Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee Meeting
UWF Board of Trustees
May 24, 2018

Committee Member, Trustee David Ramsey convened the committee and called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Trustees David Ramsey and Jill Singer were in attendance.

Trustee Adrianne Collins was absent.

Other trustees in attendance: Mort O’Sullivan, Brandon Malone, Alonzie Scott, Bob Jones, and Bob Sires.

President Martha Saunders joined by video conferencing.

Others attending:
Dr. George Ellenberg, Provost and Senior Vice President; Ms. Betsy Bowers, IVP Administrative Services; Dr. Pam Northrup, VP, Innovation and Strategic Research; Dr. Joffery Gaymon, Vice President Enrollment & Student Affairs; Dr. Kimberly McCorkle, Interim Vice Provost; Dr. Kim LeDuff, Vice President, Academic Engagement; Mr. Howard Reddy, Vice President for Advancement; Ms. Pam Langham, General Counsel; Ms. Janice Gilley, AVP External Affairs; Mr. Dave Scott, Athletic Director; Dr. Melinda Bowers, Director, Emerald Coast Campus; Ms. Cynthia Talbert, Internal Auditor III; Mr. Matt Packard, Compliance Officer Dr. Jenae Burkart, Faculty Technology Support Specialist, ITS; Ms. Sandra Thompson, Director, ITS; Dr. Brandon Frye, Dean of Students, Mr. Ross Dahlstrom, Network Engineer; Mr. Chase Green Technology Engineer, ITS, Mr. Eric Ingerman, Sound Engineer and Production Services; Ms. Becky Luntsford, Assistant Corporate Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

**CHAIR'S GREETING**
Trustee Ramsey offered a special welcome to Trustee Jill Singer to the Academic Affairs Committee and welcome all guests present.

Trustee Ramsey explained there were three action items and one information item on the agenda.
**ACTION ITEM**

1. **Approval of Tenure.** Dr. George Ellenberg, Provost and Senior Vice President, presented the item.

   The University of West Florida Board of Trustees tenure approval procedure contemplates that the Board of Trustees award tenure based on the President’s recommendation. The University’s current collective bargaining agreement with the faculty also requires that tenure be awarded by the Board following the specified process.

   Dr. Ellenberg explained that there were originally fourteen individuals nominated for tenure having fulfilled all necessary requirements, however, Dr. Kristina Killgrove had just informed the Provost’s Office that she is requesting her name be removed from the tenure list. These faculty were nominated for approval in accordance with the requirements of the tenure approval procedure. This recommendation constitutes the President’s certification concerning the nominee in accordance therewith.

   The faculty being recommended for Tenure were as follows:

   **College of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities**
   - 1. Gregory Cook, *Assistant Professor* Anthropology
   - 2. Kristina Killgrove, *Assistant Professor* Anthropology
   - 3. Matthew Pursell, *Assistant Professor* History

   **College of Business**
   - 4. Alison Green, *Assistant Professor* Global Hospitality and Tourism Management
   - 5. Lane Lambert, *Assistant Professor* Accounting and Finance

   **College of Education and Professional Studies**
   - 6. Daniel Durkin, *Assistant Professor* Social Work
   - 7. Holly Ellis, *Assistant Professor* Instructional, Workforce & Applied Technology
   - 8. Sara Evans, *Assistant Professor* Criminology and Criminal Justice
   - 9. Aneurin Grant, *Assistant Professor* Instructional, Workforce & Applied Technology
   - 10. Julie Gray, *Assistant Professor* Teacher Education and Educational Leadership
   - 11. Charles Penrod, *Assistant Professor* Legal Studies, Public Administration, and Sport Management

   **Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering**
   - 12. Peter Cavnar, *Assistant Professor* Biology

   **Usha Kundu, MD College of Health**
   - 13. Youngil Lee, *Assistant Professor* Exercise Science and Community Health
   - 14. Brandy Strahan, *Assistant Professor* School of Nursing
Trustee Ramsey asked for a motion recommending the full Board, at its June 5, 2018 meeting, approve tenure to be granted to the (13) faculty nominated and presented. Tenure grant to be effective August 8, 2018.

Motion by: Trustee David Ramsey
Seconded by: Trustee Jill Singer
Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Tenure as a Condition of Employment. Dr. George Ellenberg presented the item.

The University of West Florida Board of Trustees considers all nominations for tenure at its June meeting. Tenure nominations as a condition of employment will be considered as needed.

