



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

April 25, 2023

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attended via Zoom: *Max Alvarez, Kathryn Ballard, Bridgett Birmingham, Peter Collins, Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz, Jorge Gonzalez, Jim Henderson, Jack Hitchcock, Justin Roth, Deborah Sargeant, Bob Sasser, and John Thiel.*

Absent: *Drew Weatherford.*

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mr. Peter Collins, Chair

Chair Collins welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

Heather Mayo called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Chair Collins read the Ethics Conduct Policy.

Chair Collins introduced Provost James Clark.

III. NEW BUSINESS AND UPDATES

a. Academic Affairs

Dr. James Clark, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. James Clark, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs began his report by thanking the Board. Provost Clark introduced the Accountability Plan. He gave an overview of the plan and its purpose. Provost Clark noted the plan's close alignment

with FSU's Strategic Plan, Florida policies and the Florida Board of Governors (FLBOG) procedures that require information.

Chair Collins opened the meeting for questions from the Trustees.

Chair Collins noted the Performance Metrics and how the FLBOG grades our university in these areas. He pointed out that the proposed goals within the plan are the most important to look at.

Dr. Rick Burnette, Associate Provost for Strategy and Analytics, noted that the plan encompasses a five-year projection, and the goal is to set reasonable expectations. Dr. Burnette also noted trend patterns.

President McCullough commented on the freshmen from the top 10% of high school classes and how our numbers have improved in this area. He noted that this is the first year the entire 4-year cohort has come from Florida State University ranking in the top 20 for public universities. Additional contributing factors include a change in methodology and a move from self-reporting. Dr. Burnette added that there has been improvement even with the change in methodology.

Trustee Gonzalez commented on the AAU Readiness overarching initiative in the Accountability Plan document and asked if there has been feedback from the FLBOG on this very important initiative. President McCullough advised that he discussed AAU readiness in his strategic plan presentation to the FLBOG at their meeting in March. The feedback received from FLBOG leadership has been very supportive. He also noted that he has created an internal committee focused on AAU readiness. Additionally, Chair Collins advised on the legislative ask for recurring revenue to go towards items such as AAU readiness.

Vice-Chair Sasser commented on the plan and gave congratulations to the team for a job well done. He noted how FSU has maintained a low student cost even with our bold vision and strategy.

President McCullough advised that in order to further drive down costs for students, we will need to invest in additional funding in scholarships. He also noted that FSU's admission of students is very selective.

Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz commented on FSU's attraction of top students and how we continue to attract those top students. She noted that the process needs to be curated and President McCullough agreed. Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz also emphasized the importance of institutional knowledge as staff transitions occur.

Chair Collins asked about the accountability plan submission process to the FLBOG. Dr. James Hunt gave an overview of the submission process and advised that the plan would be submitted to the FLBOG upon approval of the FSU Board of Trustees. The FLBOG will then take up the accountability plan for approval at their meeting in June.

Action Item:

I. Request for Approval: FSU's 2023 Accountability Plan

Chair Collins asked if there was a motion to approve FSU's 2023 Accountability Plan. Vice-Chair Sasser moved to approve FSU's 2023 Accountability Plan. Trustee Thiel seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously by all who were present on the call.

IV. OPEN FORUM FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Peter Collins, Chair

Chair Collins advised on the upcoming meeting in June and discussed the FSU vs. LSU game in Orlando, FL, Labor Day weekend.

Chair Collins welcomed new SGA President and Trustee Jack Hitchcock and new Faculty Senate President and Trustee Bridgett Birmingham to their first board meeting as Trustees. Trustee Hitchcock and Trustee Birmingham both thanked the Board for their welcome.

Chair Collins noted that the Board elections for Chair and Vice-Chair will occur at the FSU BOT virtual meeting on June 15. Vice President Egan commented on the process and advised that all are welcome to reach out to her with any questions. Trustee de las Cuevas-Diaz noted that in the future, it would be ideal for the election to take place in person rather than in a virtual format.

President McCullough and members of the Provost Staff commented on rankings.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Collins adjourned the meeting at 10:46 AM.