

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020
8:00 AM

AGUSTUS TURNBULL III FLORIDA STATE CONFERENCE CENTER
555 West Pensacola Street ● Tallahassee, Florida

Members Present: Max Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard, Billy Buzzett, Ed Burr, Bob Sasser, John Thiel, Jorge Gonzalez, Craig Mateer, Evan Steinberg, and Eric Chicken

Called-In: Jim Henderson, Brent Sembler, and June Duda

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. Lynna Sands conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)

The November 1, 2019, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments were provided by Vincenza Berardo and Rob Cole, Graduate Assistants United, regarding fee relief and insurance for graduate assistants.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. John Thrasher, President

President Thrasher began his report with an update from the legislative session. As the session begins its 5th week, the budget is headed to the floor. FSU expects to be in a better position this year than last year.

President Thrasher was excited to announce that a record number 62,000+ freshman application were received by admissions. The first round of decisions were announced on January 30th. The average GPA is 4.3 and contains a diverse group of individuals with 20% being the first to attend college in their family. Additionally, he recognized Hege Ferguson and John Barnhill for their hard-work and making the process run smoothly.

Recent accolades include Dean Erin O'Connor and the College of Law for their recent number 1 ranking by PreLaw Magazine. Additionally, they ranked FSU as 7th in the nation for public defender/prosecutor jobs. FSU was named one of 20 universities in the country as a top producer of Fulbright students and faculty scholars.

FSU recently hosted the FLBOG meeting and were asked to make a presentation highlighting the excellence of our highly regarded arts programs.

The FLBOG approved FSU Panama City Campus to build a residence hall on campus.

Finally, FSUPD continues to work closely with FDOT and TPD regarding pedestrian safety issues due to the recent pedestrian accidents.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Requesting Approval of Termination of Education Specialist in Instructional Systems and Learning Technologies
- B. Requesting Approval of Termination of Education Specialist in Measurement and Statistics
- C. Requesting Approval of Termination of Education Specialist in Higher Education
- D. Requesting Approval of Termination of Education Specialist in Foundations of Education
- E. Requesting Approval of Termination of Master's in Interdisciplinary Social Science
- F. Requesting Approval of Proposal to Implement Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice
- G. Requesting Approval of Proposal to Implement Master's in Entrepreneurship
- H. Requesting Approval of Proposal to Explore Master's in Data Science
- I. Requesting Approval of Amended University Regulation FSU 3.005 Academic Honor Policy
- J. Requesting Approval of Amended University Regulation 4.071 Faculty Practice Plan
- K. Requesting Approval of the FSU Research Foundation Audit Contract Extension
- L. Requesting Approval for FSU Florida Medical Practice Plan Audit Contract Renewal
- M. Requesting Approval for Florida State University School Audit Contract Extension
- N. Requesting Approval for the 2020-2021 Budget Projects for Auxiliaries with Outstanding Revenue Bonds
- O. Requesting Approval for the 2019-2020 Revised Fixed Capital Outlay Plan
- P. Requesting Approval of the Seminole Booster Board Nominee

Trustee Sembler moved to approve Consent Items A-P. Trustee Henderson seconded the motion and all were approved unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Finance and Business

Mr. Kyle Clark, Vice President for Finance & Administration

Trustee Sasser, Chair of the Finance & Business Committee, provided an overview of the discussion in the committee. The Committee reviewed and approved the purchase of Burt Reynolds Hall by the FSU Research Foundation. Additionally, the 2020-2021 Budget Projects for Auxiliaries with Outstanding Revenue Bonds and 2019-2020 Revised Capital Outlay Plan were reviewed and approved.

The Seminole Boosters, Inc. College Town financing item was reviewed as an information item only. The item will be presented to the FSU Board of Trustees at a later date.

Action Items

1. Requesting Contingent Approval for FSU Research Foundation purchase of Burt Reynolds Hall

Trustee Alvarez moved to approve FSU Research Foundation purchase of Burt Reynolds Hall. Trustee Chicken seconded the motion and approved unanimously. The final approval is contingent upon the approval of the FSU Research Foundation Board approval on March 2, 2020.

2. Requesting Approval of Resolution for Executing Seminole Boosters, Inc. College Town Financing

The item was pulled in for approval and only review

Information Items

Vice President Clark provided an update regarding Human Resources, including the launch of university-wide Compensation Study to review, enhance and refine staff classifications and compensation structure. The goal is to develop a Total Rewards Philosophy and refine policies, practices and tools used to evaluate staff compensation.

