

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES

October 9, 2015

9:00 am

FSU Alumni Association  
Grand Ballroom  
1030 West Tennessee Street  
Tallahassee FL

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Members Present: Kathryn Ballard, Allan Bense, Ed Burr, Billy Buzzett, Joe Camps, June Duda, Susan Fiorito, Joe Gruters, Mark Hillis, Leslie Pantin, Bob Sasser, and Jean Tabares

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Mr. Allan Bense, Chair*

Chair Bense called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Lynna Sands conducted the roll call.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)**

*Trustee Pantin moved to approve the June 26, 2015, meeting minutes. Trustee Camps seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.*

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*There were no public comments.*

**IV. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

*Mr. John Thrasher, President*

President Thrasher provided an update on the following:

- President Thrasher reflected on the past 11 months and thanked his senior staff for their hard work on behalf of the university.
- Awarded market equity pay increase to more than 600 faculty as well as other pay increases
- National Rankings
  - US News and World Reports ranked our College of Business Insurance program 5<sup>th</sup> and Real Estate program 6<sup>th</sup> among public universities
  - US News ranked Florida State University ranked 43 among public universities

- Dr. Laura Green, was recruited to be the chief scientist at the Mag Lab. She is a National Academy member.
- The freshman class for fall 2016 consisted of 6100 students and the average GPA is 4.0 and SAT score is 1856
- National searches are underway for the provost and deans for the Colleges of Law, Business and Engineering
- FAMU and FSU continue joint efforts to improve the College of Engineering for the benefit of the students and faculty. Recently, upgrades have been made to the Engineering facilities. FSU hosted the ADEP accreditation team and expect receive a full re-accredited July 2016.
- FSU has met twelve of the twelve rigorous standards of a pre-eminent university. The Legislature currently supplements the university annual budget by \$25 million in preeminence funding. This allowed FSU to advance on several fronts including 57 new faculty members in STEM fields, and 8 entrepreneurs-in-residents to teach students. We are asking the Legislature for an additional \$10 million in preeminence funding to assist with hiring new faculty to advance FSU to a Top 25 university.
- Requesting additional funds to supplement the private funds raised for three new facilities.

## **V. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

*Dr. Sally McRorie, Interim Provost and*

*Mr. John Braunstein and Mr. Ben Weldowski, AKA Strategy Consultants*

John Braunstein and Ben Weldowski, AKA Strategy Consultants, reviewed the strategic plan process and goals:

- Arrive at a shared vision of what FSU is and what it will be in the 5-10 years
- Develop a relatively small, high-level strategic plan with a small number of high-level goals and for each goal a set of initiatives and strategies that support the accomplishment of each goal.
- By March 2016, present a near-final draft of the strategic plan for wide-spread discussion
- March-May, 2016, focus group discussions
- The Strategic Planning Committee has been formed to include alumni, student, staff and faculty.

## **VI. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Requesting Approval for Termination of Degree Program – Research and Evaluation Methods, MA/Ph.D.
- B. Requesting Approval for Termination of Degree Program - American and Florida Studies, BA/MA

- C. Requesting Approval for Termination of Degree Program - Chemical Physics, MS/Ph.D.
- D. Requesting Approval for Termination of Degree program – Communication Science and Disorders, Advanced Masters
- E. Requesting Approval for the FSU College of Medicine Graduate Medical Education Annual Institutional Review Executive Summary (AY 2013-2014)
- F. Requesting Approval for Changes to the State of Florida Institute Designation for the LeRoy Collins Institute
- G. Requesting Approval of the 2015-2016 ACC Governing Board Certification
- H. Requesting Approval of the Status Report on Construction Projects over \$2.0 Million and Change Orders
- I. Requesting Approval of the Status Report on Purchase Orders over \$1.0 million and 5+ Year Service Contracts
- J. Requesting Approval of Delegation of Authority to President to Approve the Florida Educational Equity Act Report(s)
- K. Requesting Approval of Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.009 Parking and Traffic Regulations
- L. Requesting Approval of Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.015 Procurement and Purchasing
- M. Requesting Approval of Amendment to FSU Regulation 2.023 Public Records: Uniform Charge Procedure
- N. Requesting Approval of the 2015-2016 Audit Plan for the Office of the Inspector General Services

*Trustee Pantin moved to approve the Consent Items as presented. Trustee Duda seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.*

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. University Advancement**

*Dr. Thomas W. Jennings, Vice President for University Advancement*

Dr. Jennings provided the following update for the DSOs in the University Advancement Division:

- The Vires Artes Mores Society Honor Wall – Honoring donors with lifetime giving (excluding pledges or bequests) of \$250,000 or more -- will be located in Westcott Building near the Ruby Diamond Concert
- Philanthropic Commitments are at the highest level in 2015
- The Raise the Torch Campaign total as of October 14, 2015 is \$718,901,243 of the \$1 billion goal. Two years and 9 months remain in the campaign.
- The FSU Joint Advancement DSO Board Meeting is scheduled for January 28-30, 2016, at Disney’s Boardwalk Inn.
- The University Advancement Gift Acceptance and Counting Policies were revised.

