

**Association of Florida Colleges
Policy and Advocacy Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2018
Teleconference**

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Call to Order

At 11:00 a.m., on Thursday, April 12, 2018, Dr. LoBasso called the Policy and Advocacy meeting to order. Mr. Brawer took roll of the presidents on the phone.

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

Dr. Sarah Clemmons	Dr. Tim Beard
Dr. Jim Henningsen (Jessica Kummerle)	Dr. Ed Meadows
Dr. Tom LoBasso	Dr. Angela Garcia-Falconetti
Mr. Jim Richey	Dr. E. Ann McGee
Dr. Lawrence Barrett	Dr. Thomas Leitzel
Dr. Cynthia Bioteau	Dr. Carol Probstfeld (Brian Thomas)
Dr. John Holdnak	Mr. Joe Pickens (Jack Hall)
Dr. Ken Atwater	Dr. Tonjua Williams
Dr. Stanley Sidor	Dr. Jim Murdaugh
Dr. Eduardo Padron (Dr. Lenore Rodicio)	
Mrs. Ava Parker	

The following were also on the phone:

Michael Brawer
Fern Senra
Madeline Pumariega
Rachel Ondrus
Lloyd Dunkleberger

1.0 Policy and Advocacy Committee Minutes

1.1 Approval, Policy and Advocacy Committee Minutes -February 9, 2018

Action: *Upon a motion by Dr. Holdnak and a second by Dr. Leitzel, the minutes from the March 9, 2018, Policy and Advocacy Committee meeting were approved unanimously.*

2.0 Update, 2018 Legislative Session

President Parker addressed the group and provided an update on the budget and policy after the recent legislative session. She shared that while there was much success in eliminating policy that was not in support of the system this session, some of that policy may be in the works for next session. She encouraged everyone to be prepared for 2019 session. President Parker thanked the presidents, trustees, and lobbyist for their efforts in advocating for the Florida College System.

President Parker asked Rachel Ondrus to provide an update on House Bill 7055. Ms. Ondrus shared that there was a provision placed into the draft of the final legislative update. It deals with the private school dual enrollment piece. It has since been amended slightly. The tuition aspect is no longer a required provision, for compensation between the private schools and post-secondary institutions. However, nothing in the amended law prohibits the continued inclusion of a provision stating whether the private schools will compensate the post-secondary institutions or the standard tuition rate per credit hour for each dual enrollment course taken by dual enrollment students. This is stating that it is no longer required in the articulation agreement.

Dr. Atwater asked for more clarity. Mr. Brawer shared that Bill Mallowney had sent an email which provided further language on House Bill 7055. Mr. Brawer read Mr. Mallowney's email to the group.

Dr. LoBasso addressed Dr. Atwater stating that you can charge private schools whose students dual enroll at your college campuses. Chancellor Pumariega did warn everyone to be cautious and that the Division would provide further guidance on this issue. President Parker asked Chancellor Pumariega if changes to this language could happen before 2019. Chancellor Pumariega replied that getting a Department of Education legal counsel interpretation of this is important. Dr. Atwater asked if an email of the interpretation could be sent soon. Chancellor Pumariega replied that an interpretation is currently in the works. She also shared that having a report of the fiscal impact of the cost of offering dual enrollment courses to private school students will be important for 2019.

President Parker asked Chancellor Pumariega to provide a Constitutional Revision Commission (CRC) update. Chancellor Pumariega reported that Proposal 83, by Commissioner Washington, did pass the first full vote and it is currently in style and drafting. In style and drafting the committee puts together proposals of all the CRC proposals that were approved on the first CRC voting process. Proposals are grouped together with other proposals for more clarity around the ballot. Chancellor Pumariega shared that Proposal 83 is grouped with Proposal 44, which requires a super-majority vote by university trustees to raise fees, and Proposal 49, which provides college tuition for survivors of first responders and military that die in the line of duty. The proposals will be put on the ballot as amendments if of the CRC, 22 of the 37 members approve.

President Parker asked Chris Hansen to provide an update on the 2018 legislative session. Mr. Hansen thanked everyone for their hard work during this legislative session and shared that he feels good moving forward with the way things are going. Mr. Hansen reflected on the happenings of Senate Bill 540 and he briefly touched on the school shooting in South Florida. Dr. Atwater asked if the primary reason the colleges did not receiving more funding was a result of the school shooting. Mr. Hansen felt the Senate was disappointed on the policy side and felt like restoring those dollars wasn't the right thing to do. Mr. Hansen spoke in regards to moving forward, he shared some critical names, and encouraged the Council to begin reaching out them.

President Parker stressed the importance of everyone attending the June Annual meeting. She shared that the Florida Chamber was very supportive of the issues impacting the Florida College System this past session. She reiterated that the priority of the June meeting would focus on reviewing the lobbying efforts of the recent legislative session and preparing to move forward into 2019. Dr. Leitzel asked if Senator Galvano would be invited. President Parker and others felt that would be a great idea and they would speak more about it after the call. Mr. Brawer reported that work on the agenda is underway. He also stated that there are many important items that will take place at this meeting so attendance is vital. The registration is up on the Association of Florida Colleges website. President Parker reminded the group that a new Policy and Advocacy chair would be voted upon at this meeting. Anyone interested in that position should contact Mr. Brawer. The June meeting will take place at Hillsborough Community College. The Florida Chamber has invited the Council to join in their reception which will take place at the Renaissance Tampa International Plaza, and will be followed by the COP Annual Awards Banquet.