

**THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES**

201 Westcott Building
222 S. Copeland Street
Tallahassee Florida

**December 14, 2012
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Allan Bense, Ed Burr, Susie Busch-Transou, Joe Camps, June Duda, Joe Gruters, Andy Haggard, Mark Hillis, Jim Kinsey, Sandra Lewis, Peggy Rolando, Brent Sembler, and Rueben Stokes.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mr. Allan Bense, Chairman

Chairman Bense called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and Lynna Sands conducted the roll call.

II. UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL CONTRACTS

Dr. Eric Barron, President

Carolyn Egan, General Counsel, provided background information. S. 215.425(4), F.S., prohibits units of government from entering into a contract or employment agreement providing more than 20 weeks severance pay. State universities were not previously considered units of government; during the 2012 Legislative session, the statute was modified such that state universities are now covered by s. 215.425(4), F.S. A separate DSO is recommended so that FSU will remain in compliance with NCAA regulations.

In order to stay competitive within the national marketplace, staff recommends creation of the Florida State University Athletics Association, a Direct Support Organization (DSO). Supplemental contracts for athletics staff will be processed through the Florida State University Athletics Association DSO. Athletics staff will remain employees of FSU, and will be compensated by the Athletics Department in accordance with their employment contracts. President Barron indicated he is hopeful that the 2013 Legislature will clarify its intent with regard to the recent changes in s. 215.425(4), F.S.

In response to a question from Ms. Busch-Transou, President Barron indicated he does not plan to offer supplemental contracts to non-athletics

staff through a DSO pending possible Legislative clarification during the upcoming session. Additionally, the intent of s. 215.425(4), F.S. is not as clear for employees whose salaries and benefits are partially or wholly funded by Educational & General (E&G) funds. Athletic coaches are not compensated using E&G funds.

Ms. Duda moved that the Florida State University Athletics Association be created for the stated purpose. Trustee Burr seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.