- The 1<sup>st</sup> joint planning session among the DSOs' annual giving and membership staff members was held
- FSU Foundation donor engagement upcoming events are scheduled for September 16 (Boston), October 22 (Atlanta) and December 9 (Ft. Lauderdale)
- Real Estate Foundation activity includes:
  - FICPA Property – College Avenue & Bronough Street
  - Call Street property
  - Monroe Street property
- Seminole Boosters are presenting the George Langford Award to Al & Judy Dunlap and Allan Bense
- FSU Alumni Association Recognition Programs:
  - Circle of Gold
  - Grads Made Good
  - Bernie Sliger Award
  - 30 Under Thirty Young Alumni
  - Reuben Askew Awards
    - Dr. Brooke Druliner
    - Ms. Herneshia Dukes
    - Dr. James Enos
    - Dr. Katelyn Jordan
    - Mr. Cesar Mize
    - Mr. Joe Mashie

## **B. Athletics**

*Mr. Stan Wilcox, Director of Athletics*

Mr. Wilcox provided an update on Athletics, highlighting student-athletes.

- FSU continues to rank in the top 5 in the Learfield Director's Cup
- ACC Accolades
  - FSU has the second-most ACC Championships (first percentage-wise)
  - FSU has the most ACC Coaches of the Year – 5
- Academics
  - 10 of 11 Women's teams have above a 3.0 cumulative team GPA
  - Two men's teams have above a 3.0 cumulative GPA
  - 7 of 9 Men's teams increased their 2015 Spring Term GPA
  - 111 Student-athletes made the Dean's List
  - 25 Student-athletes mad the President's List
- Colleen Quigley is one of nine finalists for NCAA Woman of the Year out of 480 candidates
- Athletics has a cumulative GPA of 2.968

- Equity & Student Welfare Committee
  - Dr. Billy Close
  - Dr. Alma Littles
  - Dr. Lynn Panton
  - Dr. Mary Coburn
  - Chief David Perry
  - Ms. Venessa Fuchs
  - Dr. Wayne Hochwarter
  - Dr. Eric Stewart
- Investment in Infrastructure
  - Softball – Field & Locker Room Upgrades
  - Women’s & Men’s Basketball Practice Facility – floor has been refurbished, other upgrades are underway at the civic center
  - Soccer – Locker Room Upgrades
  - Donald L. Tucker Civic Center – sound equipment upgrades
  - Cost of Attendance
  - Full Pell Grant recipients can receive up to \$10,276 (in-state)
  - In order for student-athletes to receive cost of attendance stipends, they are required to complete the personal finance course
- Teach & Support for Student Athletes
  - You’ve Been Challenged – speakers are brought in to educate and challenge student-athletes on leadership, ethics and what is expected of them at Florida State University

**C. Student Government Association**

*Ms. Iyanna Pierre-Louis, Vice President of Student Government Association*

Ms. Pierre-Louis provided an overview of the Student Government Association activities including:

- The mission of the Tabares/Pierre-Louis/McGuinness administration is to provide the student body with a VOICE through opportunity and engagement.
- Unconquered Issues which gives the opportunity for students to message any member of SGA regarding concerns or suggestions to improve Florida State University.
- NoleCab allows students to electronically transfer money onto a card to have another safe transportation service after hours.
- State of the Student Body Address by President Jean Tabares was held on September 14
- Airport Shuttle for \$15 at any time during the semester.
- RezRides provides bus transportation on the weekends to the FSU Reservation.

#### **D. Faculty Senate**

*Dr. Todd Adams, Faculty Senate Steering Committee*

Dr. Adams provided an update on behalf of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee:

- Faculty were pleased with the performance based and merit raises
- Faculty are concerned regarding legislation allowing guns on campus and have passed a resolution opposing guns on campus
- Faculty are engaged with the searches for the provost and deans for the colleges of law, engineering and business as well as the strategic planning process

#### **E. Research**

*Dr. Gary Ostrander, Vice President for Research*

Dr. Ostrander reported on grant and contract activity for FY-15. FSU faculty and staff received \$200,828,249 in grant activity. During FY-15 FSU faculty submitted about 10% more proposals than FY-14 and this resulted in an 8% increase in federal, state, and private grant awards. However, the total dollars flowing from the various agencies remains reduced.

