

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES HYBRID MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2021  
9:00 AM

AUGUSTUS B. TURNBULL, III  
FLORIDA STATE CONFERENCE CENTER  
555 WEST PENSACOLA STREET ● TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

MEETING MINUTES

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Attendees: Max Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard\*, Ed Burr, Peter Collins, Eric Chicken, Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Jorge Gonzalez, Jim Henderson\*, Nastassia Janvier, Craig Mateer\*, Deborah Sargeant, Bob Sasser, and John Thiel

\*Attended virtually via ZOOM Video Conferencing

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Mr. Ed Burr, Chair*

Chair Burr called the meeting to order at 8:59 AM. Lynna Sands conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Chair Burr recognized our newly appointed trustee Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, who replaced our long-serving trustee, June Duda.

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

- May 24, 2021, Board Meeting

The May 24, 2021, General Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were provided.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*Mr. John Thrasher, President*

President Thrasher opened his report by welcoming Ms. Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz to the FSU Board of Trustees. He spoke about commencement ceremonies, which included 11 ceremonies for Spring 2021 and 2 make-up ceremonies for the 2020 graduates.

He attended the lady's softball championship game at the College World Series in Oklahoma City. The softball team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> after being defeated by Oklahoma University.

The President's Task Force on Anti-Racism, Equity and Inclusion concluded its work at the end of the spring semester. The Task Force was led by Maxine Montgomery and subcommittee chairs Brandon Bowden, Michelle Douglas, and Maxine Jones.

The Andrew Coffey case ended as the two defendants took a plea deal that will require a jail sentence. State Attorney, Jack Campbell, was complimentary of the tireless dedication of FSU's leadership team during this case. FSU has taken a stand against hazing and changing the culture of Greek Life.

Princeton Review has named FSU as one of the nation's top colleges for students seeking an excellent education with great career preparation at an affordable price. FSU is ranked #11 on their "Best Value College" list for 2021 among public colleges and universities.

The 2021 legislative session concluded, and FSU fared very well. Some marquee projects that were funded include the College of Business Building (Legacy Hall) - \$30.5 million and Interdisciplinary Research and Commercialization Building - \$23.5 million. Also, the Student Veterans Center, Institute of Politics, and Institute for Child Welfare were also funded. President Thrasher thanked Clay Ingram for his excellent work during Session.

FSU has received the initial approval for funding by Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency for \$20 million investment in Doak Campbell Stadium. This funding will specifically address necessary updates and repairs to the 71-year-old infrastructure that remains inside the stadium. It will supplement an incremental \$100 million investment from Seminole Boosters that will enhance the stadium experience and seating opportunities. This will ensure our stadium will continue to be a major economic driver in Tallahassee and allow use of more than seven weekends a year.

As fall semester approaches, we expect to resume to normal, pre-pandemic operations effective August 1, 2021. Classes will return to predominately face-to-face instruction, indoor space limitations will be discontinued, masks are no longer required except in designated health care areas. We continue to encourage all to get fully vaccinated.

President Thrasher spoke regarding the upcoming presidential transition. He thanked the FSU Board of Trustees and the Presidential Search Advisory Committee who participated in or supported the search process. The Florida Board of Governors are scheduled to confirm the board's selection of Dr. Richard McCullough as FSU's 16<sup>th</sup> president on June 23, 2021, meeting.

President Thrasher wished Dr. McCullough the best and asked all to support him during the transition. He hopes he loves the job as much as he has. President Thrasher ended his final update as president by saying that it's been his life's highest honor and greatest joy serving as the university's 15<sup>th</sup> president. We've accomplished so much together over the past six and a half years. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

