

LegisLetter

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Volume Eleven / Number Nine • May 2, 2005

It all comes down to this: Eight weeks' worth of hearings, negotiations, and lobbying come to a head this week, the ninth and final of the 2005 Session. Bills will fly, amendments will appear out of thin air, and provisions long thought dead will be miraculously resurrected.

House and Senate budget conferees worked long hours last week, but despite their diligence, many issues had to be "bumped up" to the Appropriations Chairs for resolution. These Chairs, **Representative Joe Negron (R-Stuart)** and **Senator Lisa Carlton (R-Sarasota)**, closed out as many unresolved budget issues as they could before leaving for the weekend, then resumed their discussions Sunday evening. Most university budget issues have been decided, although the PECO items and the pay package are still unsettled (**see related story**). The budget must be finished by Tuesday to comply with the 72-hour "cooling off" period that is required before its final passage.

As for substantive legislation, a proposal surfaced last Monday that combines several higher education bills into a single piece of legislation. That bill, which is on a fast track in the House, passed the Education Council on Tuesday and headed straight to the House floor, where it is poised to pass and be sent to the Senate. In addition, several other higher-ed bills of interest are awaiting passage by either the House or Senate this week, including the University Governance bill (**see Spotlight on Bills**).

Once the session is over, and the Governor has issued his vetoes, a final edition of the *Legisletter* will summarize its outcome, which makes this the last weekly edition of this newsletter for the session. A reminder that all of the frantic action of this final week can be seen live on the Florida Channel, on local cable channel 4.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions you might have about bills or budget issues. I can be reached at **(850) 644-4453** or by e-mail at kdaly@govrel.fsu.edu.

Kathleen

Budget Update

As the final week of the Legislative Session begins, the budget, of course is the key issue. The various conference committees completed their work on Thursday and "bumped" unresolved issues up to the committee chairs, Representative Joe Negron (R-Stuart) and Senator Lisa Carlton (R-Sarasota). The PECO projects, proviso and the pay package particulars will be addressed today, when the leaders resume their negotiations.

The following is a breakdown of the university issues that have been agreed upon as of Sunday, May 1:

University Enrollment Growth:

\$31,153,095	GR
\$11,313,198	Lottery
\$42,466,293	Total

Tuition Increase:

5% for instate undergraduates and unlimited for all other levels. (A provision allowing for tuition flexibility on the graduate and professional levels is included in a substantive bill that may pass this week.)

Matching Gifts:

\$51,192 million non-recurring

Centers of Excellence: \$0

FSU College of Medicine: \$35,034,966 total budget including fees and lottery

SUCCEED FLORIDA:

(for nursing only in universities)
\$5 million in non-recurring funds

FSU Enhancements:

\$6,500,000 in non-recurring funds

Board of Governors:

\$6,147,328 to fund 62 positions

Total funding to the State University System:

\$2,141,648,838 for a 6.74% increase over the 2004-05 base appropriation

Spotlight on Bills

SPOTLIGHT ON BILLS—UPDATE

HB 1001, University Governance by Representative Dudley Goodlette (R–Naples) was amended and substituted for **SB 1920 by Senator Evelyn Lynn (R–Ormond Beach)** and passed out of the Senate. The amendment prohibits citizen members of the Board of Governors and Boards of Trustees from having/holding any employment or contractual relationship as a legislative lobbyist requiring annual registration and reporting. The bill has been sent back to the House for final passage to the Governor this week.

HB 21 State Financial Assistance to Certain Foreign Student by Representative Dick Kravitz (R–Orange Park) prohibits a state university or community college from providing any student holding an F-1 or M-1 visa with financial assistance from state funds appropriated directly or indirectly to the institution for tuition or fee revenues generated by Florida residents. The bill was read the third time and temporarily postponed. The Senate companion, **SB 866 by Senator Mike Haridopolos (R–Melbourne)** is now in the Judiciary Committee.

HB 517, University Campus Planning by Representative Dean Cannon, (R–Winter Park) requires each university board of trustees to maintain a copy of the campus master plan on the university's website & provide for electronic copies of its draft master plan. The bill limits issues that an individual may raise in challenging a campus plan and authorizes the university to execute a campus development agreement during a pending challenge. The bill further provides for an evidentiary hearing to be held by the Division of Administrative Hearings if a challenge to the master plan is not resolved. The bill was temporarily postponed on third reading on Friday. The Senate companion, **SB 2614 by Senator Lee Constantine (R–Altamonte Springs)** was withdrawn from the Judiciary Committee on Friday and is now in the Education Appropriations Committee.

SB 2236, Tuition Rates/State Universities by Senator Lee Constantine (R–Altamonte Springs), requires students

to pay out-of-state tuition rate for credit hours in excess of specified number for community-college credits and for overall credits applied to baccalaureate degree. Additionally, the bill provides for tuition rebates for students who take minimal excess hours in earning a baccalaureate degree and provides a maximum allowable amount for such rebate, it further provides conditions to such rebate. The bill was read for the second time on Friday and rolled to third reading. This House bill has been pulled into **HB 6005**, with some modifications.

SB 1968, Building Designations by Senator Al Lawson, (D–Tallahassee, FSU Alumnus) names multiple facilities on State University campuses. The bill was rolled to third reading on Friday. The House companion, **HB 219 by Representative Lorraine Ausley (D–Tallahassee)** has yet to be heard.

SPOTLIGHT ON BILLS

HB 6005, Enhanced Student Opportunities by Representative Carl Domino (R–Palm Beach Gardens, FSU Alumnus) creates the Succeed Florida Initiative. This bill was introduced in the House last week and includes several other university-related bills that have been heard in committee this session. The bill revises provisions and provides responsibilities relating to career education, nursing education programs, postsecondary enrollment, baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges, secondary and postsecondary academic and career education advising, workforce education programs offered by school districts career and professional academies, postsecondary tuition and fees, postsecondary grant and loan programs, and postsecondary advance payment contracts. Other bills incorporated into this "train" include: **HB 1837, Succeed Florida by Representative Pat Patterson (R–DeLand); HB 119, Higher Education Finance by Representative Juan Zapata (R–Miami); HB 167 Baccalaureate Degrees/Community Colleges by Representative Stan Mayfield (R–Vero Beach); HB 935 Community Colleges by Representative Carl Domino (R–Palm Beach Gardens;**

HB 1853 Nurses/Increasing Production in Florida by Representative David Mealor (D–Lake Mary) The bill was heard on the House floor on Friday, amended and passed to third reading. There is not a Senate companion, however, there are several bills in the Senate that address specific issues incorporated into this legislation.

SESSION SCHEDULE

SENATE

**Monday through Thursday,
May 2–May 5**

10:00 a.m. to completions

Friday, May 6

10:00 a.m. to Sine die

HOUSE

Monday, May 2

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 3

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 4

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 5

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 6

9:00 a.m. to Sine die



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Kathleen M. Daly
Assistant Vice President

Toni Moore
Senior Administrative Assistant

Chris Adcock
Office Manager

(850) 644-4453
www.fsu.edu/~govrel