Dr. Ostrander also presented a summary of activity around FSU's efforts to commercialize our research. The FY15 saw 59 invention disclosures, 27 patents issued and 17 option/license agreements executed. The office generated \$497,282 in licensing income and participated in 8 start-up companies based on FSU technology. In addition to describing past efforts he summarized steps taken to reorganize the Office of Commercialization and he discussed new strategies to be employed going forward.

#### **F. Student Affairs**

*Dr. Mary Coburn, Vice President for Student Affairs*

Dr. Coburn provided an update on Student Affairs including a new feature on the Undergraduate Academic Program Guide that links every major with specific career information. Additionally, the Career Liaison model had the impact of a 50% increase in internships that have been listed and ProfessioNole, linking students to Alumni, has increased participation levels.

During the fall Career Fair Week we hosted over 200 employers and 4000 students while 80 employers held interviews over the week.

The CARE and Unconquered programs received national accolades through the Chronicle of Higher Education. Furthermore, the program will receive funding of \$2.2 million over the next 5 years from the US Department of Education.

Additional external funding has been awarded for:

- Suicide Prevention Coordinator
  - Cross-campus partnership led by Department of Educational Psychology & Learning
  - \$306,000 over years from US Department of Health & Human Services
  
- Sexual Violence Prevention
  - Bystander intervention
  - \$125,000 one-year funding with renewal opportunity for ten years from FL Department of Health
  - \$10,000 one-year funding from Avon Foundation
  
- Alcohol Prevention
  - Providing alternative student programming
  - \$10,000 one-year funding from MillerCoors

## **G. Finance, Business & Audit**

*Mr. Kyle Clark, Vice President for Finance & Administration*

### **Action Item**

1. Requesting Authorization for Florida State University Foundation to issue debt for the acquisition of real property in the form of a conventional mortgage for a term of no more than 30 years.

*Trustee Pantin moved to approve the Authorization for Florida State University Foundation to issue debt. Trustee Sasser seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.*

### **Information Item:**

Mr. Clark also provided an update on Finance & Administration including the following:

- The Provost Search Committee includes fifteen faculty, two deans, and two vice presidents and two students. Several meetings have occurred including the search firm. The committee expects to have a provost hired by the new academic year.
- The implementation of mandatory criminal background checks for all A&P, USPS and Faculty appointments was effective August 1, 2015

- The College of Engineering fiscal agent has been finalized as FSU. They are also going through facility transitions including the reduction of portable classroom usage to permanent structures at the FSU Research Foundation.
- Payroll enhancements including faculty salary distribution from a 9-month appointment to 12 months.
- Continued process improvements include new software, procurement card reconciliation, new travel system, and new electronic distribution for bidding.
- The new budget system has advanced to phase 2
- The Public-Private Partnership new guidelines were approved by Board of Governors during September meeting. There are three outstanding public-private partnerships which include the following:
  - Convention, Retail, and Entertainment District. The area surrounding the Donald L. Tucker Center which is 30+ acres – attempts of being developed. It is predicted to be the new epicenter of energy and momentum for Tallahassee. The first phase of the project would include full service hotel and convention center. The College of Business would eventually be located there, as well.
  - Varsity Way project is gaining traction and waiting for responses from groups.
  - Panama City Residence Hall is awaiting second round of questions from responders.
- Procurement enhancements for fiscal year of 2015, more than \$16.4 million in savings have been identified to leverage through various contracts. Return on investment is more than 12:1.
- The transportation masterplan is currently in draft form.
- Fleet Management continues to progress in reducing number of service vehicles, installing software and updating policies and procedures. The Enterprise Rent-A-Car location has been opened on campus and is the only location in the country to be on a college campus.
- Human Resource ERP upgrades are in progress
- New Graduate Assistant payment plan allows graduate assistants to pay out their tuition fees over the course of the semester.
- Financial Aid has started a new pilot project to distribute financial aid before the start of the semester.
- Transportation and game day management includes additional bus services to be contracted and more than 50 officers have been brought in from additional agencies.
- Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences construction includes the meteorology building being knocked down, replaced with green sod. Hopeful for the funding to break ground on new building on schedule.
- University Housing Phase 2 is underway to include two new residence halls and a new dining hall.
- Doak Campbell Stadium improvements are underway to include new towers and elevators.



- Interdisciplinary Research and Commercialization Building (IRCB) will be built at Innovation Park.
- Ringling Campus - Asian Art Study Center has been completed and opened.
- College of Business- \$83 million project to be built in the arena district.
- Strozier Library enhancements consist of many improvements to the upper floor including new furnishings, carpet, paint, ceilings/lighting and mechanical.

