

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES VIRTUAL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020
3:30 PM
MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Ed Burr, June Duda, Max Alvarez, Bob Sasser, Brent Sembler, Kathryn Ballard, Craig Mateer, Jorge Gonzalez, Johnathan Levin, Eric Chicken, John Thiel, and Jim Henderson

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Lynna Sands conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)

- September 11, 2020, Board Meeting

The September 11, 2020, Board Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael Yost, graduate assistant, expressed concern of lack of faculty member and member of United Faculty union included on the Presidential Search Committee. He asks that applicants be prioritized with documented history of working constructively with organized labor and public forums are available.

Ahmad Omar Daraldik, SGA Senate President, provide comments in regards continuing change on campus to make students safer.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. John Thrasher, President

President Thrasher provided an update on the US News and World Report. FSU was named as one of the top 20 public universities in America for the second consecutive year as well as the FSU-FAMU College of Engineering moving up in the rankings.

President provided a COVID-19 update following the September surge, the numbers are trending downward. September 20-26, 2020, approximately 2000 tests 51 were positive – positivity rate of 2.46%. As of this past week, approximately 3,046 tests 62 were positive – positivity rate of 2%.

Recently, the James D. Westcott Distinguished medal were presented to Dr. Myrah Hurt and the late President Emeritus Sandy D'Alemberte. These are the 9th and 10th awards presented since 1989.

VI. NEW BUSINESS AND UPDATES

A. Approval of Membership of Presidential Search Committee

Chair Burr presented the proposed members of the Presidential Search Committee.

Vice Chair Billy Buzzett, Chair
Renisha Gibbs, Vice Chair
Bridgett Birmingham
Caitlyn Blake-Hodges
Ed Burr
Joe Camps
Andrea Friall
Christian Hall
Nick Iarossi
Dazi Lenoir
Craig Mateer
DeVoe Moore
Les Pantin
Pam Perewe
Eric Silagy

Trustee Thiel moved to approve the Presidential Search Committee. Trustee seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

B. Approval of Charge to Presidential Search Committee

Chair Burr reviewed the Charge to the Presidential Search Committee.

WHEREAS the Florida State University Board of Trustees has by its action taken on October 2, 2020, created the Presidential Search Advisory Committee with representation by members of the Florida State University Board of Trustees, a member of the Florida Board of Governors, faculty, staff, students, a Florida State University Foundation board member, representatives of the Florida State Alumni Association and Seminole Boosters, and community members and other supporters of FSU, and Consistent with Florida law and Florida Board of Governors Regulation 1.002, this Board hereby directs, authorizes, and empowers the Presidential Search Advisory Committee as follows:

1. The Presidential Search Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”) shall hear proposals from executive search firms and identify the most qualified firm, whose services will then be retained by the University.
2. Together with the executive search firm and campus stakeholders, the Advisory Committee shall develop and recommend to the Board of Trustees a Statement of Leadership Characteristics, Presidential Profile, or other appropriate materials Specifying the desired qualifications and characteristics for the next president of Florida State University.
3. The search for the next president of Florida State University shall be conducted with full transparency and shall be national in scope.
4. Together with the executive search firm, Advisory Committee members shall review all candidates with equal opportunity consistent with federal and state laws and with University policy. Presidential Search Advisory Committee members will serve without predetermined bias for or against any prospective candidates nominated, referred, or discovered in the search process.
5. Each member of the Advisory Committee understands that committee service will require a substantial time commitment. Committee members have agreed to serve with the understanding that the Committee will meet frequently over a period of months. Attendance at scheduled meetings is a top priority.
6. The Advisory Committee understands that the engagement of campus stakeholders and the principles of shared governance are integral to an effective search. Opportunities for campus stakeholder and community engagement with candidates selected for an interview will provided.
7. While the Advisory Committee is expected to perform its tasks expeditiously, the Board of Trustees understands that the worldwide pandemic may at various times alter the anticipated time frame for the Committee’s recommendations.
8. The Advisory Committee is expected to present to the Board of Trustees a minimum of two candidates who are the most qualified for Board selection as the next president of Florida State University.
9. Advisory Committee members shall display an appropriate level of discretion of the search process and information. Such discretion is essential to the successful outcome of the search and must be maintained with professionalism and diligence at all times throughout the search process.
10. In all deliberations, Committee Members will adhere to the laws of the State of Florida, the regulations of the Board of Governors, and the regulations of Florida State University. All meetings will be noticed in advance in accordance with the University Board of Trustees operating procedures, will be open to the public and subject to the Florida Sunshine Law, and will provide an opportunity for members of the public who wish to address the Advisory Committee to do so.

Trustee Sembler moved to approve the charge to the Presidential Search Committee. Trustee Alvarez seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

Chair Burr announced the new meeting date of November 19 & 20, 2020.

VIII. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Ed Burr, Chair

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

DRAFT