



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 8, 2017**

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Governance Committee meeting was called to order by Board Chair Claudia Puig on Friday, December 8, 2017 at 12:02 p.m. at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

The following attendance was recorded:

Present:

Claudia Puig, *Board Chair*
Jorge L. Arrizurieta, *Board Vice Chair*
Cesar L. Alvarez (*by phone*)
Leonard Boord
Gerald C. Grant, Jr.

Excused:

Jose J. Armas

Trustees Dean C. Colson, Natasha Lowell, Marc D. Sarnoff, Krista M. Schmidt and Kathleen L. Wilson, and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

Board Chair Puig asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the September 7, 2017 Governance Committee meeting. A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday, September 7, 2017.

3. Action Items

G1. 2017 Florida Educational Equity Act Report

Director of Equal Opportunity Programs and Diversity Shirlyon McWhorter presented the 2017 Florida Educational Equity Act Report for the Committee's review. Ms. McWhorter provided an overview of the University's 2016-17 Florida Equity Report, explaining that the Report is comprised of three areas: enrollment; athletics; and employment. She reported on the University's performance in various areas, including the representation of under-represented groups among full-time First Time in College (FTIC) students, research doctorates awarded, and female students' participation in college athletics.

A motion was made and passed by the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee to recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees approve the 2017 Florida Educational Equity Act Report.

G2. Performance-based Funding – Metric 10: Board of Trustees Choice

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the Performance-based Funding – Metric 10: Board of Trustees Choice for Committee review. He explained that as instructed by the Florida Board of Governors (BOG), the FIU Board of Trustees (BOT) approved three choice metrics at its September 7, 2017 meeting. He added that the three metrics were reviewed by the BOG at its meeting on October 3, 2017 and that as a consequence of that review, the BOG has requested that instead of the previously requested three metrics, the BOT recommend only one.

Provost Furton noted that the Number of Post-Doctoral Appointees is the University's recommendation for the BOT Choice Metric, explaining that this metric is among the BOG preeminence metrics. He stated that the excellence benchmarks will be established so that in the first year of implementation, the University will receive no more than seven (7) points on a scale of 1-10 for the chosen metric.

In response to Trustee Leonard Boord's inquiry regarding high school GPA being a positive indicator on college readiness, Trustees engaged in a substantive discussion regarding the viability of choosing average GPA of incoming freshman as the BOT Choice Metric. University President Mark B. Rosenberg discussed some of the possible effects of raising the GPA for incoming freshman, noting that socioeconomic factors play a major role in student academic achievement. He added that if the University were to allocate additional funding in order to recruit high-achieving students with scholarships, it would have to reduce funding that is currently being used to assist students in other areas.

Provost Furton noted that postdoctoral appointees contribute to the academic community by enhancing the research and education programs and also bolster the University's ability to recruit top notch faculty. He stated that increasing the number of postdoctoral appointees is critical for improvement in the Carnegie Classification rankings and that achieving two hundred or more postdoctoral appointees annually is one of the excellence standards that is established for the preeminent state research universities program. Trustee Kathleen L. Wilson noted that universities designated as Preeminent and Emerging Preeminent are eligible to receive additional state funding on a recurring basis.

A motion was made and passed by the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee to recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees select the Number of Post-Doctoral Appointees for BOG Performance Funding Metric 10: University Board of Trustees Choice.

4. Discussion Item

4.1 Florida Board of Governors Trustee Summit

Board Chair Puig noted that the FIU BOT was pleased to welcome members of the BOG Wendy S. Link and Pam Stewart, Commissioner of Education, and BOG staff member, Christy England, Academic Policy and Research Associate Vice Chancellor for their breakout session during the BOG Trustee Summit.

President Rosenberg described the themes that helped frame the discussion on the importance and strategy behind the more seamless integration of academics and career advising:

- 21st century institutional capabilities in terms of academic advising;
- Cutting edge learning for traditional and non-traditional learners; and
- The role of the Board of Trustees in fostering access to high-impact employment

The President described the University's progression from a decentralized advising approach to a more centralized advising approach to improve student outcomes that extend beyond graduation to meaningful employment. He noted that the integration of careers and academics creates an easier transition for students from the structure of school to the competitive job market, adding that the greatest opportunities for employment depend upon a college degree.

Provost Furton noted that the University continues to develop strategies to maximize advising interactions, while also targeting at-risk students. In response to Trustee Krista M. Schmidt's inquiry regarding the advising strategies for online students, Vice President for Academic Affairs Elizabeth M. Bejar mentioned that the majority of the online student population is already employed. VP Bejar added that systematically embedding academic and career advising within the University's core will significantly enhance the success of all students including those enrolled in fully online programs. Provost Furton also discussed the University's program for providing incentives which recognize members of the FIU academic community who have demonstrated outstanding qualities in academic advising.

5. New Business

No new business was raised.

6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Board Chair Claudia Puig adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Governance Committee on Friday, December 8, 2017 at 12:45 p.m.

There were no Trustee requests.