

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ZOOM MEETING
MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

9:00 AM

Members Participating: Max Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard, Billy Buzzett, Ed Burr, Jim Henderson, Brent Sembler, June Duda, Bob Sasser, John Thiel, Jorge Gonzalez, Craig Mateer, Jonathan Levin and Eric Chicken

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Lynna Sands conducted the Roll Call and confirmed a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes (Action)

The April 17, 2020, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. Public Comments

Public Comments were provided by the following:

Vincenza Antonetta Berardo, Chief Negotiator, UFF-FSU-GAU, stated she stands in solidarity with the Graduate Assistants Union.

Michael Yost, PhD student in economics, requested that the Trustees consider Fee relief for graduate assistants.

Katie Moore, PhD student in modern languages, requested the Trustees to consider Fee reduction or reimbursement during the duration of the campus closure due to COVID-19.

Hayley Lemoine, PhD student, requested the Trustees to consider reimbursement of Fees for student services not used during the closure of the campus due to COVID-19.

IV. President's Report

Mr. John Thrasher, President

President Thrasher opened with a thank you to everyone for their dedication and support of Florida State University during these unusual and challenging times.

He spoke about the recent protests here in Tallahassee and across the country in response to the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25. He has publicly condemned this police brutality and called for justice. He acknowledged that many of our students, faculty and staff are rightfully upset and angry about this case as well as other incidents of racial violence across the nation. He and Vice President Amy Hecht have had several candid conversations with student leaders and will be sharing their

concerns with our city leaders to improve relations here in Tallahassee. Additionally, President Thrasher assures our students and others that they are listening and committed to making long-term changes to ensure that FSU and the surrounding community is a place where every single person is treated with respect and dignity and feels safe and at home here.

President Thrasher said he is proud of the fact that FSU has one of the best graduation rates in the country, and that there are no disparities in our graduation rate across races and ethnicities.

President Thrasher spoke regarding FSU's recently celebrated spring graduates with a very successful, virtual commencement ceremony on May 2nd, which was streamed on Facebook, YouTube and WFSU, and we estimate that we had a live audience of 20,000 or more people. It was gratifying to know that even though we were apart during this momentous occasion, our graduates and their families and friends all shared this experience at the same time. The highlight of the event was the commencement speech by School of Communication Teaching Professor Mark Zeigler. Due to the practice of social distancing on campus, we will hold another virtual commencement ceremony July 31 for our summer graduates, and we will announce more details about that ceremony in the coming days.

President Thrasher noted that the FSU family recently lost Dean Karen Laughlin as she died on May 4th. He talked about how he took part in several recognition ceremonies with Dean Laughlin over the years. He recognized that her love for our students always shone through and she will be missed by all very much.

Assistant Provost Joe O'Shea has been named the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, and he will honor Karen's legacy by carrying on her commitment to student success.

President Thrasher spoke regarding our student achievements and achieving at the highest levels, winning national awards, fellowships, including several that have been announced in the past month including: 9 Student Fulbrights, 7 NSF Graduate Fellows, 4 Boren Scholars, 2 Critical Language Scholars (offered by the U.S. State Dept.), 2 P.E.O. Scholars (the only two in Florida), and a Hollings Scholar (offered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)). President Thrasher thanked Adrienne Stephenson at the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards and Craig Filar and the Office of National Fellowships for the work they do to help our students excel at the highest levels.

The summer sessions (A, B, F, and Law) are now underway with classes being taught remotely, and we are preparing for our most popular session, Summer C, which will begin June 22.

With the fall semester around the corner, we expect about 2,200 new freshmen will begin their college careers at FSU by taking online classes during Summer C.

Student Affairs, Undergraduate Studies and other divisions are offering online programming and doing a few things to ensure that these new students feel welcome and part of the FSU community, even though we are not all together on campus yet.

President Thrasher discussed the process of completing a plan that will include a combination of face-to-face classes and remote learning. Provost Sally McRorie is leading this effort, and we look forward to your feedback at our June 18th meeting. We will then present the plan to the Board of Governors for approval on June 23rd. President Thrasher assured everyone that every component of this plan was developed with the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff in mind.

President Thrasher thanked Vice President Tom Jennings for his service to FSU for the past 10 years. Tom has accepted a position as vice president for University Advancement at Washington and Lee University, where he previously worked. He acknowledged that Tom has done a terrific job creating a culture of giving at FSU, and we are so grateful for his leadership during the university's \$1 billion Raise the Torch campaign. And more recently, he and the Foundation staff have launched successful fundraising efforts to support students and employees who are struggling with job loss and unexpected expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will miss Tom, but we know he and Dawn are excited to get back to Virginia and we wish them all the best!

Additionally, President Thrasher acknowledged the senior leadership team and the entire board for your work on the important university business we are tackling today — particularly Vice President Clark and Trustee Bob Sasser for their work on the budget. I know it has been made more challenging as we work remotely during this pandemic.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Requesting Approval of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar
- B. Requesting Approval of the Amended FSU Naming Policy
- C. Requesting Approval of the DSO Board Member Nominees
- D. Requesting Approval of the Student Government Association Bills and Resolutions
- E. Requesting Approval of the FSU Foundation Bylaws
- F. Requesting to Enter into an Audit Contract for FSU Department of Collegiate Athletics and FSU Athletics Association
- G. Requesting Approval of Termination of Master's in Marketing
- H. Requesting Approval of the COVID-19 Conditions Tuition Waiver

Chairman Burr moved to remove Consent Item A to be heard individually under the Academic Affairs portion of the Agenda. The board agreed unanimously to move Consent Item A.

Trustee Henderson moved to approve Consent Items B-G. Trustee Alvarez seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

VI. New Business

A. Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. Sally McRorie, Provost

Trustee Jim Henderson, Chair

Trustee Henderson provided a summary of the Committee meeting. He thanked Provost McRorie and her staff for making dealing with the tasks for scheduling the academic schedule.

Provost McRorie provided an update for Academic Affairs which included:

Academic Plans for Fall Reopening

-Academic Space Planning

- Maximizing physical separation in classes
- Optimizing where each class will be taught
- Prioritizing which classes need to be F2F

-Assuring Quality Instruction

- Summer training on instructional media
- Center for the Advancement of Teaching (CAT)
- Office of Distance Learning
- Information Technology Services
- Faculty in Education and Communication

Applications and Enrollment

- Record number of undergraduate applications at 64,500
- Record number of graduate applications at 11,007
- Summer enrollment is up 17.5% with 2200 expected to attend Summer Session C and 4000 for the fall

Dean of Undergraduate Studies

-Honoring Karen Laughlin

- Career at FSU
- Helped lead FSU students to success for over 15 years
- Dean serves as academic dean for almost all 1st and 2nd year students and provides support and engagement for undergraduates throughout their time at FSU

-Joe O'Shea name Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Top Student Awards

-9 Student Fulbright Awards

-Jonathan Marcus receives Ernest Hollings Award

Top Faculty Awards

-9 Faculty Fulbright Awards

-3 NSF Career Grantees

-National Humanities Center Residential Fellowship

-National Endowment for Humanities Fellowship

-Sloan Research Fellowship

Action Item

1. Requesting Approval of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

The 2021-2022 Academic Calendar was moved from the Consent Items to be heard individually.

Trustee Henderson moved to approve the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar. Trustee Chicken seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

B. Student Affairs Committee

Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs

Trustee John Thiel, Chair

Trustee John Thiel, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, opened with comments from the committee meeting. In light of recent events, Chair Thiel applauded Vice President Hecht and her team for “building out more ways for kids to build skills that will help them deal with the uncertainties, but prepare themselves better for the workforce and help them succeed.”

Vice Amy Hecht provided an update regarding Student Affairs. Considering recent events, Student Affairs has been working closely with students. The challenge of being virtual while trying to bring people together, have dialogue and move forward.

She also highlighted Virtual FSU during the final spring and summer months they have created a Florida State experience – completely virtual from chapter and advisor training, teaching workshops, fitness classes, mental health counseling sessions and telehealth, which has received a lot of national attention and from many other institutions are looking at the model. She acknowledged Dr. Danielle Acosta and her efforts to bring this together.

C. Finance and Business Committee

Mr. Kyle Clark, Vice President for Finance & Administration

Trustee Bob Sasser, Chair

Vice President Clark reviewed the General Budget Timeline, budget fund definitions, the FSU Operating Budget, 2020-2021 Construction Budget, 2019-2020 SUS Operating Budgets, and the 2020-2021 FSU Undergraduate Tuition and Fees.

Action Items

1. Requesting Approval of the University’s fiscal year 2020-2021 Operating Budget.

Trustee Sasser moved to approve the 2020-2021 Operating Budget. Trustee Alvarez seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Requesting Approval of the Florida Medical Practice Plan Operating Budget

Trustee Thiel moved to approve the Florida Medical Practice Plan Operating Budget. Trustee Sembler seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Requesting Approval for the FY 2020-2021 DSO Operating Budget

Trustee Ballard moved to approve the 2020-2021 DSO Operating Budget. Trustee Chicken seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Requesting Approval for the University President to make any changes to the budget and capital projects within available resources and as prescribed by laws and rules of the State of Florida

Trustee Alvarez moved to approve the University President to make any changes to the budget and capital projects within available resources and as prescribed by laws and rules of the State of Florida. Trustee Mateer seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

5. Requesting Approval for continuation of existing Student Tuition and Fees Regulation at current rates and approve an amendment of the current regulation to that effect

Trustee Gonzalez moved to approve the continuation of existing Student Tuition and Fees Regulations at current rates and approve an amendment of the current regulation to that effect. Trustee Sembler seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Requesting for approval for the FY 2021-2022 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request

Trustee Sembler moved to approve the 2021-2022 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget. Trustee Ballard seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

D. Audit and Compliance Committee

Mr. Sam McCall, Chief Audit Officer

Ms. Robyn Blank, Chief Compliance & Ethics Officer

Trustee. Jorge Gonzalez, Chair

Trustee Gonzalez provide a brief update regarding the Audit & Compliance Committee including the review and approval of the new audit contract for FSU Department of Collegiate Athletics and FSU Athletics Association and reviewed and reaffirmed the Committee's Charter.

Ms. Robyn Blank provided a reminder to trustees that the Financial Disclosures should be July 1 and returned to the Department on Ethics.

Mr. Sam McCall provide a brief update that included Audits on the College of Law and Graduate Student Tuition Waivers in the College of Medicine. Audit is currently working on the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, cybersecurity areas, Seminole Boosters Athletics Financials and College of Engineering.

E. Athletics Update

Mr. David Coburn, Athletics Director

Mr. Coburn's athletics update included three NCAA/ACC issues beginning with Name, Image and Likeness Bill, which passed the legislature and is waiting on the Governor's signature. This would go into effect July 2021. Senator (Marco) Rubio is filing a bill to address issues and would preempt state law giving regulatory jurisdiction to the Federal Trade Commission. We are supportive of his bill due to the use of university marks and symbols, a lack of recruiting controls and our ability to effectively monitor for compliance.

The next issue, the Ninth Circuit affirmed the Federal District Court decision in the Alston case. The NCAA violated federal antitrust law by limiting the value of education scholarships that may be awarded to student athletes. The court took the position that this may be done school by school or conference by conference but not national basis. The court's decision also expanded the definition of quote educational benefits, unquote, quote, that may be awarded to student athletes. Institutions would be permitted to give money to athletes, paying for things such as computers and musical instruments and quote. Other products and services used for academic pursuits, which is not defined and could mean almost anything, including, I need a car to get to class. The NCAA may also not bar scholarships to athletes for study abroad programs or financial aid given after athletes have exhausted their eligibility to compete. This could have some serious impact on costs for athletic programs and potentially opens the door for some serious recruiting issues.

The final issue is the transfer issue, which has two pieces. The graduate transfer piece - the NCAA has substantially loosened the restrictions on graduate transfers and will now be able to enroll in on additional undergraduate majors or minors, or in some cases for programs at their new institutions.

The undergraduate transfer, which will allow one-time transfer exception for undergraduates, was tabled in May, and is undecided until at least the beginning of next year and will not take effect until at least the 2122 academic year. Our coaches continue to have concerns regarding the proposal including out of the transfer flexibility will interact with the scholarship caps, the impact on APR and potential for poach. When we put all three of those issues together, there is potential for recruiting violations.

We are currently in a recruiting dead period through June 30th. Additionally, no athletic camps will be permitted this summer in football. Due to recruiting dead period through June 30th and no football camps this summer, Coach Norvell and staff have a challenge of establishing relationships with coaches and student athletes. We have twice the number of verbal commitments we have had in last three years. In the last week alone, we have added two very good transfers and three commitments from high school athletes.

The NCAA is granting spring sport athletes an additional year of eligibility because their seasons have been canceled. We have 23 seniors who are going to return and take advantage of that additional year. The cost to us will be little over \$500,000. Half of that money will be provided from funding reserved for

academics. The coaches in the individual sports are responsible for the remainder funding from either their operating budgets or from their restricted accounts.

We are currently planning to begin (fall) seasons on-time and play a full slate of contests. The final decisions will be determined by the ACC and NCAA. They currently have several contingency plans being developed.

Testing for COVID in stages with football student-athletes. Men's and women's basketball will be tested next as well as soccer, volleyball, and cross country.

Sports beyond football remain uncertain and need to see how it goes with football before we proceed.

Voluntary campus activities have been authorized by the NCAA. Football has begun voluntary strength and conditioning workouts in stages. These have been carefully constructed to protect the health and the safety of both the student athlete and the staff. Anyone who tests positive for the virus will be isolated, or university protocol and tracing will be done.

A working group planning for the resumption of sports and are examining many different scenarios. A detailed plan in place for the use of the Moore Center. This includes signage, symptom checks, distancing, mask requirements and sanitation. A similar plan for basketball and the other falls sports will be in place.

Boosters' staff are working on several scenarios for home games this football season, which include various levels of seating capacity in the stadium from zero to 100%. This is very complicated because distancing is involved and families or couples who have been living together who want to sit together.

Additionally, student seating, Marching Chiefs and some visiting fans will need to be accommodated. Potentially, only those with season tickets could be the only ones able to physically attend.

Boosters continues to raise money and are close to the goal for the annual fund. The Unconquered Campaign now has commitments of up to about \$93 million, which includes about \$15 million from the Renaissance.

The search for the new executive director continues. Round one of interviews were very good and have an excellent group of candidates remaining.

The athletics GPA was 3.44 for the spring semester and our football GPA was 3.177. The department GPA for the academic year was 3.229. A very successful year academically. The degree completion program continues to produce very, very good results since last Spring 2019, we have 10 former student-athletes return to complete their degrees.

Mr. Coburn, considering recent national events, touched on a meeting with Coach Norvell and the football team that included open dialogue and very candid conversations. Additionally, he spoke about a conversation he had with 75 student-athletes to discuss Mr. Floyd's death and other similar incidents here in Tallahassee and across the country. It was an interesting, educational, and an emotional conversation. Although, open and candid, emotions ran the gamut, they

were angry, hurt, frustrated, concerned, and some of them are scared. Several good ideas were suggested to help athletes to better understand each other. Several talked about police training, and communications with coaches. A concern about offending rich, powerful boosters and supporters was discussed. Mr. Coburn reminded everyone that it is important that to listen because they represent our future and our current situation. Athletics is more than a mirror, in which we see the reflection of society as the good and the bad. It's also the lens through which we see society as it could ensure athletics is where we see young men and women of all races and nationalities, competing with each other, cooperating with knocking each other down, helping each other up, screaming at each other one minute leaping into each other's arms and sheer joy, the next. As we see all these things in athletics, our children and our grandchildren see, and that changes their perception of how society could and should be.

Mr. Coburn shared that coaches in America are going to have to become comfortable with the uncomfortable. What has happened in the last few days has changed America forever. We are all going to have to become comfortable with the uncomfortable. He asks that happens here and when student-athletes speak up, and they are going to speak up all over America. When it happens here at Florida State, he asks that we not be upset or angry, but to be understanding and supporting.

The Administration, athletics, coaches, staff, and everyone are determined to help them and to help them make real sustainable change happen.

F. Legislative Update

Ms. Kathleen Daly, Associate Vice President for University Relations

Ms. Daly provided a legislative update regarding the recent legislative session. The Governor has until June 30th to review and act on the budget. Included in the proposed budget is \$3 billion in emergency funding and \$4.6 billion federal funding in the State Cares Act. State leaders are getting direction on how it can be spent. A revenue estimating conferences is scheduled for June 25th. They will discuss the revenue collection report with sales tax activities from April as well as Corporate Income Tax.

FSU will continue to monitor elections for FSU alumni in the fall with the qualifying deadline on Friday, June 12th.

G. Student Government Update

Ms. Natassia Janvier, Vice President

Ms. Janvier provided a Student Government Association update. She shared information regarding the focus of the Levin – Janvier – Hall administration. Including Advance Student life, Amplify Diverse Student Voices, Enhancing SGA Internally, Expand External Relationships, Further the FSU Strategic Plan, and Increase Student Engagement.

She introduced the new executive branch as well as reviewed the various agencies as well as their events and programs provided to students including “Ignite Your Nole” for incoming students.

H. Faculty Senate Steering Committee Update

Dr. Erin Ryan, Vice Chair

Dr. Ryan provided an update on the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. The Faculty Senate met recently to respond to the COVID-19 crisis and to prepare for the upcoming academic year. Some of the challenges raised by the pandemic that were addressed were grading, remote instruction, tenure, promotion, remote exams, faculty evaluations, travel, and research.

Additionally, the Faculty Senate voted on proposed changes to the Liberal Studies program, eliminating an easier requirement and liberalizing collective choices, modification of undergraduate retention policy, amended a conflict of interest policy for graduate committees, formalized distinctions between thesis coursework only and project based master's program. In an emergency session, the University's ADA Service Statement was updated. Faculty discussed concerns about the implementation of certain ADA accommodation policies. An ad hoc committee has convened to identify opportunities to better faculty coordination with the ADA Services and working together to meet students and University's obligations under the law. Finally, the first Faculty Senate orientation session took place remotely to better prepare new Senators for their roles. Faculty participation was strong indicating the seriousness with which our members take on responsibilities.

I. University Advancement Update

Dr. Tom Jennings, Vice President for University Advancement

Dr. Jennings provided an update regarding University Advancement including Direct Support Organization.

Dr. Jennings provided "Predications for University Fundraising During COVID-19"
-Consequence #1: Philanthropic revenues have already taken a swift hit and declines will likely accelerate next year.

-Consequence #2: Small and mid-sized gifts will likely fall across institutions in FY 2020 and FY 2021; the biggest drops may come at the top of the gift pyramid.

-Consequence #3: Visits may rebound next year, but the current cultivation drop-off will continue to affect gift proposals.

-Consequence #4: New campaign launches might continue apace, but institutions already in campaign will likely delay major milestones.

Dr. Jennings reviewed Fiscal Year 2020 DSO Gift Commitments.

Considering recent issues raised in America, the Alumni Association has reached out to the black alumni network leaders who helped shape a message for a network meeting/webinar series forum hosted by the Alumni Association to discuss recent issues.

J. Office of Research Update

Dr. Gary Ostrander, Vice President for Research

Dr. Ostrander provided a brief update regarding Research funding – proposals, awards, and dollars through federal, state, and other funding – for FY 2019-2020.

Additionally, Dr. Ostrander reviewed the communication with the Research Community, which includes weekly Research Continuity Zoom Meetings with over 150 participants, COVID-19 Research Continuity Committee, COVID Testing Center and COVID-19 Collaborative Collision Grant Program.

K. General Counsel Update

Ms. Carolyn Egan, General Counsel

Ms. Egan reviewed the General Counsel’s perspective of process the University has been undergoing to reopen. This includes reviewing new innovative ideas, HIPPA information, sharing ideas with ACC General Council, assisting with K-12 schools, high school athletics, and continuing to navigate court systems

VII. CHAIR’S REPORT

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Action Items

A. President’s Evaluation & Contract

Chair Burr asked Trustee Buzzett, Chair of the Governance Committee, provide an update on the Committee Meeting as well as the process for the President’s Evaluation. Evaluations will be sent out shortly for completion and return.

Chair Burr also provided an update regarding the President’s Contract and after conversations the proposed Contract extension until November 2021. The previous contract extension that would have ended February 2021, was not taken to the Board of Governors, and therefore voided.

Trustee Henderson moved to approve the President’s Contract extension to November 2021. Trustee Duda seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

VIII. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr reminded the Trustees of the upcoming special Board of Trustees meeting to discuss the reopening of campus on Thursday, June 18th at 1:30 pm

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Burr adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.