The following faculty to be considered for tenure:

Center for Cybersecurity
Dr. Tirthankar Ghosh, Associate Director, Center for Cybersecurity; Professor, Department of Information Technology, Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering. Dr. Ghosh begins his appointment on August 8, 2018.

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities
Dr. Kevin Scott, Chair and Professor, Department of English. Dr. Scott begins his appointment on July 1, 2018.

Usha Kundu, MD College of Health
Dr. David Strohmetz, Chair and Professor, Department of Psychology. Dr. Strohmetz begins his appointment on June 25, 2018.

Trustee Ramsey asked for a motion recommending the full Board, at its June 5, 2018 meeting, approve tenure as a condition of employment to be granted to the three faculty members nominated and presented.

Motion by: Trustee Jill Singer
Seconded by: Trustee David Ramsey
Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Request to Offer New Ph.D. Degree Program Effective Fall 2019. Dr. George Ellenberg presented the item.

The University of West Florida (UWF) proposes to offer the following new Ph.D. degree program effective Fall 2019:
Doctor of Philosophy in Intelligent Systems and Robotics

Ph.D. in Intelligent Systems and Robotics

The Ph.D. in Intelligent Systems and Robotics degree program is a doctoral program consisting of 72 credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree. This will be UWF’s first Ph.D. and Florida’s first program in CIP Code 11.0102, Artificial Intelligence. The program will be offered at the UWF main Pensacola campus and will be affiliated with the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition (IHMC).

The university has designed the Intelligent Systems and Robotics Ph.D. degree program to train the next generation of educators and researchers to develop technology combining human and machine elements. The goal is to have well-educated citizens who will work in diverse fields, strengthen UWF’s research and scholarly activities, and create regional economic impacts. The program will directly support the goal of increasing the number of advanced degrees from Florida universities awarded in a STEM discipline. Beyond coursework, the program’s cornerstone will be hands-on, leading-edge research in robotics and artificial intelligence and will leverage the proximity and talent of UWF faculty and IHMC scientists. The program presents students with an opportunity to interact with and learn from award winning scientists from IHMC. The program builds upon the existing strength of UWF’s computer science and engineering programs and adds IHMC researchers who will be involved in mentoring students, overseeing Ph.D. dissertations, and offering cutting-edge research opportunities.

Intelligent systems are technologically advanced machines that perceive and respond to the world around them. Intelligent systems take many forms including:

- brain-controlled prosthetic limbs that allow amputees to return to work;
- crawling robots that can find survivors buried in rubble at disaster scenes; and
- semi- and fully-autonomous vehicles transporting passengers and goods to their desired destination with little or no intervention.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that for the U.S. to retain its preeminence in science and technology it needs to produce over one million more STEM professionals over the next decade. The proposed Ph.D. degree program will serve a significant need in Florida and will prepare UWF graduates to be regional, state, and national leaders as well as innovators in this emergent field. Graduates from the degree program will work in a variety of high-tech industries such as advanced manufacturing, healthcare, defense, and transportation. Producing graduates with doctoral degrees in Intelligent Systems and Robotics will ensure that Florida trains and retains a workforce ideally
suited to current and future challenges, and that UWF contributes to the state’s goal to prepare graduates to excel in a global society and marketplace.

Implementation Plan:
- The CAVP approved the Ph.D. in Intelligent Systems and Robotics degree on 9/11/2015
- The UWF Faculty Senate approved the curriculum on 04/13/2018
- The UWF Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee considers the Request to Offer New Degree Program May 2018
- The UWF Board of Trustees considers the Request to Offer New Degree Program June 2018
- Florida Board of Governors considers the Request to Offer New Degree Program November 2018
- Submission of SACSCOC Substantive Change Prospectus December 2018
- New degree program implemented Fall 2019

Trustee Ramsey asked for a motion recommending the full Board, at its June 5, 2018 meeting, approve the request for UWF to offer the new Ph.D. degree program Doctor of Philosophy in Intelligent Systems and Robotics effective Fall 2019.

Motion by: Trustee Jill Singer
Seconded by: Trustee David Ramsey
Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Strategic Plan to Improve the Four-Year Graduation Rate. Dr. Joffery Gaymon, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs provided an overview of the plan through a PowerPoint presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further Academic Affairs items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Luntsford, Assistant Corporate Secretary