



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FULL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2017
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

Board Chair Claudia Puig convened the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees at 10:15 a.m., on Friday, October 23, 2017, at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present:

Claudia Puig, *Chair*
Cesar L. Alvarez
Jose J. Armas
Leonard Boord
Dean C. Colson
Gerald C. Grant, Jr.
Michael G. Joseph
Natasha Lowell
Justo L. Pozo
Marc D. Sarnoff
Krista M. Schmidt
Kathleen L. Wilson

Excused:

Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Vice Chair*

Chair Puig welcomed all Trustees and University faculty and staff. She stated that for the first time, the University achieved honor roll distinction in all categories of The Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges to Work For". She noted that FIU was the only university in the country to receive the honor this year. She added that President Rosenberg has been selected to serve on the Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion, explaining that the creation of the Task Force responds to President Trump's Executive Order to expand apprenticeships. She congratulated Mr. Richard Brilliant on his recent appointment as Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors and mentioned that four alumni were named as officers.

Chair Puig noted that due to the severity of Hurricane Irma, the FIU Board of Trustees meetings scheduled for September 6 and 7, 2017 were cancelled. She added that the Governance Committee

meeting, previously scheduled for September 7, 2017, was moved to a conference call in order to handle a limited number of time sensitive matters. She reported that the Governance Committee selected the following three options for BOG Performance Funding Metric 10- University Board of Trustees Choice: (1) Number of Post-Doctoral Appointees; (2) Average GPA of Incoming Freshman; and (3) Total R&D Expenditures in Millions. She further stated that the Governance Committee ratified the 2017-2020 Florida Nurses Association Local 713 Collective Bargaining Agreement and approved the Mental Health Counseling and Public Safety Officers Implementation Plans, Legislative Budget Requests, and Facility Security Clearance.

Chair Puig announced that the Board of Trustees would transition to a paperless agenda delivery system. She reminded the Trustees about upcoming events, urging Trustees to confirm their participation for the Board of Governors Trustee Summit scheduled for November 8, 2017 and FIU Day scheduled for February 7, 2018.

Trustee Gerald C. Grant, Jr. urged Trustees to attend the 2017 Trustee Summit, noting that the Summit will provide a unique learning environment.

2. Foundation Report

Senior Vice President for University Advancement Howard R. Lipman provided updates on the Foundation's investment performance and on the Next Horizon Campaign. He described capital giving by donor type and presented year-end results, reporting that \$60.2M was raised surpassing the \$50M goal. He announced that the Foundation Board approved \$750,000 in total funding for low interest loans in order to assist University employees affected by the recent hurricanes.

3. Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

4. President's Report

University President Mark B. Rosenberg thanked Chair Puig and Univision for the donation of 57 works of art from 16 countries within Latin America. President Rosenberg also recognized Trustee Dean C. Colson as instrumental in the gift from the Braman Family Completion Scholarship program, which will support 500 financially needy students each year with a \$1,000 award to assist in the completion of their final year of studies.

President Rosenberg reported that U.S. News & World Report ranked the University as 122nd among public universities and ranked FIU's undergraduate degree in international business seventh in the country. He noted that for the third consecutive July examination, FIU College of Law graduates earned the top bar exam passage rate in Florida. He also reported that FIU officially welcomed the Class of 2021 during Freshman Convocation on August 20, 2017 and that the current Fall enrollment totaled 56,851.

President Rosenberg reported on high profile events and campus guests. He indicated that the University hosted the Conference on Prosperity and Security in Central America, which was led by Secretary of Homeland Security John F. Kelly and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, in partnership with the Government of Mexico. President Rosenberg stated that Costa Rican President Luis

Guillermo Solís visited FIU in September to give a talk about his homeland and to receive FIU's Presidential Gold Medallion. He further stated that the University welcomed U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao and U.S. Representative Mario Diaz-Balart, who toured FIU's Accelerated Bridge Construction University Transportation Center and the Wall of Wind.

President Rosenberg reported on recent research news, noting that the National Science Foundation-funded Center for Advanced Research in Forensic Science will create an industry/university cooperative research center. He added that the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities awarded \$13.1M to create Florida's first Health Disparities Research Center at a Minority Institution. He stated that the National Science Foundation announced the creation of four new nationwide Engineering Research Centers, explaining that the University is part of two of the centers.

President Rosenberg presented a video highlighting the FIU Football home opener. He provided an update on student athlete performance and presented an overview of homecoming events.

5. Action Items

BT1. Ratification of the Amendment to the 2015-2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement between The Florida International University Board of Trustees and The United Faculty of Florida (UFF) – FIU Chapter*

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the Ratification of the Amendment to the 2015-2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the FIU Board of Trustees and the UFF – FIU Chapter for Board of Trustees review and approval. He stated that effective at the beginning of the faculty contract for 2017-18 all eligible faculty members who have been continuously employed as of January 3, 2017 will receive a one percent (1.00%) retention increase to their base salary with a minimum increase of \$750.00. He indicated that while UFF leadership has accepted the terms of the agreement, the formal UFF vote would not be held until October 31 and November 1.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees ratify the amendment to the 2015-2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement between Florida International University Board of Trustees (BOT) and the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) – FIU Chapter.

BT2. Honorary Degree Nomination

Provost Furton presented the Honorary Degree Nomination for Board of Trustees review and approval, noting that after a rigorous review process, the Faculty Senate recommended Dr. Ahmed Mubarak Al Mazrouei as a recipient of a doctoral degree from the University. Provost Furton stated that Dr. Al Mazrouei's work in the advancement of health care reform in the United Arab Emirates led to the development of prevention strategies through screening and targeted health promotion campaigns. Provost Furton added that Dr. Al Mazrouei's scholarship and achievements are consistent with FIU's values and standards and that his contributions to deliver a world-class health care system to present and future generations are significant. Provost Furton stated that FIU has a partnership with the American University in Dubai. Provost Furton reported that Dr. Al Mazrouei successfully cleared a background check.

