

**USF Board of Trustees
ACE Committee
Microsoft Teams Meeting
April 23, 2025**

MINUTES

ACE Committee Chair Oscar Horton welcomed everyone and convened the meeting.

Chair Horton asked Kiara Gayle to call the Roll.

Trustee Charbel Barakat
Trustee Suryakanth Gottipati
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Luran Monbarren
Trustee Fredrick Piccolo
Trustee Melissa Seixas
Trustee David Simmons

There were no public comments.

- **Overview and Approval Request:** Oscar highlighted the importance of the annual event and sought approval to present the plan to the board.
- **President's Remarks:** Rhea emphasized the year-round effort and the focus on student success.

Roll Call and Quorum:

- **Roll Call:** Kiara conducted the roll call, confirming the presence of trustees and establishing a quorum.

Presentation by Provost:

Provost Mohapatra described the meeting as crucial for reviewing student success and faculty excellence efforts.

- **Metrics and Performance:** The Provost detailed the alignment with USF and SUS accountability plans, legislative budget requests, and performance-based funding.
- **PBF and Preeminence Metrics:** There was discussion about the history, metrics, and significant funding associated with PBF and preeminence.
- **Performance Review:** The Provost highlighted progress in various metrics, including student employment, median wages, graduation rates, and retention.

- **Challenges:** Noted areas needing improvement, such as the university access rate and doctoral degrees awarded.

Strategic Investments and Revenue Sources:

- **Strategic Plan Alignment:** There was emphasis regarding the need to align with the SUS 2030 plan and invest in top-quality faculty recruitment.
- **Student Retention and Advising:** Focused on improving retention rates through better advising and course offerings.
- **Infrastructure and Research:** Addressed the need for better classroom infrastructure and research facilities.
- **Revenue Enhancement:** Discussed enhancing endowment funds, securing large research grants, and advocating for state support.

Questions and Comments:

- **Trustee Charbel** asked about the one-year post-graduation employment rate and its breakdown by degree category.
- **Assoc VP Valeria Garcia** responded to Trustee Charbel's question, explaining the limitations of the data provided by the Board of Governors.
- **Trustee Simmons** commented on the importance of making the university a top place for graduate students and supporting their success.

Approval and Transition:

- **Approval of Plan:** Chair Horton called for a motion to approve the plan, which was seconded and approved
- **Transition to Full Board Meeting:** Vice Chair Griffin transitioned to the full board meeting, acknowledging the efforts of the team.