## V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Requesting Approval of the DSO Board Member Nominees
- B. Requesting Approval of Amended Seminole Booster Bylaws
- C. Requesting Approval of Amended FSU Foundation Bylaws
- D. Requesting Approval of WFSU Public Media, TV, and FM External Audit Contract
- E. Requesting Approval of Audit and Compliance Committee Charter
- F. Requesting Approval of Office of Inspector General Services Charter
- G. Requesting Approval of COVID-19 Conditions Tuition Waiver
- H. Requesting Approval of PBF Metric 10 Revision
- I. Requesting Approval of the 2021 Accountability Plan Amendment
- J. Requesting Approval for Proposal to Implement Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Linguistics
- K. Requesting Approval for 2022-2023 Academic Calendar
- L. Requesting Approval for Student Code of Conduct Emergency Regulation
- M. Requesting Approval for Student Organization Code of Conduct Emergency Regulation
- N. Requesting Approval to Consummate a land exchange with the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (TIITF)

*Vice Chair Sasser moved to approve Consent Items A-N. Trustee Alvarez seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

## VI. NEW BUSINESS AND UPDATES

Trustee Gonzalez provided a summary of the Audit and Compliance Committee Meeting. The meeting included a summary of initiatives from Robyn Blank regarding Compliance. Three agenda items were approved by the Committee for the Consent agenda.

### A. Academic Affairs Committee

*Dr. Sally McRorie, Provost*

*Trustee Jim Henderson, Chair*

Trustee Henderson provided a summary of the Academic Affairs Committee meeting. The Committee reviewed and approved five action items for the Consent agenda. He recognized Jennifer Buchanan and Rick Burnett for their preparation for the Committee meeting. Additionally, the committee reviewed and discussed enrollment patterns, degree programs, and financial success website.

Provost McRorie the trustees with an Academic Affairs update including:

Incoming Freshman Class

- The demand for FSU education continues at record levels with over 7,000 first year (freshman) students starting this year.
- Summer semester begins Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. This includes over 400 new CARE students

#### Grad Applicants:

- Record number of graduate student applications have been received.
- Up 12% on prospective graduate students who say they are going to enroll.
- Considerable increase the College of Business and Juris Master's degree in the College of Law.

#### Financial Literacy:

- To educate and encourage financial literacy, the new Financial Success website debuted last week.
- The website includes a calendar of speakers and other financial events on campus, resources, tools and calculators

#### New FGEN Efforts

- Continuing to expand the support to first generation students in their families to attend college or get a college degree.
- Around 8,000-9,000 undergraduate students at FSU are first-generation students, which is over a quarter of our undergraduate student body.
- Less than 2,000 are currently supported through CARE program.
- Two initiatives that recently announced are "FGEN Noles" Living Learning Community and first-year students will live together in a residence hall, take courses together and be supported by the CARE family. This will last all four years at FSU.

#### Student Awards:

- Abril Hunter, received the Hollins Scholarship from NOAA
- Three students won the Goldwater Scholarships – award recognizes the nation's brightest sophomores and juniors studying mathematics, science and engineering
- Five students received Boren Awards and Critical Language Scholarships offered through the US State Department. These awards fund students' study of foreign languages deemed critical to the interests and economic prosperity of the US such as Mandarin, Turkish and Arabic.

#### Faculty Awards:

- Guggenheim Fellows (Lilian Garcia-Roig, Art)
- National Academy of Sciences member (Greg Boebinger, Director of the MagLab)
- Career Awards from the National Science Foundation (Viet Tung Hoang in the Department of Computer Science, Hitesh Changlani in Physics, and Neda Yaghoobian in Mechanical Engineering)
- Career Awards from NASA (Allison Wing, Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Science) and the Department of Energy (Guangxin Ni, Department of Physics)
- Mellon Fellowship (Frances Tran, Department of English)

- And an Institute of Mathematical Statistics Fellowship (Yiyuan She, Department of Statistics)

**Information Item**

FSU College of Medicine and Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Partnership  
*Dr. John Fogarty, Dean of College of Medicine*  
*Mr. Mark O'Bryant, President and CEO of Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare*

Dean Fogarty provided a background on the history and facts on the FSU College of Medicine. He also provided information on the many successes of the College of Medicine including the research success. He reviewed the roadmap and strategic focus areas to move forward with the FSU-TMH partnership.

