

**The Florida College System  
Policy & Advocacy Committee  
Friday, February 10, 2017  
TCC Capitol Center  
Tallahassee, Florida**

**MINUTES**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Dr. Tom LoBasso, Policy and Advocacy Committee Chair, called the meeting of the Policy and Advocacy Committee to order at approximately 8:31 a.m. on Friday, February 10, 2017 at TCC Capitol Center in Tallahassee, Florida.

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

Mr. David Armstrong  
Dr. Sarah Clemmons  
Dr. Jim Henningsen  
Dr. Tom LoBasso  
Dr. Lawrence Barrett  
Dr. Jonathan Gueverra  
Dr. Cynthia Bioteau  
Dr. John Holdnak  
Dr. Ed Massey  
Mr. John Grosskopf

Dr. Devin Stephenson  
Ms. Ava Parker  
Dr. Tim Beard  
Dr. Ed Meadows  
Dr. Eileen Holden  
Dr. Jackson Sasser  
Dr. Thomas Leitzel  
Dr. Carol Probstfeld  
Dr. Bill Law

Also present were:

Ms. Madeline Pumariega  
Dr. Chris Mullin  
Ms. Wendy Sikora  
Dr. Karinda Barrett  
Ms. Lisa Cook  
Mr. Rod Duckworth  
Mr. Scott Kittel

Mr. Eric Godin  
Ms. Judy Green  
Ms. Yvette Hargreaves  
Ms. Suzanne Pridgeon  
Mr. Juan Mestre  
Ms. Angela Long

Mr. Michael Brawer  
Mr. Robert Batsel  
Mr. Brian Babb  
Mr. Eric Johnson  
Mr. Andy Treadwell  
Ms. Victoria Hernandez  
Mr. Steve Schroeder

Ms. Sandra Cesaretti Ray  
Mr. Ed Woodruff  
Mr. Liam McClay  
Mr. Brian Thomas  
Mr. Scott Balog

Dr. Robert Flores  
Ms. Kelly Warren  
Ms. Kaitlin Santiago  
Ms. Abby Whiddon  
Mr. Don Payton  
Mr. Jack Parker  
Mr. Patrick Rinard  
Mr. Kyle Brawdy

Mr. Tony Ganstine  
Ms. Marsha Kiner  
Dr. Judith Bilsky  
Mr. Peter Elliott  
Mr. Craig Johnson  
Ms. Sheryl Vittitoe  
Ms. Loretta Costin

Dr. Tim Beard introduced the Pasco-Hernando State College SGA students.

Ms. Kaitlin Santiago reported the SGA held their Legislative Conference on February 8-9. Ms. Santiago added that 290 students and advisors attended and participated in educational sessions as well as individual meetings with their local legislative delegations.

**1.0 Approval, Policy & Advocacy Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2017**

***Action:** Upon a motion by Dr. John Holdnak and a second by Dr. Ann McGee, the minutes of January 13, 2017 meeting of Policy & Advocacy Committee were approved without objection.*

**2.0 Update, 2017 Legislative Priorities**

Dr. Tom LoBasso reported the Trustees held a successful conference.

Ms. Sandy Cesaretti Ray reported the lobbyists are currently tracking 185 bills.

Dr. Bill Law asked for approval for the following resolution:

From its earliest days, The Florida College System has provided a means for Floridians to have affordable access to a college education. We have done this within a strong commitment to equality – we take great pride in our efforts to enroll, support and graduate a diverse student population that mirrors the communities in which we live.

At present, we are proudly serving the needs of those students who were not born in the United States but who have lived in Florida, graduated from a Florida high school and seek to join the ranks of productive citizens by obtaining a postsecondary credential. These students – collectively referred to as “DACA students” – are permitted to enroll in the Florida College System and to attend courses paying the same as other Florida high school graduates. We supported and assisted in getting this beneficial legislation passed.

The uncertainty in America regarding the continued supportive status of DACA students is creating a stressful and debilitating environment for learning and success. The Council of Presidents of the Florida College System urges both the Florida Legislature and the Federal Government to maintain current permissions and legal protections for these students to enroll, attend and complete their college education.

***Action:** Upon a motion by Dr. Bill Law and a Mr. David Armstrong, the resolution as presented was approved without objection.*

Dr. Tom LoBasso adjourned the Policy and Advocacy meeting at 8:40 a.m. without objection.