

**Association of Florida Colleges
Florida College System Council of Presidents
Legislative Summary Teleconference Meeting
March 19, 2020**

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Roll Call – Jim Murdaugh

At 10:05 a.m., Dr. Murdaugh welcomed and thanked everyone who on the call. He reminded attendees that the purpose of the call is to review the 2020 Legislative Session. Dr. Murdaugh then asked Michael Brawer to take roll of the presidents on the call.

The following members of the Council of Presidents were present on the call: (proxy)

Greg Haile
Sarah Clemmons
Jim Henningsen (Jessica Kummerle)
Tom LoBasso
Jim Richey
Jeff Allbritten
Lawrence Barrett
Jonathan Gueverra Rachel Oropeza
John Avendano
Ken Atwater (Eric Johnson)
Ed Massey
Stanley Sidor
Rolando Montoya
John Grosskopf
Devin Stephenson
Ava Parker
Tim Beard
Ed Meadows (Sandy Ray)
Angela Garcia-Falconetti
Paul Broadie
Georgia Lorenz
Thomas Leitzel
Carol Probstfeld
Joe Pickens
Tonjua Williams
Jim Murdaugh
Sandy Shugart (Jay Galbraith)

One reporter identified himself, Andrew Atterbury from Politico.

2. Chancellors' updates – Kathy Hebda and Henry Mack

Chancellor Hebda updated the Council on legislative outcomes. She highlighted several bills that have an impact on the Florida College System.

Chancellor Hebda shared that House Bill 171, Postsecondary Education for Certain Military Personnel, did make it across the finish line. She did state that some language in that bill, related to student athletes, was deleted before the bill was passed. Senate Bill 72 does modify provisions on the prioritization of capital outlay projects at FCS institutions and the carry forward of operational funds at universities and FCS institutions. Added to that bill was language that allowed for medallion scholars enrolled at an FCS institution to use 100% of their scholarship instead of 75%. Additionally, SB 72 would align the PECO project outlay of the state college system the state university system. House Bill 3231, The Florida College System Risk Management Consortium, was not heard in the House Appropriations and has been indefinitely postponed.

Chancellor Hebda shared that the Department did not yet have an official budget side-by-side to distribute. She stated that one would be sent out soon, followed by an after-veto side-by-side. Chancellor Hebda stated that for 2021, based on what is being debated, there will be 2.8% increase for the Florida College System in operating just under \$35 million.

Chancellor Mack shared that the departments Career and Technical Education bills House Bill 1203 and Senate Bill 1568 both failed to pass. The bills both attempted to relax language around the use funds associated with the Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant. They also attempted to encourage funding of in demand certifications at a higher rate. The department did secure back in the bill language that is associated with the current Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant to be extended beyond June 31. For state institutions who are current recipients of the grant money, he stated that the department does anticipate not needing to incur or liquidate those funds by the end of this fiscal year. Chancellor Mack will provide an update on that as soon as possible. Chancellor Mack also shared an update on Senate Bill 434, which is unrelated to the Florida College System. The bill did pass and is awaiting the governor's signature.

Dr. Avendano expressed his appreciation to both Chancellor Hebda and Chancellor Mack.

3. FCS Appropriated Budget Update – Seth McKeel, Southern Group

4. FCS Substantive Bill update – Jack Capra, College Lobbyists

Dr. Murdaugh asked President Pickens to share an update on the budget. President Pickens shared that items 3 and 4 would be discussed together.

President Pickens referred to a previously email document that was prepared by Seth McKeel. Dr. Murdaugh, President Pickens and Mr. McKeel had reviewed the document prior to the call. The document contains a summary of what is believed to be an outcome of the budget and a comparison of the Legislative Budget Request. Also, the document contains a very brief summary of the legislation that the Florida College System was engaged in that did not pass during the 2020 Legislative Session. President Pickens encouraged all presidents to send appreciations to Senator Stargel for all her hard work on behalf of the Florida College System. President Pickens asked Mr. McKeel to detail the document as it relates to funding and his analysis of what occurred. Mr. McKeel began by sharing that overall, on operating, the Senate Bill had \$1.288 billion and the House Bill had \$1.277 billion and ended up with total state funds around \$1.289 billion which is just shy of a \$35 million increase or approximately 3% increase. Mr. McKeel detailed all items on the document (attached here). He shared that Southern Group did a comparison of the different Legislative Budget Requests. He stated that approximately \$87 million of the Legislative Budget Request was funded. Mr. McKeel also shared an update on several policy items that are listed on the document.

5. Review upcoming meetings schedule

- a. April 23-24, Tallahassee - AFC Bldg.
- b. May 14 teleconference – canceled
- c. June 4-5 COP Annual Retreat/Awards – Daytona State College

Dr. Murdaugh presented the upcoming meeting dates to the Council. After some discussion it was decided that the April Council of Presidents meeting would be a teleconference meeting as opposed to meeting in person in Tallahassee. An email will be sent out once the date and time have been decided. The May 14 teleconference has been canceled. Further details regarding the June Council of Presidents Annual Retreat will be provided as they are available.

6. Discuss, DBOT Telephonic Meetings during COVID-19 period

At 11:18 a.m. the Council of Presidents teleconference meeting was adjourned.