## **H. Academic Affairs**

*Dr. Sally McRorie, Interim Provost*

### **Information Items**

Dr. McRorie provided an update on the University's academic standings to include:

- Preeminence metrics: 12/12
- Times Higher Education Worldwide Ranking- Tied for #32 among public universities
- Celebrated promotion and/or tenure of 61 faculty colleagues
- Hired over 120 excellent new faculty members
  - 80+ tenured or tenure-earning faculty
  - 30+ teaching faculty
  - 7 research and clinical faculty for Medicine and Magnet Lab
- Deans that are in transition will be completed by the end of the year
  - College of Business
  - College of Law
  - FAMU/FSU College of Engineering
- Student success
  - Almost 100 more Care and Unconquered scholars than before for a total of over 400 students
  - 99% retention from summer to fall semesters
  - Great story in Chronicle of Higher Education
  - FSU federal loan default rate has dropped to 5%, the national default rate for all federal loans is 11.8%, and the overall Florida default rate equals 14.1%
  - Our high school partners program and student ambassadors programs are working well and expanding to schools throughout Florida and beyond
- Future student success will come from a program currently being developed to be housed in College of Medicine
  - Interdisciplinary medical sciences degree development
  - Rigorous science foundation for all
  - Options to include Health Professional, Health Care in Community/Clinical Settings, Health Management, Policy and

- Informatics and multiple 1-hour seminars followed by Capstone seminar
- These are not currently available but predicted to be by August 2016
- Undergraduate Research Opportunity program will be offered for students to participate in year-long research colloquium
  - Students will conduct research weekly assisting a faculty member or PhD student, leading to a presentation at an undergraduate research symposium
  - The Council of Undergraduate Research recently named FSU one of the top schools in the country for undergraduate research with more than 25% of undergraduate students conducting research
  - 40+ students received nationally competitive awards in the past year including a Truman Scholar and 10 Fulbright Scholars in 2015
- Think 15 Project is to encourage students to take 15 hours per semester leading to more proven success.

### **Update on Title IX Initiatives**

*Ms. Jennifer Broomfield, Director of Title IX*

- Ms. Broomfield has monthly meetings with the General Counsel's office and weekly with Advocate Programs.
- Major accomplishments in the last quarter include:
  - Community outreach and communication
    - Conducted 22 trainings for students, faculty and staff including community partners
    - Published a rights and resources guide for survivors of sexual and gender based violence
    - Recently finished filming a Guide to Title IX video to be published on the new website and to be shown by orientation leaders during New Student Orientation
    - Planning a Trauma Informed Week at the end of March in preparation Sexual Assault Awareness Month for students, faculty and staff
    - Continue to work with Human Resources to bring online compliance training for faculty and staff and also with the Student Union to create an awareness mobile application
    - Revised Title IX statement has been signed by President Thrasher
    - A new website has been produced that includes an online reporting form
- The goals for the upcoming year are to get a unified sexual misconduct policy for board approval, have it instituted by the end of the spring semester and develop a strategic plan for educating the FSU community about the policy. Other goals are to make sure the office is completely staffed and also to reach out to FAMU and TCC to develop a Tallahassee Title IX Consortium

## **I. Governmental Relations**

*Ms. Kathleen Daly, Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations*

- The 2016 Legislative Session is scheduled to begin January 12, 2016
- Revenue projections for fiscal year 2016-2017 include approximately \$635 million in new revenue
- Anticipating another tax break package from the governor and support by the legislature
- Legislative priorities are set and have been presented to the Board of Trustees
- At this early point in the Legislative Session, state legislators have filed 422 bills, with Governmental Relations tracking 74 of the bills
- FSU Day is scheduled for Tuesday February 2, 2016

## **J. General Counsel**

*Ms. Carolyn Egan, General Counsel*

- The General Counsel office will review Foundation contracts and donation agreements

### **Action Item**

1. Requesting emergency change in Student Conduct Code to make it more narrowly tailored to open carry laws. Emergency change will take place for 90 days if adopted by Board and then would be voted on at a future meeting

*Trustee Buzzett moved to approve the change in Student Conduct Code. Trustee Camps seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.*

## **VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Mr. Ed Burr, Chair*

### **Action Item**

#### **A. President's Evaluation & Compensation**

*Chair Burr reviewed President Thrasher's annual evaluation. Trustee Pantin moved to approve the Compensation Committee's recommendation of a \$90,000 bonus. Trustee Bense seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

*Trustee Pantin moved to approve the Compensation Committees recommendation of an additional 7.4% salary increase in addition to the 2.6% merit increase for a total of 10%. Trustee Camps seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.*

**IX. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Mr. Ed Burr, Chair*

*The 2016 Board of Trustees meeting schedule was presented. No objections to the proposed schedule.*

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.