Additionally, the Federal Department of Labor officially released a new salary threshold for the white-collar exemptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). While the University remains in compliance with the federal government's new threshold, we have evaluated the data and will be aligning our salary threshold to \$35,705 – down from \$47,658.60 over the next few months. The change will alleviate some financial and timekeeping burdens that have been placed on the departments for several years.

As well as, Human Resources implementing a new policy for paid time off (PTO) for postdoctoral scholar employees. Beginning March 6, 2020, postdoctoral employees will accrue 4 hours of PTO per pay period with a maximum accrual balance of 104 hours.

An update was also provided regarding construction projects around campus. The Earth, Ocean Atmospheric Sciences Building is complete and open. The Seminole Legacy Golf Club is complete and the Grand Opening is March 7, 2020. FSUPD, FDOT, & TPD continues to identify and complete any pedestrian or campus safety improvements.

Capital Construction Projects in progress:

- Student Union
- Hoffman
- FSUS STEAM Building
- Legacy Hall
- Bio 1
- Interdisciplinary Research and Commercialization Building
- CAPS
- Rogers
- Harpe Johnson

The Budget Office is working with FLBOG staff and the University community to identify budget needs and prepare for our 2020-2021 budget submission. The Budget will be submitted to the BOT in June 2020 and FLBOG in August 2020.

The University increased Spring 2020 Access course material offerings to include approximately 35 courses. The Program provides students with reduced pricing, while ensuring they have all their required course materials before the first day of class. Since its launch in Fall 2018, the Program has saved FSU students more than \$750,000. We continue to add new courses each semester.

FSUPD has increased social media presence on Facebook and Instagram with safety tips and positive community interactions. Crime Prevention Officers and Interns have been developing this new content daily for approval and distribution.

Richard Rine, new Parking & Transportation Director, will start on March 13, 2020 from University of Delaware.

B. University Advancement

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

Vice President Jennings provided an update regarding the FY2020 Total for Gift Commitments for each DSO as well as University Endowments.

An update was provided regarding each DSO status and activities:

Real Estate Foundation

- Retooling how it promotes real estate gift using a more targeted approach
- Completing three gifts of property and exploring potential gifts with other donors.
- Annual board meeting: Wednesday, April 1, at The Ringling Museum of Art.

FSU Foundation

- Fundraising on track -- gifts and pledges of \$35M+ as of January 23
- Annual Giving -- increase of 1.2% in dollars and 9%+ in donors over FY2019
- FSU's Great Give and Week of Philanthropy:
 - Faculty & Staff Appreciation Day - March 23
 - FSU's Great Give - March 24-25
 - Thank a NOLE Day - March 26
- The FSU Foundation Board of Trustees:
 - Strategic Plan – staff drafting objectives and strategies; Board will vote in May; implementation beginning July 1.
 - Trusteeship Committee - reviewing prospective new trustee candidates and potential new officers to recommend for approval in May.

Alumni Association:

- 2020 Travel Program -7 domestic and international trips.
- PCI directory project:
 - Launched in December 2019 – expected completion in early 2021.
 - Project generated 9,000+ responses with
 - 1,700 new business emails
 - 6,000 job titles
 - 5,500 employer names and
 - 3,000 phone numbers.
- Spring 2020 Events and Programs:
 - Seminole Clubs -- Seminole Service Days and participating in FSU's Great Give.
 - Brick promotion and targeted membership appeals slated.
 - Inspire Awards -- Thursday, March 26
 - TedXFSU Program -- Friday, March 27

C. Academic Affairs

Dr. Sally McRorie, Provost

Provost McRorie provided Academic Affairs updates:

Admissions:

- A record number of undergraduate applications, over 62,000, for 2020.
- A record number of graduate application were also received.

Community Engagement Classification:

- FSU recertified for the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification
- Recognized FSU's efforts to actively engage with the local and world communities through teaching, research, service and partnerships
- 119 US colleges and universities received the distinction

An update was provided regarding Academic Advising Feedback. Generally, 90% students are satisfied/very satisfied with their academic advising session

Faculty Tenure & Promotion

- 53 Faculty will be granted tenure in Fall 2020
- 10 new faculty members were granted tenure effective upon employment

D. Audit & Compliance

Mr. Sam McCall, Chief Audit Officer

Trustee Gonzalez, Chair of Audit & Compliance Committee, provided a summary of the Audit & Compliance Committee meeting. Ms. Robyn Blank provided an update from the Office of Compliance. Additional updates regarding Cybersecurity Training and Title IX were provided. Mr. Sam McCall provide an update regarding all on-going audits. The Action items were reviewed and approved by the Audit & Compliance Committee.

Action Items

1. Requesting Approval of Audit Report AR 20-04 – Performance-Based Funding Metrics Data Integrity Certification Audit and Data Integrity Certification

Trustee Thiel moved to approve Audit Report AR 20-04 – Performance-Based Funding Metrics Data Integrity Certification Audit and Data Integrity Certification. Trustee Duda seconded the motion and all were approved unanimously.

2. Requesting Approval of Audit Report AR 20-05 – Preeminent Research University Metrics Data Integrity Certification Audit and the Data Integrity Certification

Trustee Gonzalez moved to approve Audit Report AR 20-05 – Preeminent Research University Metrics Data Integrity Certification Audit and the Data Integrity Certification. Trustee Ballard seconded the motion and all approved unanimously.

E. Student Government Association

Ms. Stephanie Lee, Vice President of Student Government Association

Ms. Lee provided her final update regarding SGA activities and initiatives. Recent SGA Engagement activities included SGA Engagement Week, MLK All-Agency Event and 100 Days Til Graduation. Upcoming events include Black History Month, Women's History Month and Asian American Heritage Month.

F. Faculty Senate

Dr. Erin Ryan, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate Steering Committee

Dr. Ryan provided a Faculty Senate Steering Committee including the recent departure of Dr. Kris Harper, Dr. Eric Chicken elected as the new Faculty Senate Chair and Dr. Erin Ryan elected as Vice Chair of Faculty Senate.

Additionally, the Faculty Senate convened in December 2019, to hear the President Thrasher's State of the University Address and revisions to the Faculty Senate Constitution.

In January, the continuation of Constitution amendments by the Dean of Libraries and Dean of Faculty. The Faculty voted to ratify the faculty changes that the Faculty Senate proposed – Phases I & II. Phase III would be substantive changes that would modify who among faculty would eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate.

Other policies of consideration by the Faculty Senate are the redesign of the student evaluations, a formal process for orientation of incoming senators, incorporating faculty into process for student with disabilities, potential options for campus sustainability and classroom safety concerns.

G. Student Affairs

Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs

Trustee Buzzett, Chair of Student Affairs Committee, provided a summary of the Student Affairs Committee meeting. Various student services were highlighted. Ms. Myrna Hoover was present and spoke about student placement services.

Vice President Amy Hecht presented information regarding Career Readiness. The Career Center provides students with Career Advising & Career Liaison. Additional opportunities provided by the Career Center are Professionale Mentors, FSUshadow Program, InternFSU, Internship Fund, Professional Clothing Closet, Professionale Ready, and Career Fairs.

H. Legislative Update

Ms. Kathleen Daly, Associate Vice President of University Relations

Ms. Daly provided an update regarding the Legislative session. The budget and several bills of interest include the Naming Image & Likeness, the early stages of presidential search from public notification, Naming process for the FSU Law School, trustee appointments, New College and Florida Polytechnical College merge.

I. General Counsel

Ms. Carolyn Egan, General Counsel

Ms. Egan briefed the trustees regarding the review of governance structure, contract authority and uniformity. This will be reviewed at the April 2020 meeting.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Action Items

- A. Election of Vice Chairman of the FSU Board of Trustees for two-year term
Chair Burr opened nominations for the Vice Chairman position on the FSU Board of Trustees. Trustee Sasser nominated Trustee Buzzett. Trustee Alvarez seconded the motion. Trustee Duda motioned to close nominations and seconded by Trustee Alvarez. Trustee Buzzett was unanimous vote for vice chairman.
- B. FSU Board of Trustees Committee Assignments
Trustee Alvarez motioned to approve the trustee committee assignments as presented. Trustee Ballard seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

VIII. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr reminded members of the next meeting on April 16 & 17, 2020.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Burr adjourned the meeting at 10:07 am.