up of student tuition and fees plus the Foundation's contribution (\$3.1million including \$720,000 from the Foundation). It is a goal of New College to have the state replace the Foundation's annual contribution with state dollars and thus permit the Foundation's funds to augment activities which cannot be funded by the state treasury.

Mr. Johnson mentioned \$48 million may be appropriated to the state universities for transitional issues; Mr. Martin stated that it would probably be pro-rated and given to the individual BOT's to allocate. He also noted that the NCF operating budget had not been reduced in the last round of state budget cuts, while the USF budget was slashed by \$12 million with the USF Sarasota/Manatee portion being cut by \$339,000 this year, and \$392,000 next year. The latter cuts will adversely impact NCF through certain campus services shared with USF S/M (Counseling and Career Centers, Police, Physical Plant, and Library). These services make up 38% of USF S/M's base E&G operating budget. This year USF S/M will reduce funding for these services by \$47,277; next year, the reduction will be

\$94,555. Had NCF received 100% of the funding for these services at the time independence was legislated, the cuts would have been avoided.

Report of Presidential Search Committee

General Heiser reported that a contract has been signed with the search firm of A.T. Kearney. Kearney's consultant, Dr. Jean Dowdall, will be on campus next week to meet with faculty, staff, and students (Feb. 13-14). He distributed a draft schedule for the progress of the Presidential Search, indicating culmination in June 2003. By maintaining a slow but steady pace in the search, the accreditation process should be well underway and the campus ownership issue hopefully will have been resolved by the time negotiation with the selected candidate takes place next year.

Action on Faculty Handbook

1. Provost Callahan presented for Board approval Chapter 5 of the *New College Faculty Handbook*, the selected policies and procedures affecting individuals in A&P employment categories. She reminded the Board they had approved Chapters 1-4 and 6-7 at the last meeting; the faculty approved these chapters as well and will approve Chapter 5 at their next meeting. Colonel Presha expressed concern on page 6 with the lack of citation of federal and/or state statute and/or Florida Administrative Code with reference to the HIV/confidentiality policy. Mr. Smolker responded that he would present an expanded HIV policy at the next meeting. Dr. Raeburn moved to approve Chapter 5 of the *Faculty Handbook* as presented; Dr. Lowman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Dr. Callahan asked the Board to approve deletion of two phrases contained in Section 4.4 (Promotion) of the Faculty Handbook, clarifying that final decisions on promotion rest with the New College President. (a) Change the sentence: "The Provost makes a recommendation to the President, who subsequently makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees" to "The Provost makes a recommendation to the President." (b) Change the sentence: "The final decision rests with the Board of Trustees" to "The final decision rests with the President." Colonel Presha so moved; Mr. Misemer seconded. The motion carried.

Approval of President's Tenure Recommendations

President Michalson voiced his support of the nomination of two candidates to the Board for tenure. Provost Callahan stated that she was honored to bring the dossiers of Dr. Amy Reid and Dr. Miriam Wallace to the Board for approval. Chairman Johnson stated that he had read the dossiers in their entirety and that the Board members had been provided with summaries. Colonel Presha moved that Drs. Reid and Wallace be granted tenure; Mr. Misemer seconded and the motion was passed unanimously. Chairman Johnson invited the newly-tenured faculty members to attend the next Board meeting.

Action on Development of Personnel Rules

Mr. Smolker explained that this item was a carry-over from the Jan. 5 meeting. The rule presented applies only to general faculty and administrative and professional employees who are not members of the bargaining unit and are not represented by a bargaining agent and to all university support personnel systems of the College. It covers a wide variety of personnel matters. Mr. Smolker asked the Board to approve the proposed rule language and authorize the publication of notice of intent to adopt the proposed rule. Dr. Raeburn so moved; Mr. Cranor seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Action to Revise Proposed Rule 6C11.3.001, Admissions

Mr. Smolker asked the Board to approve revisions to the language of the Admissions rule previously approved and amended. This further revision will clarify the New College of Florida policy **not** to admit individuals who have undergraduate or graduate degrees. Such a policy does **not** apply to students who have earned A.A. degrees. Mr. Smolker suggested a motion to approve revisions of the proposed rule as amended and previously approved and to authorize publication of notice of intent to adopt the proposed rule. Mr. Cranor so moved; Rev. Dupree seconded. The rule was approved unanimously.

Action on Keating Center

Mr. Smolker stated that Florida statutes require that construction of new buildings on state university campuses be consistent with the official campus master plan. In light of the devolution of authority relating campus master planning to university boards of trustees, the Florida Board of Education staff has requested that the Board of Trustees address the “consistency” issue. Accordingly, the Board is asked to adopt a resolution determining that the construction of the Keating Center is consistent with the campus master plan: “The Long Range Plan set forth in the Campus Master Plan of 1995 contemplates a number of proposed and future building sites on the west campus, including several in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Keating Center. The location, scale and design of the proposed Keating Center is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the various elements of the Campus Master Plan, and is compatible with the surrounding area.” Colonel Presha so moved; Mr. Cranor seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Admissions Update

Joel Bauman, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, reported that 18 transfer students were admitted for second semester.

Introduction of Governmental Relations Team

Chairman Johnson introduced Hugh McMillan, veteran lobbyist, and Pat O’Connell, who served as Deputy Commissioner of Education under Commissioner Betty Castor. They provided a summary of what is going on in Tallahassee. Senator Lisa Carlton is the advocate for the New College of Florida license plate.

Appreciation to Board Members for Enriching the Life of the College

President Michalson thanked Ms. Simendinger for presenting a talk, “The Real West Wing,” for New College Weekend. He also expressed appreciation to Reverend Dupree for his participation in a Black History Month program later in February.

Environmental Studies Program Presentation

Jono Miller, Co-Coordinator of the New College Environmental Studies Program, presented a Powerpoint overview of the history, focus, range and accomplishments of the program and its graduates over the years.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Janney
Acting Secretary and Agency Clerk