FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING  
MINUTES  

February 19, 2014  
11:30 a.m.  

Augustus B. Turnbull III  
Florida State Conference Center  
Room 103  
555 West Pensacola Street  
Tallahassee, FL  

Members Present: Kathryn Ballard, Allan Bense, Ed Burr, Joe Camps, Rosie Contreras, June Duda, Joe Gruters, Andy Haggard, Mark Hillis, Leslie Pantin, Peggy Rolando, Brent Sembler and Gary Tyson  

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME  
(0:01:38)  

Mr. Allan Bense, Chairman  
Chairman Bense called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m. Lynna Sands conducted the roll call.  

II. PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS  

Mr. Allan Bense, Chairman  
Chairman Bense offered President Barron the opportunity to address attendees. Dr. Barron expressed his appreciation to the Trustees and the university community, and noted that he is incredibly proud of the university’s progress during the past four years. Dr. Barron offered his assistance during the transition.  

Several Trustees, including Trustees Bense, Hillis and Haggard, expressed gratitude for Dr. Barron’s service.  

A. Discussion of President Barron’s Resignation and Waiver of Section 12.4 of his Employment Contract  

Chairman Bense indicated that President Barron’s resignation will be effective April 2, 2014 and requested that Trustees consider waiving Section 12.4 of President Barron’s employment contract. Section 12.4 requires 180 days prior written notice in order to terminate the contract.  

After discussion, Trustee Camps moved to approve President Barron’s resignation and waive Section 12.4 of President Barron’s employment contract.
contract. Trustee Contreras seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Chairman Bense asked the Trustees for input regarding the traits and qualifications they would like to see in the university’s next President. Trustees indicated that important aspects include:

- Great leadership skills
- Knowledge of the Legislative process,
- Strategic planning experience,
- Strong academic background,
- Strong interest in student welfare,
- Outstanding listening skills,
- Goal oriented,
- Fundraising skills,
- Loyalty to Florida State University.

Chairman Bense thanked the Trustees for their comments, and noted that he wants the process to be thoughtful, deliberate, prudent and swift. Chairman Bense asked Trustees to send additional comments, if any, to Carolyn Egan, General Counsel.

Chairman Bense indicated he hopes to have a discussion regarding an interim President and search firms during the March 7 meeting. Vice President Clark is currently obtaining information regarding search firm pricing and qualifications.

At the request of Chairman Bense, Dr. Robert Bradley reported on the upcoming Southern Association of Colleges and Universities (SACS) accreditation visit. Dr. Bradley indicated that the site visit is the week of March 24, and that President Barron will be the point person for the university during the visit. Following the visit, the SACS Committee will provide a report to which the university may respond. A final decision regarding re-accreditation is expected in December 2014.

Kathleen Daly, Assistant Vice President, reported on the upcoming Legislative session, which will begin on March 4. Ms. Daly noted that President Barron will leave the university in great position to continue work toward Top 25 status. Ms. Daly also reported on House Bill 135, Public Records & Public Meetings/Postsecondary Education Executive Search, which includes a provision exempting the public records requirements for personal identifying information of applicants for president, provost or dean and exempts the public meeting requirement for meetings held for the purpose of identifying or vetting applicants. House Bill 135, if approved in its current form, has an effective date of October 1, 2014.
Carolyn Egan provided information regarding the Presidential Search Advisory Committee (Committee). In advance of the meeting, Trustees were provided information from the Association of Governing Board outlining best practices for presidential searches.

Chairman Bense noted that Committee members will represent a cross section of the university and its constituents, including Trustees, students, faculty, alumni, athletics and the community. The various constituent groups will determine committee representation.

Chairman Bense recommended Trustee Ed Burr as the Chairman of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. 

After discussion, Trustee Camps moved approval of Trustee Burr’s nomination as Chairman of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Trustee Sembler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Vice President Liz Maryanski introduced the Presidential Search website, expected to launch in a few days (fsu.edu/presidentialsearch). The website will include the latest news, position profile, information regarding the Committee and search firm. Additionally, a “Comments and Questions” section will allow constituents to provide feedback.

III. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6-7, 2014 in Tallahassee.