

Draft Minutes
UWF Board of Trustees
Academic & Student Affairs Committee Meeting
Conference Center, Room A
Pensacola, Florida

Thursday, May 4, 2006

8:30 a.m.

Committee Chair Roy Smith called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2006, in the Conference Center, Room A. Trustee Collier Merrill had a scheduling conflict.

Committee members present:

Trustee Roy Smith
Trustee Jay Gould
Trustee Chuck Horner
Trustee Catherine Kelly
Trustee Tim Roberts

Also attending:

Mr. K. C. Clark, Chair, Board of Trustees
Dr. John Cavanaugh, President
Dr. Sandra Flake, Provost
Dr. Debbie Ford, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Barbara Lyman, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Richard Podemski, Associate Vice President, Dean, Research, and Graduate Studies

Dr. Don Chu, Dean, College of Professional Studies
Dr. Jane Halonen, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Ed Ranelli, Dean, College of Business
Dr. Dana Sally, Dean, University Library

Dr. Rick Barth, Director, Admissions
Dr. Chris Cavanaugh, Director, Research, and Sponsored Programs
Dr. Jim Hurd, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs
Dr. Ranga Rao Krothapalli, Director, Center for Environmental Diagnostics and Bioremediation
Dr. Marilyn Lamborn, Director, Nursing
Dr. Bob Shaw, Director, Student Academic Support Services
Dr. Susan Stephenson, Executive Director, Foundation

Mr. Greg Dziadon, Director, Testing and Technology Services
Ms. Marie Glass, Coordinator for Administrative Affairs
Mr. Michael Jasek, Assistant Dean, Student Transitions, and Greek Affairs
Mr. Muhammad Rashid, Director, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Mrs. Kay-Lynne Taylor, Director, Housing, and Residence Life

Chair's Greetings

Chair Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. He proposed to adjourn the meeting by 10:50 a.m. in order for everyone to attend the Nurses' pinning ceremony in the Commons Auditorium.

Action Items

1. **Approve Minutes of March 7, 2006:**
<http://uwf.edu/trustees/>.....

Chair Smith asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2006. Trustee Gould stated he was not certain that the attribution made to him on page 6, paragraph 2, mid-paragraph, was correct. He suggested the statement be revised to reflect, "A Trustee remarked that sometimes the impact of an academic program review could be dramatic." An example was cited of when an outside analysis indicated that the English and Foreign Language Department should be separated to allow growth. Chair Smith asked for a second motion to adopt the minutes with the proposed revision.

Motion by: Trustee Roberts
Seconded by: Trustee Gould
It carried unanimously.

Informational/Discussion Items

1. **Nursing Accreditation Update** as presented by Dr. Barbara Lyman
Supporting documentation:

Dr. Lyman asked Dr. Jane Halonen, Dean of Arts and Sciences, to introduce the individuals who would present the updates on the purpose and process for the Nursing accreditation and the accreditation for the Electrical and Computer Engineering program.

Dr. Halonen encouraged everyone to attend the Nursing pinning ceremony. Next, she introduced Dr. Marilyn Lamborn, Director of the Nursing Program, and noted that both the Nursing and Engineering programs were in terrific shape for the upcoming re-accreditation visit.

Dr. Lamborn thanked everyone for allowing her the opportunity to share information regarding the Nursing program. She stated the Nursing department would be involved with the accreditation process this year. She referenced the PowerPoint presentation and gave an overview of the mission. Nursing is currently working on self-assessment and will continue to do so over the summer. They expect three visitors from SACS, who will meet with individuals on campus, out in the community, the hospital liaisons, and students. They will review four elements: Mission and Governance, Institutional Commitment and Resources, Curriculum, and Program Effectiveness: Performance and Outcomes. The accreditation will be valid for ten years.