Trustees engaged in a substantive discussion on the honorary degree review and approval process. Trustee Leonard Boord recommended that honorary degree candidates meet with a member of the Board as part of the honorary degree approval process. Trustee Grant and Trustee Jose J. Armas concurred that the Faculty Senate conducts thorough and exhaustive reviews of honorary degree candidates. Trustee Grant added that the Audit and Compliance Committee will review best practices as it pertains to establishing criteria for which honorary degrees may be conferred and propose a recommendation for Board of Trustees review. Trustee Armas stated that he has met Dr. Al Mazrouei and endorses the nomination for an honorary degree.

A motion was made and passed that the FIU Board of Trustees endorse Dr. Ahmed Mubarak Al Mazrouei as a recipient of a doctoral degree *honoris causa* from Florida International University.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Update on State Fiscal Situation and Other Matters

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Kenneth A. Jessell reported that on September 15, 2017, the Joint Legislative Budget Commission adopted the Long-Range Financial Outlook for the next three state fiscal years. He provided a comprehensive report on the State's long-range financial outlook, noting that overall Florida's economy is strong with growth rates returning to more typical pre-recession levels. He indicated that prior to Hurricane Irma, the Outlook was projecting a \$52M surplus for FY 2018-19, adding that the State has already spent more than \$141M on hurricane preparation and recovery through mid-October. He further stated that the Outlook found that spending growth in the state's critical needs is continuing to outpace growth in revenues and that recently, the Legislature has been using trust fund transfers to delay or avoid budget shortfalls.

Sr. VP and CFO Jessell noted that FIU and all the other State University System institutions will be submitting a revised carryforward fund balance once all prior commitments have been met. He further reported that enrollment and revenues are on target, noting that enrollment was slightly higher than projected, which can be attributed to the fall mini term that began in October and ends in December. He added that University expenses are below target by approximately 3% of which there is \$1.6 million in non-delayed expenses. He stated that FIU expenditures for Hurricane Irma are estimated at \$7.2 million and mentioned that federal reimbursement can be a lengthy process.

In response to Trustee Grant's inquiry regarding costs associated with operating as a shelter during Hurricane Irma, Sr. VP and CFO Jessell noted that the University operates under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Monroe County to provide shelter for special needs residents. He stated that Pursuant to the MOU, FIU provides physical space, and Monroe County Health Department is responsible for the operation of the space when it has been activated as a shelter. Sr. VP and CFO Jessell noted that expenses incurred in association with the general population evacuees received under Governor Rick Scott's order that all state universities close and be available to serve as general population shelters, while not covered under the MOU, should be eligible for federal reimbursement.

President Rosenberg stated that the University expects a \$1.5M increase in Florida Power and Light costs beginning in the spring. He added that for the past eight years, FIU has ranked as the most

energy efficient state university and that the University will continue to seek cost-saving measures that can help absorb the increase.

6.2 Hurricane Redux

President Rosenberg explained that FIU's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and coordinated the response and recovery actions for Hurricane Irma. He also noted that University staff assigned to the EOC participate in a number of tabletop exercises each year in order to better prepare for emergency events. He stated that FIU is the designated out-of-county shelter for the special needs residents of Monroe County for all category storms. He pointed out that there could be and have been instances where Monroe County is under threat of a storm, but Miami-Dade County is not.

President Rosenberg presented an overview of the University's preparations in anticipation of Hurricane Irma and led the discussion on issues relating to shelter operations. He stated that U.S. Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta and other government officials, such as Governor Rick Scott, Lieutenant Governor Carlos Lopez-Cantera, and Congressman Carlos Curbelo, visited FIU's special needs shelter. He added that Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price also traveled to FIU to visit the special needs shelter.

President Rosenberg indicated that FIU's Florida Advanced Surgical Transportation and State Medical Response teams brought the NeighborhoodHelp Mobile Health Center to Fishermen's Community Hospital in Marathon, FL. He added that a group of FIU voice students performed for Irma evacuees and that an information call center was established. He stated that a Hurricane Symposium, *Lessons Learned*, is scheduled for December 1, 2017 and will provide a forum for federal, state, and local officials as well as the private sector to exchange ideas and offer best practices to improve all phases of emergency management in Florida, the U.S. and abroad.

Board members engaged in a substantive discussion regarding shelter operations at FIU. Trustees concurred that shared responsibility among agencies is critical in terms of the costs associated with making improvements to the FIU shelter building and its facilities and noted that limits in accordance with capacity should be established.

7. New Business

In response to Trustee Colson's inquiry, President Rosenberg stressed the importance of Trustee involvement in communicating with Governor Scott and his office in support of FIU's request for the construction of a Hotel, Conference Center, and Alumni Center on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Trustee Colson commented that the Board of Trustees meeting schedule would benefit from having an additional meeting of each committee in order to allow more time for discussion on topics critical to the University's advancement.

Trustee Colson requested that University administration develop an action plan aimed at improving FIU's standing in U.S. News & World Report rankings. Provost Furton noted that representatives from U.S. News & World Report will be meeting with University leadership on December 11 and 12, 2017 to discuss strategies for improvement in the rankings.

8. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Board Chair Claudia Puig adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 12:07 p.m.

Trustee Request	Follow-up	Completion Date
<i>Trustee Colson requested that University administration develop an action plan aimed at improving FIU's standing in U.S. News & World Report rankings.</i>	<i>Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>

Claudia Puig
Chair
FIU Board of Trustees

Mark B. Rosenberg
Corporate Secretary
FIU Board of Trustees

MB 11.1.17