**B. Student Affairs Committee**

*Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs*  
*Trustee John Thiel, Chair*

Trustee Thiel provided a summary of the Student Affairs Committee meeting. They welcomed two new members to the Committee – Trustees Vivan de las Cuevas-Diaz and Nastassia Janvier. Discussed and voted on Consent agenda items – Student Conduct Code and Student Organization Conduct Code.

Vice President Hecht updated the board on the Fall 2021 move-in. Those living on-campus will be required to test for COVID-19, show proof of COVID-19 in last 90 day or show proof of COVID-19 vaccine. There are an expected 700 students moving in per a day.

Early Arrival Programs include Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment, Marching Chief Auditions, and Service Scholars. COVID-19 testing at the start and two other times throughout the week unless proof of COVID-19 in last 90 days or proof of vaccination. To be fully vaccinated – July 9 for first dose of two dose vaccine and July 30 for single dose vaccine.

Student organizations will travel possibly starting in the fall. Student events will return to pre-COVID protocols, meaning no mask requirement, no space limitations, and food/beverage can return to pre-COVID.

**C. Athletics**

*Mr. David Coburn, Vice President and Director of Athletics*

**Information Item**

*Ms. Brooke Niles, Head Coach for Beach Volleyball*

Coach Brooke Niles spoke briefly about the Beach Volleyball team and recruiting efforts. She would like to increase fundraising efforts to improve the beach volleyball facility and stadium that would help with recruiting.

Vice President Coburn updated the Board on several NCAA issues.

The Austin antitrust case in California is awaiting the US Supreme Court decision.

Additionally, he spoke regarding the Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) state statute will go into effect on July 1, 2021. No action by the NCAA has taken place and unsure if they will act by July 1. He reminded that in terms of the state statute regarding the NIL, it prohibits the University, University DSOs, Board of Trustees, voting members on DSO boards, their employers, employees, directors, and officers from compensating intercollegiate athletics for NIL purposes. Vice President Coburn reiterated to the board to not get involved in the compensation of student athletes.

The NCAA took the position that all undergraduate athletes can transfer one time without having to go through a waiver process. Those wishing to be immediately eligible in the fall must notify their current institution by July 1, 2021. Several FSU teams have been very active in the transfer portal including football, men's basketball, and baseball.

The recruiting dead period ended June 1, 2021, allowing recruiting to be back to normal. Football held a midnight madness event at 12:01 am on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Seminole Boosters recently selected a new food service company for concessions at Doak Campbell stadium. Legends is a very successful, high quality food service operation. They will begin concession operations with the first football game of 2021 and will eventually take over the University Center Club and premium spaces no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>. This is pending negotiations with current vendor and should significantly improve fan experience.

Vice President Coburn updated the board regarding the ask of \$20 million from Blueprint for repairs and renovations to Doak Campbell Stadium. Vice President Coburn along with Michael Alford, Coaches Norvell, Semrau, and Hamilton attended the six and half hour hearing that was educational and successful. The funds will be helpful in the renovations to Doak.

Men's Basketball ticket prices will be increasing – this will be first time in seven years. After surveying peer institutions, we were significantly below what others are charging.

On the personnel side of athletics, the advertisement for a second mental health professional has recently been posted, the hire new director of sports medicine will be announced very soon, and Dr. Casey King, Director of Academics, is leaving for Ohio State.

The NCAA has made significant changes to football preseason workout including limiting the number of full pad practices, number of contact days and scrimmages have been reduced to two. Additionally, they have eliminated certain contact drills, such as the old Oklahoma drill. Medical studies have indicated that a substantial portion of concussions are occurring during preseason period.

Vice President Coburn congratulated Coach Lonni Alameda for the great run in Oklahoma City and winning 600 games as head softball coach.