Dr. Lamborn noted the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program allows only 40 admission spots annually. The Nursing program received 156 applications this past fall 2005. The program is limited due to faculty shortage and clinical space concerns. There is a 100% employment rate for graduating Nursing students. She noted that although Nursing students graduate with a BS degree, they are still required to take the state board-licensing exam, which must be renewed every other year.

Dr. Lamborn stated approximately 80% of BSN students, who after graduation, pursue their Master's degree or higher. She briefly discussed the joint cooperative RN-BSN program that UWF has with OWCC. Their faculty and adjunct faculty teaches UWF's curriculum. OWCC will graduate 15 RN-BSN students.

She continued that UWF is becoming more affiliated with Pensacola Junior College in regards to offering some Nursing courses at the PJC Warrington campus this fall. The upside is that UWF students will have access to PJC's patient simulation labs or other skill equipment that UWF does not have. This will foster a greater collaboration between the two programs and the clinical agencies in

the community. UWF and PJC act as a united front to the health agencies, particularly the hospitals, for clinical site needs. She also stated there is great potential for recruitment from PJC's AS program in transitioning from their RN program to UWF's BSN program.

Dr. Lamborn stated they established the UWF Honor Society in Nursing last spring. They are working within certain parameters in order to request chapter service from the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (STTI). They have inducted between 50-55 students and 20 community leaders. The Nursing Honor Society is a voted and selected membership.

She continued with Partnering with the Community, stating that support of the local hospitals has been significant with the Nursing program over the years. Baptist Hospital, Sacred Heart Hospital, and West Florida Hospital have contributed greatly to the program. The Nursing Program also has a close clinical relationship with the Navy Hospital. All hospitals have continued to provide excellent support of the program. She discussed the designated admission slots for the community agencies and the military.

For "Future Plans," Dr. Lamborn stated they have plans for a Master's in Nursing, in different areas: Nursing Education, Nursing Administration, and possibly Nurse Practitioner and Geriatrics. They are collaborating with the University of Florida in their PhD and DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice) program. They formed a consortium several years ago including UWF, Florida State, Florida A&M, and the University of North Florida. Their programs will be online so the faculty at the University of Florida can mentor the students. She noted that one faculty member has been admitted to the PhD program and another faculty member is seeking admission to the program. She briefly discussed the continuing education programs that are offered to the community, as well as some programs that are in the developmental stage. She noted they are looking forward to being back on campus when the Allied Health Building has been constructed, estimated by 2008-09.

Chair Smith asked for clarification in regards to the re-accreditation and the limitations on the enrollment. Dr. Lamborn confirmed that the Nursing program is up for re-accreditation. She continued that the Florida Board of Nursing controls the enrollment, which includes 36 slots for a new program. They will be meeting with the Board sometime this summer. They have asked the Executive Director of the Board if they could allow 40. UWF's Nursing Program is still on provisional status because, until last year, they had not graduated a class that was to take the licensing exam. In the past, all of their students within the program were already licensed. With the new program, they had a 96% pass rate of the first class. They can take these statistics to the Board of Nursing to get off provisional status and ask for increased student spots, provided they have the faculty and clinical sites. Chair Smith asked her projection for seeking additional spots. Dr. Lamborn stated they would like to add 20 to make the total 60. Chair Smith asked the timetable on the Master's program. Dr. Lamborn responded a proposal is being drafted, with the hopes to have the program ready within a few years.

Dr. Gould commended Dr. Lamborn on her excellent presentation. He asked if there was another significant need of the program that she would like to bring to the attention of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Lamborn noted that within their clinical groups, there are ten students per faculty member. When they take several groups into the hospital, it can be overwhelming to the hospitals, particularly in an area such as Pediatrics at Sacred Heart Hospital, where everyone has to use the same unit. She would like to be able to facilitate faculty to attend workshops to update their qualifications. Many already do so but at their own expense. Dr. Gould asked if the program currently pays for itself. If so, would it continue to pay for itself as it grows. Dr. Lamborn replied that it does not because it is an expensive program. They would like to have a smaller ratio of one faculty member to ten students (they would prefer 1:8) for clinical studies due to safety factors and liability issues where expenses can mount up. They have hopes that alumni will become more prevalent if they stay in this area and become more involved. Chair Smith asked if UWF still drew students out of the PJC associate degree

program. Dr. Lamborn said, "Yes, these are the students that cross the RN-BSN Bridge Program." They are pushing to do more to go online for that particular program because of the competition 50 miles away. They want to keep the Nursing students in state and keep their tuition money in state.

