

The Florida College System
Council of Presidents
Friday, December 8, 2017
Teleconference

Dr. LoBasso called the teleconference meeting of the Council of Presidents to order at approximately 9:06 a.m.

Mr. Michael Brawer called roll, the following members of the Council were present via phone (proxy):

Mr. David Armstrong
Dr. Jim Henningsen (Ms. Jessica Throckmorton)
Dr. Tom LoBasso
Dr. Jim Richey
Dr. Lawrence Barrett (Mike McKee)
Dr. Cynthia Bioteau (Ms. Katie Ross)
Dr. Ed Massey
Dr. Stanley Sidor
Dr. Eduardo Padron (Ms. Lenore Rodicio)
Mr. John Grosskopf
Dr. Devin Stephenson
Ms. Ava Parker
Dr. Tim Beard
Dr. Ed Meadows
Dr. Angela Garcia-Falconetti
Dr. Jackson Sasser
Dr. Ann McGee (Mr. Don Payton)
Dr. Thomas Leitzel
Dr. Carol Probstfeld
Mr. Joe Pickens (Mr. Jack Hall)
Dr. Jim Murdaugh

Dr. LoBasso greeted the Council and gave an overview for the meeting.

President Parker asked Mr. Chris Hansen to open the meeting by giving a recap of meetings that were held during committee week. He shared that a meeting with Governor Scott has not happened yet. The Governor's office asked that they meet with the Governor's staff first, then a meeting with Governor Scott could happen sometime in early January. A meeting was held with Megan Fey, Policy Director for Higher Education in the Governor's office, and after that meeting it seems safe to say that the bills "as filed" are not bills that Governor Scott is real crazy about at this time. The bill "as worded" doesn't seem to be different from last year's bill. Also met with House sponsor Joe Gruters, he described his position as "quarterback" of the bill. Met with Ray Rodriguez, on House Bill 831, it seems there are areas that can be negotiated. Mr. Hansen also spoke briefly on a meeting with the Speaker. The speaker felt that in regards to governance, he would prefer governance in the statute and not in the constitution.

President Parker shared her takeaway. The one pager from Moore Communications has been shared with each office that was visited. President Parker emphasized that it is important not to assume anything on the issue of the items. She asked to make contact with senators and advise them on the position that the Council is taking on the bill. Also need to start conversations about the FCS budget. We can't assume that the budget will be restored or if additional funding will be granted.

Dr. LoBasso reminded that Mr. Jack Hall can provide the one pager

Dr. Holdnak asked about Representative Porter's bill that was withdrawn that could have colleges join the state health insurance plan. There was no update on that. Chancellor Pumariega said she is waiting on the bill analysis. President Parker suggested this topic be added to the agenda for January. Dr. Holdnak encouraged everyone to fully understand the bill. Mr. Jack Hall stated that the lobbyists are currently tracking this bill and would be able to provide information in regards to it, in January. Mr. Brawer will be sharing information on this topic soon.

President Parker said that the Council needs to continue to fight against the bill, if there is a movement on language, then it will be brought back and shared with the Council.

Chancellor Pumariega suggested a language change in the completion of Senate Bill 540, to develop a metric that prioritize on time graduation. The Chancellor also emphasized the importance of making the case for the funding request.

Dr. LoBasso shared an update on CRC. There will be January meetings and will update the group as things move forward.

In regards to the Trustees meeting in January, attendance is currently low. The trustees can impact the legislation so please encourage their participation.

Chancellor Pumariega gave a brief CRC update. She also shared that Commissioners Sherry Plymale, Nicole Washington, and Marva Johnson will be speaking at the Trustees Commission Legislative Conference luncheon.

The teleconference was adjourned at approximately 9:33 a.m.