Vice President Coburn finished with congratulating Jalen Hill and John Pack for National Players of the Year (Golf), Pack won the Hogan Award and Nicklaus Award. He also congratulated Coach Krikoran was voted Coach of the Year by the United Soccer Coaches Association, and Coach Hamilton won the Ben Job Award as minority coach of the year.

#### **D. Legislative Update**

*Mr. Clay Ingram, Chief Legislative Officer*

Mr. Ingram reviewed what the potential budget looked like for FSU at the beginning of legislative session with a \$500 million budget shortfall, preeminence and performance funding ranking enhancements were in doubt as well as capital outlay projects.

Florida's economy rebounded at an accelerated rate and FSU fared very well. Mr. Ingram thanked Governor DeSantis, Speaker Chris Sprowls, Chairman Trumbull, Chairman Placencia, President Wilton Simpson, Chair Stargel, Chair Broxson, and Senate Chief of Staff Kathy Mears.

FSU received continued funding of the Veterans Center and the Institute of Politics, the College of Medicine and FAMU/FSU College of Engineering received level funding, as well as other programs. Additionally, the Interdisciplinary Research Commercialization Building was funded at \$23.49 million as well as the College of Business Building (Legacy Hall) was funded \$30.5 million.

Mr. Ingram spoke of several policy bills that are awaiting approval that are awaiting action from the Governor that could affect FSU.

#### **E. Finance and Business Committee**

*Mr. Kyle Clark, Vice President for Finance & Administration*  
*Trustee Bob Sasser, Chair*

Trustee Bob Sasser provided a brief update regarding the Finance & Business Committee meeting. The Committee reviewed the 2021-2022 Operating Budget with \$2.17 billion budget (last year's budget was \$1.85 billion).

Vice President Clark reviewed the Operating Budget including the Florida Medical Practice Plan and DSO Budgets in detail. This included the 2021-2022 New E&G Appropriations, major budget changes, 2021-2022 Construction Budget, and Capital Projects. He also reviewed outstanding budget issues and the 2021-2022 FSU Undergraduate Tuition and Fees.

Clark provided a COVID-19 Update as well as information regarding the FSUPD, Budget Office, Transportation & Parking Services, Facilities, Human Resources, Business Services, Controller's Office and Procurement.

A construction project update was provided regarding the Student Union, Carraway Building Renovation, Bill Harkins Band Practice Field, CAPS High Bay, Phase 1 & 2, STEAM Classroom Building and Auditorium, the Bayside Residence Hall (Panama City Campus), Interdisciplinary Research & Commercialization Building and the College of Business Legacy Hall.

### **Action Items**

1. Requesting Approval of the University's FY 2021-2022 operating budget which includes the Annual Capital Outlay Budget.

*Trustee Thiel moved to approve the University's FY 2021-2022 Operating Budget which includes the Annual Capital Outlay Budget. Trustee Collins seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

2. Requesting Approval of the University's FY 2021-2022 Florida Medical Practice Plan operating budget.

*Trustee Chicken moved to approve the University's FY 2021-2022 Florida Medical Practice Plan Operating Budget. Trustee Janvier seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

3. Requesting Approval of the University's FY 2021-2022 Direct Support Organizations operating budgets.

*Trustee Thiel moved to approve the University's FY 2021-2022 Direct Support Organizations operating budget. Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

4. Requesting Approval for the President to make subsequent changes to the budgets outlined in motions 1, 2, and 3, as needed during the fiscal year, within available resources and fund balances, and consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

*Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz moved for the President to make subsequent changes to the budgets outlined in motions 1, 2, and 3, as needed during the fiscal year, within available resources and fund balances, and consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Trustee Collins seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*



5. Requesting Approval to continue the existing Tuition and Fee Regulation at current rates for FY 2021-2022 and approve an amendment of the current regulation to that effect.