Trustee Kelly asked about diversity and stated that, typically, it is a predominately-female profession. Dr. Lamborn stated they have a number of males who have applied to the program. When they select students, they block out the names and are not allowed to ask the gender. It is strictly based upon their admission requirements. She feels they have a healthy mix considering the overall community ethnic group. Chair Smith asked what facility was being used at West Florida Hospital. Dr. Lamborn responded their offices are located in part of the pavilion. Previously, this was the adolescent area but it had been closed and empty for some time. It has a small skills lab for the students, which is where students are taught the basics, such as injections, how to start IVs, and take blood pressure. The classes are held on campus at UWF. She emphasized the importance of wanting the students to feel they are part of the UWF experience.

Chair Smith referred to Dr. Gould's question about the underwriting. Chair Smith recalled the history of the program, how the Legislature mandated nursing but provided no money, so there was a problem of getting the funding for the program initially. He asked if they had gotten beyond that point. Dr. Flake responded that she was not familiar with the earlier years of the program. They have allocated additional lines to the program. They are working on cooperative arrangements with PJC to expand the reach of the program and to have more negotiating power for clinicals. This year, there was a request from the Board of Governors to the Legislature for the critical needs areas. She understood Nursing was one of them and that part of the request is being funded. Discussion followed regarding the number of Nursing faculty positions. Dr. Lamborn noted that all faculty have to be Master's prepared or higher, or very close to finishing a Master's degree.

2. **Electrical and Computer Engineering Program Accreditation Update** as presented by Dr. Jane Halonen and Mr. Muhammad Rashid with supporting documentation: <http://uwf.edu/>.....

Dr. Jane Halonen introduced Mr. Muhammad Rashid, Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Dr. Halonen stated the department is preparing for their accreditation from ABET ([Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology](#)). The program is currently a University of Florida program. Mr. Rashid, a University of Florida employee, has extended faculty rights to UWF to facilitate the transition. She continued that Mr. Rashid, despite catastrophic illnesses within the department, has exerted leadership for this group. In addition to meeting everything that is required for ABET, the department has emerged as a leader in relation to helping people get on board with assessment and accountability.

Mr. Rashid stated he appreciated the opportunity to share information regarding their program. He gave a PowerPoint presentation of the department's vision. He emphasized the need for graduates to be prepared for the job market. He stated that in addition to developing guidelines for technical skills, they developed some criteria that were used to measure the students and move them to the next level. He further stated the department has the ambition to be recognized. He thinks they have reached the level of excellence in the program but feels the program needs to be marketed and promoted nationwide to show that UWF has a quality undergraduate Electrical and Computer Engineering program. He gave an overview of the accreditation summary and noted they are set for the ABET review in mid-October. He briefly discussed the Capstone Design experience, which includes faculty and peer assessments, where students build and test the projects and make a public presentation.

Mr. Rashid stated the department established an Evaluation/Assessment Process for program courses, program outcomes, program objectives, measures and assesses, and changes for program improvements. The objectives measure what the students will be able to accomplish after 4-5 years after graduation.

Because the program is new, Mr. Rashid said they have been trying to establish various partnerships. Examples included the Gulf Power Educational Partnership, where UWF offers courses for engineers and non-engineers; the Gulf Power Endowment for Power Engineering Education, where a number of UWF students are working with Gulf Power; and, the Choctaw High School Engineering program, which will be expanded to include joint enrollment for their students. Other partnerships include the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Scholarship Endowment, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), the MTI in Fort Walton Beach, and one Eta Kappa Nu (EKN) Honor Society. This year, they are trying the Peer Orientation and Mentoring Program, which is to have a connection between the juniors and seniors and the freshmen and sophomores.

Mr. Rashid gave an overview of "Future Plans". He noted the department would be separating from the University of Florida in December 2008. Beginning spring 2009, graduates will have UWF Engineering degrees. The program will continue to include evaluations and assessments; have enrollment management to include marketing, recruitment, and retention; continue to develop new educational partnerships; have an alternative mode of delivery while retaining the program quality; and, work towards achieving the vision of distinguished programs in the state and nation. Chair Smith asked how the transition to UWF would work for faculty members currently teaching in the program. Mr. Rashid stated that all faculty and requirements would stay the same; only the ownership would change. Discussion followed regarding the number of students currently enrolled in the program and the number of faculty members involved.

Dr. Gould remarked the program appears to be very successful and asked how well prepared are the students who enter the program. Mr. Rashid stated they require the students to have a strong background in math, chemistry, and physics. They also have a tutoring program and mentoring services. Dr. Flake interjected that Engineering is another one of the critical needs area programs being recommended by the Board of Governors. The issue from Engineering is different from the issue from Nursing. In Nursing, there are students who want to be nurses; however, UWF does not have the avenue to bring in the students. In Engineering, there are students who want to be engineers but some do not have the math and science background. Most of the initiatives being promoted by the Board of Governors are initiatives that would improve the pipeline so that the students would have better preparation when they arrive at the University. Discussion followed regarding the need to engage students in math and science at an earlier age, the gender distribution in the program, the need to address the female population, and the methods of involvement that could be used to measure success.

3. Academic Affairs Update as presented by Dr. Sandra Flake Supporting documentation:

Dr. Flake stated the focus would be on one of the units of Academic Affairs, the Center for Environmental Diagnostics and Bioremediation (CEDB). The CEDB was established in 1990 and works with affiliated departments and external organizations to enhance what UWF is doing in research, teaching, and service, particularly about EHS and research and training opportunities. She introduced Dr. Ranga Rao, Director of CEDB, and described him as the linchpin of the operation. She asked him to make the presentation about the accomplishments of the program.

Dr. Rao thanked everyone for the opportunity and began with an overview of his PowerPoint presentation. He reviewed the courses that were taught within the program, as well as the total number of personnel involved in the program. He briefly discussed the funding allocations from 1990-2006, which included 91% from federal agencies and smaller percentages from state, local, and private sources.

Dr. Rao stated CEDB has focused on environmental health studies. He continued that in 1999, the Escambia County Grand Jury investigated the condition of the county and concluded the air, water, and soil were heavily polluted and required action. He briefly discussed the locations of the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) sites. The University established a partnership called Partnership for Environmental Research and Community Health (PERCH) to collaborate with health departments in Escambia County and Santa Rosa County to look at environmental health and human health issues.

Since 2002, they have been able to get direct congressional appropriations of which those monies were channeled through the Center for Disease Control and EPA. He gave an overview of grants that were used to study fisheries, elevated blood lead levels in children, and toxicology studies at Superfund Sites. The EPA Cooperative Agreement that started in 2002 will be extended through 2008.

Dr. Rao submitted an application to receive another \$500,000 in funding that would include many other projects and will involve collaboration with many people. His department collaborated with the Electronic Resources Librarian to create an online-annotated bibliography with 2500 annotated bibliographies.

They collaborated with the University of South Florida Center for Health Organizations on a project to identify and compare mortality and morbidity models for selected health outcomes based on zip codes and comparable zip codes and demographics within other parts of Florida. On another project, they collaborated with the Georgia Institute of Technology, who established a mobile lab in Pensacola to monitor and develop a modeling and analysis approach to study air quality.

Yet, another project examined water systems for Bayou Texar, Bayou Chico, Bayou Grande, and Escambia Bay. This project included collaboration with Environmental Health, Environmental Studies, the GeoData Center, and Geographic Information Centers (GIS) centers. All data is posted on their website. The completed studies for Bayou Chico will be ready in a few months. They are starting studies in Bayou Grande and Escambia Bay, which will be complete in two years. He briefly explained the extensive monitoring of toxic chemicals on blue crab, American oysters, largemouth bass, mullet, and Pensacola Bay Finfish.

He briefly discussed the last project, the sinking of the Oriskany. They performed a baseline assessment of where it was going to be sunk in order to know the levels of PCBs 24 miles offshore. Reference and control site crews collected sediment and fish samples, with plans to collect some invertebrates, in order to perform an environmental health assessment to understand the human health implications from any of the potential environmental contaminants. Their goal is to provide a careful systemic assessment of the environmental health issues with hopes to improve it. Discussion followed regarding remediation and prevention measures. Discussion also included rumors of contaminated seafood and waters following Hurricane Katrina, and NOAA's preliminary analysis. Dr. Flake commented this presentation gives a sense of some of the research that UWF is involved in and the enormous impact it has on our students as they participate in these activities.

4. Student Affairs Update as presented by Dr. Debbie Ford

Dr. Ford shared significant student accomplishments. She remarked that these accomplishments were also included in the packet of distributed materials. She highlighted the Alternative Spring Break, where one group of students went to South Carolina to work at the Ronald McDonald House and another group went to the Florida Everglades and repaired an Everglades Outpost. She noted eight undergraduates and two faculty members from Chemistry who attended the 231st National American Chemical Society (ACS) meeting in Atlanta. The students presented posters of their research results and experiences from their labs. Two students participated in the Biological Chemistry Summer Research Program. Three Chemistry students participated in the 2005 Morelli-Quinteros Summer Research Fellowship Program. Another student was one of 14 recipients that received a travel grant from the Women's Chemist Committee of the American Chemical Society. Trustmark Bank hired students from the Finance Department. She mentioned the many College of Professional Students (COPS) students who participated in the Alternative Certification Program (ACP). One student was named Rookie Teacher of the Year and invited to present at the Just Read Florida conference. Another student was named the Cox Communications Teacher of the Quarter. One student received a \$500 scholarship in Environmental Studies. Another student received a \$35,000 in-kind equipment grant from Nortek USA and noted he was "the only student from a non-PhD granting school to receive the award". Marketing and Logistics students finished third to Ohio State and the University of Miami-Ohio and ahead of University of Arkansas and Michigan State University in the logistics case competition. Internationally, an MBA student and his unit at Camp Eggers in Kabul "developed the construction program requirements for the Afghani National Police." A female student competed in the first Arizona Ironman competition. Another student and one of our graduates won the William Wasson Awards at the National Intramural Recreation Sports conference. Dr. Ford also noted several leadership awards had been presented to students at the end of the semester.

5. Student Affairs Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Ford shared the mid-point assessment of the Student Affairs Strategic Plan through a PowerPoint presentation titled "Measuring the Ripple". In 2003, she worked with colleagues in Student Affairs to develop a strategic plan for Student Affairs. She provided background information and focused on significant accomplishments to enhance the educational experience of the students. She referenced new resources from Learning Reconsidered and Learning Reconsidered 2 and stated the focus is on how learning has changed in our organizations and institutions of higher education. She believes higher education, specifically at the University of West Florida, is leading in this area of collaboration. Student Affairs and Academic Affairs have collaborated on several initiatives because students are at the center of everything they do. She gave an overview of the Student Affairs' vision, mission, values, and facts.

