

**Budget Council
Minutes
October 28, 2019
239Tigert
11:15 a.m.**

Free Conference Call dial-in number: (605) 472-5377 - Access Code: 843181

Present: Evie Cummings, Dennis Kramer, Lauren Solberg, Mei-Fang Lan, Jay Watkins, Keith Schneider, Ray G. Thomas, Laurie Bialosky, and Nadav Katz.

1. Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by Acting Chair Keith Schneider.

2. Approve September 30, 2019 Minutes

-The minutes were approved.

- [UFOnline](#) - Evangeline (Evie) Cummings, Assistant Provost and UF Online Director

-Evie Cummings and Nadav Katz, Assistant Director of Finance for UF Online, discussed the following points with council:

-An overview of the UF Online model and its key components.

-Current status of UF Online.

-UF Online plans for the next five years.

-Student statistics and the Fall 2019 student profile, including total and average credit hours, and number of students enrolled in which UF colleges.

-A general overview of online applications received.

-Feedback from students enrolled in UF Online was shared.

Other points included:

-The affordability of online coursework. UF Online is number one in the country for affordability. The positive impacts on student debt was discussed as well as Florida pre-paid plans and Bright Futures funding/payments of UF Online students. The UF Online population is mobile and a primary challenge is to serve students with the right classes while tailoring offerings most helpful to each student.

-PACE is a cost-effective entry into a UF and a top-ten public university and this cost benefit is articulated to help recruit students, many of whom will ultimately end up in a better financial place. PACE students frequently have multiple offers in both the virtual and the on-campus environments. PACE is an offer made by the university (as opposed to a separate application process.)

-UF Online's marketing and community engagement addresses negative perceptions of online degree work, including some parent biases of wanting their children to have a 'college experience' with which they are familiar.

-The challenges of the growth of dual enrollment was discussed given that UF maintains a target class size of 30 or fewer for online students.

- UF has Launched an optional fee package for online students to utilize.
- Technology fees and capital improvement fees are among the fees paid by UF Online students.
- The UF Online application fee is similar to the on-campus admissions application fee and similar to the undergraduate application process.
- UF Online investments and expenses were discussed. UF Online is committed to a carryforward balance.
- The relationship to on-campus facility costs and contributions by UF Online tuition revenue was discussed.
- Majors by application and denial rates of the top five growth majors were reviewed.
- Undergrad pre-requisites at community college or other institutions and performance at UF, which often varies by college, was discussed.
- A UF Online priority is to help serve transfer students.
- Over three million adults in Florida have attained some college credits. A UF Online priority is to increase access to bachelor's degrees in the state of Florida as data shows it elevates employment opportunities and economic standing and mobility.
- UF Online is ranked number one with faculty with terminal degrees (as opposed to industry experts or adjuncts.)
- There was an inquiry regarding medical school admissions to the online program and an experiential learning inquiry relating to how to balance courses needing labs.
 - A taskforce continues to review how to best create STEM labs for online students and discusses methods of doing labs such as having online students travel to lab 'bootcamps'.
 - Council discussed the findings of some of the work of Dr. Brian Harfe, CLAS Associate Dean & Assistant Provost for Teaching and Technology, which relates to student virtual and experiential learning environments. UF Online has been addressing outcomes and measures with Dr. Tim Brophy, Director of Institutional Assessment.

3. Council Updates & Follow-up's

- This item was tabled to the next meeting in the interest of time.

4. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.