

November 2, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
University of North Carolina General Administration
Center for School Leadership Development, Room 128
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

AGENDA

- A-1. [Approval of the Minutes of September 7, 2017](#)..... Alex Mitchell
- A-2. [Review of Degree Program Credit Requirements and Board Policy](#).....Alex Mitchell and
Andrew Kelly
- A-3. [Update on Institutional Performance Agreements](#).....Andrew Kelly
- A-4. [Discussion of Upcoming Meeting Topics](#).....Alex Mitchell
- A-5. Other BusinessAndrew Kelly
 - a. [Update on Statewide Education Commission \(My Future NC\)](#)
- A-6. Adjourn

Additional Information Available

- A-2. [Review of Degree Program Credit Requirements and Board Policy](#)
- A-3. [Update on Institutional Performance Agreements](#)
- A-5. [Update on Statewide Education Commission \(My Future NC\)](#)

DRAFT MINUTES

9/7/2017

University of North Carolina General Administration
Spangler Center, Executive Conference Room
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

This regular meeting of the Committee on Strategic Planning was presided over by Chair J. Alexander Mitchell. The following committee members, constituting a quorum, were present: Darrell Allison, Pearl Burris-Floyd, Tyler Hardin, Ann Maxwell, Anna Nelson, Doyle Parrish, Randall Ramsey, and O. Temple Sloan III.

Chancellor participating was Philip Dubois.

Staff members present included Andrew Kelly, and others from General Administration. Others participating included: Chairman Lou Bissette

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2017, and called for a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2017.

MOTION: Resolved, that the Special Committee on Strategic Planning approve the minutes of July 11, 2017, as distributed.

Motion: Ann Maxwell

Motion carried

2. Review of Proposed Revisions to Resolution and Charter (Item A-2)

Chair Mitchell began by reviewing the proposed revised resolution and charter. The revised documents emphasize the shift from strategic planning to implementation, and calls on the committee to focus its work for the coming year on student success. Further discussion preceding the vote included how the new focus would dovetail with continued emphasis on monitoring system and institution-level progress on the strategic plan goals.

MOTION: Resolved, to approve the revised Resolution and Charter for the Committee on Strategic Initiatives.

Motion: Anna Nelson

Motion carried

3. Student Success in the UNC System: Trends and Strategies (Item A-3)

Andrew Kelly briefed on trends in student success and the strategic plan goals related to student success. The presentation emphasized the limitations in traditional federal graduation rates and illustrated why those limitations are particularly acute for some of our institutions.

Chair Mitchell opened the floor for discussion regarding credit hour requirements. A key topic was the strategies to make more productive use of summer session to keep students on track to a degree. The summer session is not currently funded by the legislature, which means students must pay “out of pocket” to earn credits. The return of summer Pell Grants will likely generate more interest in summer session, the Chancellors in attendance urged the committee to explore the role of the state in facilitating better use of summer. The committee also discussed graduate students, who are missing from student success measures, and graduate student debt.

4. Areas of Distinction (Item A-4)

The Areas of Distinction for each institution was included in the board materials for review.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Randall C. Ramsey, Secretary

AGENDA ITEM

A-2. Review of Degree Program Credit Requirements and Board Policy...Alex Mitchell and Andrew Kelly

Situation: UNC System office staff provide this information on degree program credit requirements at the request of the Committee on Strategic Initiatives.

Background: At the September 7, 2017 meeting of the Board's Committee on Strategic Initiatives, committee members discussed student success data and trends, as well as potential levers to improve success and reduce time to degree. Data presented included retention and graduation rates, degree efficiency, and attempted credit hours per degree.

In the discussion, Committee members inquired about the number of credit hours that are typically required to earn a four-year degree at UNC institutions. In 2013, the Board of Governor's Fostering Undergraduate Student Success (FUSS) policy limited baccalaureate degree programs at UNC institutions to no more than 128 credits, and mandated that any requirement beyond 128 credits be approved by the Board of Governors. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Colleges (SACS COC), the regional accreditation agency that oversees all UNC institutions, requires that bachelor's degrees be at least 120 credits in length.

The Committee on Strategic Initiatives asked UNC System staff to assess how credit hour requirements vary across institutions and disciplines and the extent to which those requirements align with existing standards.

Assessment: The attached documents provide information on the following areas in response to a request of the Committee on Strategic Initiatives.

1. Current Board of Governors policy (Fostering Undergraduate Student Success)
2. SACS COC Policy

Additional Information: A national study of credit hour requirements across four-year and two-year colleges can be found here (Complete College America)

Action: This item is for information only.

AGENDA ITEM

A-3. Update on Institutional Performance Agreements.....Andrew Kelly

Situation: The Committee on Strategic Initiatives provides this update to the Board regarding implementation of the UNC Strategic Plan.

Background: In January of 2017, the Board of Governors unanimously approved the UNC Strategic Plan, *Higher Expectations*. (The final version of the plan can be found [here](#).)

The plan contains nine empirical metrics related to access, student success, and economic impact. Over the course of the spring, the UNC System office collaborated with institutional leadership to translate System-level goals on those nine metrics into institution-level contributions. System staff worked with institutional leaders at each university to identify the five strategic-plan metrics that the institution wished to prioritize over the next five years (institutions also placed three metrics in the “Improve” category and one metric in the “Sustain” category. Subsequently, system staff and university leaders negotiated specific improvement targets that reflect institutional context, enrollment projections, and Undergraduate Degree Completion Improvement Plans.

This work has culminated in sixteen unique Performance Agreements between President Spellings and each Chancellor that clearly identify the institution’s commitment to the UNC Strategic Plan. Those Performance Agreements have now been signed by President Spellings and each respective chancellor.

Assessment: The attached documents provide an update on Strategic Plan Implementation in the following area:

1. Sixteen institutional Performance Agreements Signed by the President and respective Chancellors
2. Performance Agreements Overview

Action: This item is for information only.

AGENDA ITEM

A-4. Discussion of Upcoming Meeting Topics Alex Mitchell

Situation: Members of the Committee on Strategic Initiatives will identify the student success strategies and policies that they would like to discuss during upcoming meetings.

Background: At the September 7, 2017 Board of Governors meeting, the Committee on Strategic Initiatives approved a new resolution and charter describing the committee's focus on exploring policy issues and initiatives related to the achievement of strategic plan goals. The charter identified student success as the focus for this year's committee meetings.

Assessment: Over the course of this year, the Committee on Strategic Initiatives will work with UNC Chancellors, faculty, staff, and other subject matter experts to identify key policy topics that are relevant to achieving Strategic Plan goals related to student success. The attached document provides a draft working schedule of topics for discussion.

Action: This item is for discussion only.

AGENDA ITEM

A-5. Update on My Future NC Commission.....Andrew Kelly

Situation: Provide an update to the Board on the My Future NC Commission, including Commission roster, FAQ's and working schedule.

Background: The second goal under the Strategic Plan Access theme called on UNC General Administration to convene a multi-agency working group, including the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), to recommend policies and strategies designed to improve college readiness and the transition to postsecondary education.

Assessment: The My Future NC Commission is comprised of top thought leaders from the education, business, philanthropy, faith-based, and nonprofit communities from across the state. The commission is charged with: setting an educational attainment goal for the state, identifying key obstacles to achieving that goal, and proposing policy reforms that can help the state make progress on educational attainment. President Spellings and other key stakeholders launched the commission on October 17, 2017 at Davie County Early College High School in Mocksville, NC. The first meeting of the Commission will take place on November 6, 2017 at the Hunt Library at North Carolina State University.

Action: This item is for information only.