

**Association of Florida Colleges
Policy and Advocacy Meeting
Thursday, January 10, 2019
Tallahassee, Florida**

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Call to Order

On Thursday, January 10, 2019, Dr. Murdaugh called the meeting of the Policy and Advocacy Committee to order at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Brawer took roll of the presidents in the room and on the phone.

The following members of the Policy and Advocacy Committee were present (proxy):

Gregory Haile
Jim Henningsen
Tom LoBasso
Jeff Allbritten
Lawrence Barrett
John Holdnak
Ed Massey
Stanley Sidor
John Grosskopf
Devin Stephenson (Jack Capra)
Ava Parker
Tim Beard
Ed Meadows
Angela Garcia-Falconetti
Georgia Lorenz
Thomas Leitzel
Joe Pickens (phone)
Tonjua Williams
Jim Murdaugh

1.0 Policy and Advocacy Committee

Mr. Robert Weissert, from Tax Watch, gave an update to the Committee on the study, which his group began in November of 2018. The study focuses on the benefits of community college, the return on investment, and comparing Florida colleges to colleges in other states. He shared that there has been some trouble in finding comparisons from other states so they need to move the release of the draft publication date to the end of January.

President Parker asked the Committee to offer recommendations as to where Tax Watch could look to find comparison of key performance indicators.

1.1 Approval, Policy and Advocacy Committee Minutes – November 8, 2018

Action: Upon a motion by President Haile and a second by Dr. Massey, the Policy and Advocacy Committee Minutes were approved unanimously.

2.0 Update, Policy and Advocacy Workgroup

President Pickens shared that the Student Government Association has taken a position that they as students would like to be exposed to more Bachelor degree options. He reminded the Committee that they do not influence SGA on their positions. President Pickens has spoken to President Galvano and let him know that SGA develops their own platform without influence. President Pickens also shared that he and Jack Hall will be speaking at AFC Legislative Days about how a bill becomes a law. He hopes that many SGA students will be in attendance to gain a stronger understanding of the bill process. Mr. Brawer spoke and shared more information about the AFC event. President Parker has spoken to the SGA president and they have reached a compromise on the appropriate advocacy language to use. The language will focus on meeting demands of the degrees needed in each community.

3.0 Update, Allyce Heflin, Southern Strategy Group Report

Ms. Heflin shared that a meeting with President Galvano happened earlier in the week. She said that he was appreciative to receive the FCS Legislative Budget Request as he is currently working on allocations. While he cannot commit to the number, he can commit to supporting the Florida College System. He recommended to those who met with him, that they meet with Senator Stargel, chair of the Appropriations Committee. Ms. Heflin said a meeting has been arranged.

Ms. Heflin updated the Committee on the other meetings that had happened. She reminded everyone that not all presidents are able to attend all meetings, but asked if any president had a relationship with the leaders they were planning to meet with to please let her know.

4.0 Update, Karen Moore, Moore Agency

Ms. Moore referred to the submitted documents available on the AFC website. The first

was titled, AFC-COP Communications and Legislative Campaign Plan. The second document was a one-pager, Legislative Budget Request. The third was a two-pager on Florida College System Workforce Degrees. The fourth was a one-pager about the Florida College System. A card has also been created branded with the Trustees logo.

Action: Upon a motion by Dr. Beard and a second by Dr. Leitzel the documents presented were approved unanimously.

Mr. Brawer will email all PDF documents to the presidents.

Ms. Moore shared that a tagline has been created for FCS social media, #educateempowerexcell. Last year's tagline #fundfloridacolleges will only be used on any document that requests dollars from the legislature.

5.0 Rachael Ondrus Bonlarron, College Lobbyist Report

Ms. Bonlarron updated the Committee on the bills that the lobbyist group is monitoring, these bills do not have companions. HB 189, by Representative Zika, puts the responsibility of paying for learning materials for public, private, and charter schools. HB 6007, by Representative Sabatini, removes the provision that prohibits concealed license carry on campus. This is a repealer bill. SB 238, by Senator Book, deals with sexual misconduct and requires that a postsecondary institution include a notation on a student's academic transcript if a student was dismissed for a sexual misconduct offense. Ms. Bonlarron also shared that there is discussion about the FCS providing instruction to inmates.

After Committee discussion, it was decided that the Funding Workgroup, would put together a metric. The workgroup will include Dr. Probstfeld as chair, Dr. Williams, Dr. Barrett, Dr. LoBasso, and Dr. Holnak. COBA will work alongside the workgroup.

Dr. Murdaugh adjourned the Policy and Advocacy Committee meeting at 6:34 p.m.