Information Item

Legislation Updates

Danaya Wright
Chair
SB 266 – What does it do and what do we do about it?

- Mission alignment – BOG will periodically review the mission, make updates, review existing academic programs for alignment with the mission (including curriculum that violates 1000.05 – prohibits curriculum based on theories of systemic racism, sexism, oppression, etc). (1001.706)
  - Exception – “A nationally recognized and ranked university that has a global perspective and impact must be afforded the opportunity to enable and protect the university’s competitiveness on the global stage in fair competition with other institutions of other states in the highest Carnegie Classification.”

- The BOG shall develop a strategic plan specifying goals and objectives for each constituent university and an accountability plan
DEI – (1004.06)

• No university may expend any state or federal funds to promote, support, or maintain any programs or campus activities that
  • violate 1000.05
  • advocate for DEI or promote or engage in political or social activism as defined by rules of the State Board of Education and regulations of the BOG

• Exceptions – student fees to support student-led organizations are permitted; use of institution facilities by student-led organizations is permitted notwithstanding any speech or expressive activity which would otherwise violate this subsection

• Does not prohibit programs, campus activities, or functions required
  1. for compliance with general or federal laws or regulations;
  2. obtaining or retaining institutional or discipline-specific accreditation
  3. for access programs for veterans, Pell Grant recipients, first gen college students, non-traditional students, etc.

• The BOE and BOG shall adopt rules and regulations for implement this section

BOG has done nothing on this
Post-Tenure Review (1001.706)

• The BOG shall may adopt a regulation requiring PTR every 5 years. The regulation must address
  1. Accomplishments and productivity;
  2. Assigned duties in research, teaching, and service;
  3. Performance metrics, evaluations, and ratings; and
  4. Recognition and compensation considerations, as well as improvement plans and consequences for underperformance.
• BOG Regulation 10.003

BOG added minor provision removing arbitration for faculty not in CBA so universities are moving forward on this
General Education CORE Courses (1007.25)

• Faculty committees are to review and recommend core course options and removal, alignment, realignment, or addition of gen ed core course to satisfy the requirements of this new rule.

• Prohibits universities from disallowing transfer credits

• Viewpoint prohibition – “General education core courses may not distort significant historical events or include a curriculum that teaches identity politics, or is based on theories of systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege . . .”

• These changes/options shall be adopted in rule by the state BOE and BOG
All General Education Courses (1007.55)

• Legislature finds it necessary to ensure that every undergraduate student graduates as an informed citizen through participation in rigorous gen ed courses that promote and preserve the constitutional republic through traditional, historically accurate, and high-quality coursework that provides broad foundational knowledge to help them become effective and lifelong learners.

• Courses with a curriculum based on unproven, speculative, or exploratory content are best suited as elective or specific program credit and not gen ed credit.

• UF must review and approve gen ed course requirements and failure to comply will result in loss of performance-based funding.

• The State BOE and BOG shall adopt rules and regulations to implement this section.
Bathroom Bill

Each educational institution shall establish disciplinary procedures for any student, instructional personnel, or administrative personnel who willfully enters a restroom or changing facility designated for the opposite sex and refuses to depart when asked to do so by:

• any administrative personnel, faculty, security personnel, or law enforcement personnel

Each university shall establish a disciplinary policy for instructional and administrative personnel who violate this rule.

I have asked UF administration to prepare a bathroom map/inventory of all single-stall restrooms on campus for the use of any person who wishes to have access to a single-stall restroom.
BOG Reg 2.003

2.003 Equity and Access Equal Access and Opportunity.

(1) Discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, or any other basis protected by applicable state and federal law against a covered individual at any university is prohibited. Covered individuals include prospective and enrolled students, prospective and current employees, and visitors/invited/university program-invites. No person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any university program or activity, or in any employment opportunity or practice, conducted by the university.

(a) Nothing in this regulation prohibits a university from engaging in lawful practices aimed at achieving a broadly diverse student body, faculty, or staff if a university determines that such practices are necessary to achieve its educational, research, or service missions. Such practices may include, but are not limited to, conducting targeted outreach and recruitment aimed at inclusions; creating training programs to increase capacity of diverse cohorts; and taking lawful steps to prevent undue discrimination.

(3) Equity and Accountability Equal Access and Opportunity in Employment. Each university shall:

(a) Offer equal opportunity and access in employment to all qualified individuals without regard to the protected status or category of the individual.

(b) Establish policies, procedures, and reporting mechanisms that prohibit and address unlawful discrimination, including but not limited to harassment, of employees.

(c) Establish a designated office or person responsible for the development and implementation of the equal employment opportunity program at each university. Such person or office may, among other responsibilities, receive, investigate, and address complaints related to unlawful discrimination, including harassment, and recommend necessary action to the president or other decision-making.
“At this time, we are awaiting guidance from the BOG. Faculty will be informed by the administration when or if they need to make any changes to their teaching or other activities.” Amy Hass, UF General Counsel