Dr. Ford discussed the first division-wide retreat, where they discussed the need to enhance the educational experiences of the students. During the retreat, they generated over 175 ideas and narrowed them into eight areas of focus. They considered the need to do things differently because everything around is changing – the University is changing and the students' needs are changing. UWF needs to be able to meet their needs and help them develop into 21st century leaders. UWF needs to be flexible and adaptable.

From those eight areas of focus, Dr. Ford said they created six strategic goals for the division. She shared the six strategic goals and significant accomplishments. Their primary mission is to enhance and support the academic mission. This can be accomplished through collaboration with Academic Affairs and by working with COPS colleagues. She stated they provided campus-wide leadership with University Planning colleagues on the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE). Student Affairs also played a critical role in the hurricane preparation for response and recovery. She noted that students are involved with almost every University committee and that student input is valued.

She highlighted Student Learning Outcomes, which were centered on three areas: knowledge, skills, and values.

Dr. Ford feels Student Affairs has a solid foundation to create a future that not only meets the needs of the students today but also meets the needs of the students tomorrow. They believe the “ripples in action” lead to student engagement and lead to their success with UWF students. Discussion followed regarding how to measure success, retention of students, the first-year experience, the student’s level of satisfaction, and the student’s engagement in and outside the classroom. Dr. Ford said they also conduct program evaluations to determine where they need to make changes for the students. For career development, they worked with College of Business (COB) colleagues to develop a course for juniors to help them become “career ready”. Chair Smith asked if exit interviews were given to graduate students and to students who leave the program early. Dr. Ford responded that exit interviews were done, and mentioned they have conducted interviews of in-coming students to find out why they chose to attend UWF.

6. Student Code of Conduct

Dr. Ford stated the Student Code of Conduct would be coming up for Board action soon. Two committees, the Student Code of Conduct Committee and the Academic Integrity Task Force, were in the process of revising the Code of Conduct. She commented that the Academic Misconduct Task Force noted on the agenda was incorrect; it should have been listed as the Academic Integrity Task Force.

The Code of Conduct Committee is a group of students and staffs who review the current code of conduct, as it exists in the student handbook. All students are required to receive the handbook, which is also available online. One thing noted, since the devolution from the Board of Regents to the Board of Trustees, was the current Code of Conduct was intermingled with the academic misconduct process and with the behavioral misconduct issues. In order to separate into two policies, they appointed two different committees.

The Student Code of Conduct Committee has met over the past several months to provide additional clarity to the code and to make it easier to understand in terms of steps to be taken. Most importantly, the student discipline process at UWF is an educational process, but there are consequences for behaviors that do not belong in a University environment. One major change that was made was in how it was documented. An educational conference is always held with the students prior to going to a more formalized hearing. The process that will be put forth is as a regulation, which needs the Board of Trustees approval. The document was presented to the Student Government Association before they ended the semester so they could have input on this as well.

Chair Smith asked about the University’s situation, in terms of student infractions and behaviors not acceptable on college campus. Dr. Ford responded there are problems, but that students are held accountable. For serious situations, they address those problems one-on-one with those students. A very small number of students have been suspended or expelled. She noted there is an appeal process that is documented in the code, but the majority of the students do not appeal. They understand that what they did is not appropriate for the learning environment. Oftentimes, with the judicial case, it is revealed that the students are dealing with other issues. At that time, the students are referred to resources that are available on campus. Chair Smith asked Trustee Roberts for comments regarding this experience. Trustee Roberts stated that students he has known, who have gone up for judicial review, have had a learning and educational process, not just a punitive process. He believes this is unique here and that the direction of the Code of Conduct will be very beneficial for the students.

Trustee Gould asked about the Faculty Senate's involvement in the review and recommendation process for the Code of Conduct and the Academic Misconduct Policy. Dr. Ford responded that the Faculty Senate would be informed and could make those comments. She clarified that the statement on the agenda, "The Academic Misconduct Task Force has been meeting for several months", was incorrect. The statement should have read, "The Academic Integrity Task Force has been meeting for several months". She asked that the minutes reflect this correction. Discussion followed regarding the Academic Misconduct Policy, the report of the task force, and the review and comments by the Faculty Senate before the policy goes to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Gould asked if there was a timeline. Dr. Flake responded that there is no timeline but they are close to having another draft. Simultaneously, they are working on the concept of prevention that includes educating students about academic integrity and working jointly to create a campus that subscribes to values and integrity. They have sent out a survey to all faculty and students on campus regarding integrity issues, which will help to identify the nature of the issues as they move forward.

Other Academic and Student Affairs Items

Chair Smith asked for any other business. Dr. Ford stated she read the survey of the Board meeting and asked to address the comment in relation to housing growth and enrollment growth. For the past several years, they have been trying to remedy some quality issues in terms of construction of the newest buildings on campus. This summer, the contractors who built those facilities will repair two of the three residence halls buildings, Pace and Martin Halls. Three of the eight apartment buildings (Village East) will be off-line in the summer. They have focused on having the deficiencies corrected and have assured the Foundation colleagues that these issues have been addressed. They will continue to look at the south side buildings, which are the oldest residence halls on campus. Because these residence halls were built in the 1960's, there are several factors to be considered, such as, ADA accessibility requirements and electrical upgrades to meet technology needs. Sites that have been looked at previously to build additional housing on campus are in areas that do not have utility infrastructure to those sites.

Part of their next goal is the need for a comprehensive Housing Master Plan. As part of the Campus Master Plan review, a subcommittee will review the central growth and housing growth and will present their findings to the Board next year. They need to look at enrollment and financial feasibility. Currently, there is no documented need for more housing, but they do want to look at the potential aspect of it. She stated the University of North Florida had been at 110% of occupancy for about three years before they began to look at building more residence halls. She continued that a scope of work was being prepared and that a committee would be appointed to develop a comprehensive Housing Master Plan. She believes they are now in a position to be able to do that since they have those construction quality issues moving ahead. They have also refinanced the housing debt and will continue to work with their colleagues in Foundation to see what other capabilities might exist.

Concerns were expressed regarding recruitment of students from out of the area and student housing or affordable housing off-campus. Dr. Ford responded that they were reviewing a feasibility study. They know they have capacity for an additional 100 students. Later, if needed, they could do like other colleges and put three people to a room instead of two, so as not to turn away students. They will work with Dr. Rick Barth, Director of Admissions, to look at the profile of students coming in and the profile of where we are going to recruit. Good communication between Admissions and Housing and Residence Life is essential to make those decisions. She remarked, "Building a new building is not the only solution."

Discussion followed regarding residence halls capacity, growth on campus and the Emerald Coast campuses, the online environment, and retention. She continued that by refinancing the housing debt, they would set aside some monies in order to not have to borrow additional dollars. In addition to building savings to finance future housing projects, they would also look at other financing

alternative providers. They would bring these options in a comprehensive study to the Board if they feel the University needs additional residential housing on campus. Chair Smith stated he thinks the only concern the Board would have is to ensure that the University does not hit a limitation in its ability for growth because all options have been exhausted and it would be another two years before another residence hall could be built.

Trustee Kelly asked the current rate of student retention. Dr. Ford replied that it was approximately 74% the first and second years. One of the things they want to do in their division is dissect that information, compare it to the national average, and monitor it with hopes to increase our graduation rate. Trustee Kelly asked if graduation within a certain number of years is an important indicator. Dr. Flake responded that it is one indicator and they are tracking graduation rates within 4, 5, and 6-year cohorts, which was reported at the last meeting. Discussion followed regarding the different mix of students who attend UWF, concerns regarding how long it takes a student to get a degree versus the quality of the education the students receive, how the Legislature judges the University on the number of graduates, and the cost factor for facilities usage.

Chair Smith invited everyone to attend the Nurses' pinning ceremony at 11 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Glass, Recording Secretary
June 7, 2006