

**NOTES**  
**USF Consolidation Task Force**  
**Organizational Meeting**  
**April 25, 2018**  
**Habor Hall Community Room, USF St. Petersburg**

Present: Dr. Jonathan Ellen, Chair; Alison Barlow, Anddrikk Frazier, Dr. Judy Genshaft, Michael Griffin, Dr. Karen Holbrook, Melissa Seixas, Byron Shinn, Rick Piccolo, Kayla Rykiel, Dr. Martin Tadlock, Nicole Washington, Dr. Tonjua Williams

**I. Call to Order and Comments**

Chair Jonathan Ellen called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**IV. New Business – Information Items**

**a. Introductions and Vision**

Chair Ellen welcomed everyone to the organizational meeting for an orientation and review of various items including the scope of legislative authority, overview of the sunshine laws/public records, the USF Board of Trustees charter for the Task Force, the Board of Trustees Guiding Principles, and current USF System Institutional Profile and Performance.

Chair Ellen informed the Task Force Members that they were provided an orientation binder which includes pertinent information regarding the USF System and to use this binder as a resource as they begin their work.

Chair Ellen noted that, due to the short timeframe, the Task Force must stay focused on the scope of the legislative responsibility and reminded the Task Force Members to keep two (2) things in mind when discussing ideas and/or recommendations:

- 1) Will this affect USF's accreditation; and
- 2) Will this affect USF's preeminence?

Chair Ellen reminded Members that he serves as the spokesperson for the Task Force and all media requests should be directed to Adam Freeman in the USF System Office of Communications and Marketing.

**b. Orientation and Overview**

General Counsel Gerard Solis provided a short presentation that covered Florida's public records and sunshine laws. He requested Members to send any public records request to him or Adam Freeman and they will assist in fulfilling the request.

Assistant Vice President Mark Walsh gave a short presentation on USF System institutional performance and provided data on Performance-Based Funding and Preeminence.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Accreditation Liaison Michael Wrona provided a short overview of accreditation standards, guidelines and principals at USF and noted that representatives from across the USF System

will be traveling to SACSCOC headquarters on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss next steps concerning consolidation and accreditation.

After the orientation presentations, Chair Ellen outlined the Task Force Subcommittee structure. He explained that there would be three (3) subcommittees, each divided based on legislative focus areas, with three (3) Task Force Members participating on each (noting that the USF President and Regional Chancellors would not serve on subcommittees). He outlined the following focus areas for each subcommittee:

- *Student Access*
  - Equitable distribution of programs and resources to establish pathways to admission for all students who require bridge programming and financial aid; and
  - Other subject matters pertaining to student access as determined by the Chair of the Task Force that would support the work of the Task Force.
- *Shared Governance/Transparency*
  - Maintaining faculty input from all campuses during the review and development of general education requirements to reflect the distinctive identity of each campus;
  - Establishing budget transparency and accountability regarding the review and approval of student fees among campuses, including fee differentials and athletic fees, to enable the identification of the equitable distribution of resources to each campus, including the University of South Florida Health;
  - Developing and delivering integrated academic programs, student and faculty governance, and administrative services to better serve the students, faculty, and staff at the University South Florida College of Marine Science, the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee, and the University of South Florida St. Petersburg; and
  - Other subject matters pertaining to shared governance as determined by the Chair of the Task Force that would support the work of the Task Force.
- *Student Success/Academic Programs/Campus Identity*
  - Identification of specific degrees in programs of strategic significance, including health care, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and other program priorities to be offered at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg and the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee and the timeline for the development and delivery of programs on each campus;
  - Maintaining the unique identity of each campus and an assessment of whether a separate educational mission is beneficial to the future of each campus;
  - Developing the research capacity at each campus; and
  - Other subject matters pertaining to Campus Strengths as determined by the Chair of the Task Force that would support the work of the Task Force.

He discussed the structure and noted that each subcommittee will hold 2-3 hearings where key respondents across the USF System and external experts will testify. Each subcommittee has been assigned a specific staff liaison who will work closely with the subcommittee chairs to help facilitate meetings, hearings and communications. Each subcommittee should schedule an organizational call within the next couple of weeks.

**IV. Adjournment**

Chair Ellen thanked everyone for participating and noted that the website is the best resource for consistent and updated information. The next scheduled meeting is May 30th via telephone from 4-5:30 pm. Information will be provided prior to the call.