*Trustee Gonzalez moved to continue the existing Tuition and Fee Regulation at current rates for FY 2021-2022 and approve amendment of the current regulation to that effect. Trustee Sargeant seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

6. Requesting Approval for FY 2022-2023 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request

*Trustee Collins moved to approve the FY 2021-2022 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request. Trustee Thiel seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

7. Requesting Approval for Amendment: FSU Regulation 2.024, Tuition and Fees

*Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz moved to approve Amendment: FSU Regulation 2.024, Tuition and Fees. Trustee Janvier seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

**F. University Advancement**

*Mr. Andy Jhanji, Interim Vice President for University Advancement*

Interim Vice President Jhanji provided the Fiscal Year to Date Gift Commitments for the DSOs as of June 9, 2021. Additionally, he provided an Endowment Update as of March 31, 2021, for the DSOs. He provided short-term and long-term involvement of the new president and Advancement. A review of the Direct Support Organization updates including the Real Estate Foundation, Alumni Association, Ringling and Seminole Boosters. Jhanji ended his update thanking President Thrasher for his time and dedication at Florida State University.

**G. Faculty Senate Steering Committee**

*Dr. Erin Ryan, Vice Chair*

Dr. Ryan provided a brief Faculty Senate Steering Committee update. The Senate Steering Committee continues to meet weekly, and the State University System Advisory Council of Faculty Senate also continues to meet regularly as we prepare to resume in person full in person learning this fall.

The Senate is preparing to implement changes for instruction into the curriculum as the result of new legislation that was enacted this legislative session. The Senate reelected President Chicken and new leaders to the Senate steering committee. The Senate enacted a resolution, establishing the faculty senate Sustainability Committee as a standing committee, inviting the administration to create a Sustainability Council to consider important and relevant decisions and to elevate sustainability to a higher order strategic goal.

The Senate discussed some important curricular changes to curriculum policies, including which pandemic policies that were adopted during the past year should be retained after pandemic learning is over.

Dr. Ryan recognized President Thrasher and the Senate conveyed their sincere thanks to him for his leadership during these extraordinary times. She noted that he has not only led us through more challenges than any university president should hope to encounter at one time, but he did so with grace and collaboratively working with faculty, staff and students whenever possible, empowering his own leadership team to work cooperatively with us the same way and that has made all the difference to us as faculty. He will be missed by all. At the same time, faculty are thrilled to welcome our new president-elect McCullough.

#### **H. Student Government Association**

*Ms. Colbi Thykadavil, Student Body Vice President*

Ms. Thykadavil provided a Student Government Association update. She spoke of the SGA mantra – resilience, passion, and empathy – this would include midnight pep rallies, incorporating aspects of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and involve different institutional involvements to incorporate the diversity, equity and inclusion. Also, the involvement of Greek Life and combating the stigma and educating Green Life on the best way to do their part.

She stressed that face to face will be pivotal this year throughout the next year. There will be sophomores and juniors who never had a freshman experience. Its our job to make sure they get to experience the things that freshman normally would.

**I. Office of Research**

*Dr. Laurel Fulkerson, Interim Vice President for Research*

Interim Vice President Fulkerson briefed the board on FSU Research Funding numbers for FY20 vs. FY21 from federal, state, private and local sources. She spoke about NIH funding and collaborative partnerships with TMH, St. Joe and Mayo Clinic.

**Information Item**

Dr. Gregory Boebinger, Director of the FSU National High Magnetic Field Laboratory

Dr. Boebinger provided information regarding NIH and relevant research at the Mag Lab.

**J. General Counsel**

*Ms. Carolyn Egan, General Counsel*

Ms. Egan briefed the board on pending claims and litigations.

**VII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

*Mr. Ed Burr, Chair*

**Action Item**

- A. Requesting Consideration of President-elect Dr. Richard McCullough's Term Sheet

*Trustee Alvarez moved to approve the request for consideration of President-elect Dr. Richard McCullough's Term Sheet. Trustee Gonzalez seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

- B. FSU Board of Trustees Committee Assignments

*Trustee Chicken moved to approve the FSU Board of Trustees Committee Assignments. Trustee Sasser seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.*

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

**IX. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm