



Full Board
April 5, 2022
Zoom

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

Board Chair Dean C. Colson convened the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees at 11:02 a.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Florida International University Board of Trustees and verified a quorum. Present were Dean C. Colson, *Board Chair*; Roger Tovar, *Board Vice Chair*; Cesar L. Alvarez; Jose J. Armas; Carlos A. Duarte; Donna J. Hrinak; Gene Prescott; Joerg Reinhold; Chanel T. Rowe; Alexander Rubido; Marc D. Sarnoff; and Carlos Trujillo.

Trustee Natasha Lowell was excused.

Board Chair Colson welcomed all Trustees and members of the University administration. He welcomed Trustees and the University community accessing the meeting via the webcast.

Board Chair Colson indicated that at the March 3, 2022 FIU Board of Trustees meeting, the Board delegated to the Governance Committee the authority to identify executive search firms/consultants that can assist the Board in the selection of the University's next president, and after due consideration, to select and upon formation of the presidential search committee, retain a search firm. Board Chair Colson pointed out that Board Vice Chair Roger Tovar met with the principals of six (6) nationally regarded search firms and added that the Governance Committee then met on March 17 and 18, 2022 to review said firms and interview the recommended firms. Board Chair Colson stated that the Governance Committee selected R. William Funk and Associates to assist with the search for FIU's sixth president, noting that R. William Funk and Associates has extensive experience recruiting for R1 universities.

2. Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

3. Discussion Items

3.1 Update – Presidential Search/Presidential Search Committee Formation

Board Chair Colson remarked that, in accordance with Florida Board of Governors regulations, the Presidential Search Committee's membership was formed in consultation with Board of Governors Chair Brian Lamb. He commented that also, in accordance with Florida Board of Governors regulations, the FIU Presidential Search Committee has 15 members representing the Board of Trustees, the Board of Governors, FIU faculty, students, alumni, and the community.

Board Chair Colson commented that on March 29, 2022, he announced the appointment of Board Vice Chair Roger Tovar as the Chair of the Presidential Search Committee.

Board Chair Colson announced the members of the FIU Presidential Search Committee:

- Roger Tovar, FIU Alumnus, FIU Board of Trustees Vice-Chair and PSC Chair
- Cesar L. Alvarez, FIU Trustee
- Deanne Butchey, FIU Alumna, FIU Faculty
- Valentina Casanova, FIU Student
- Carlos A. Duart, FIU Alumnus, FIU Trustee
- Eric Eikenberg, Community Leader
- Patricia Frost, Board of Governors Member
- Jill M. Granat, FIU Alumna, FIU Foundation Board Member
- Gerald C. Grant, Jr., FIU Alumnus, Community Leader, Trustee Emeritus
- Hon. Barbara Lagoa, Judge, FIU Alumna
- Albert R. Maury, FIU Alumnus, Community Leader, FIU Board of Trustees Chair Emeritus
- Richard Olson, FIU Faculty
- Claudia Puig, FIU Alumna, Community Leader, FIU Board of Trustees Chair Emeritus
- H.T. Smith, FIU Faculty
- Rebecca Lyn Toonkel, FIU Faculty

Board Chair Colson thanked the FIU Presidential Search Committee Members for their willingness to serve and their continued dedication to FIU.

3.2 Update – Presidential Search/Presidential Search Committee

Board Chair Colson recognized Board Vice Chair Tovar and thanked him for devoting his time and energy to Chair the FIU Presidential Search Committee.

Board Vice Chair Tovar introduced Mr. Robert William “Bill” Funk of R. William Funk and Associates. Mr. Funk introduced his colleague Ms. Kayla O’Rourke and commented that later in the afternoon they would be joining the FIU Presidential Search Committee for their first meeting and that they would return to campus the following week for listening sessions with various constituent groups and on April 26, 2022 to provide an update to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Funk remarked on next steps. He stated that the friends of FIU letter will soon be sent to key supporters and University alumni to advise them of the launch of the search and provide them with the opportunity to share nominations and thoughts about the kind of leadership they would like to see going forward. He commented on the confidentiality agreement that was developed for the Presidential Search Committee and that the leadership statement will be completed with input received from the listening sessions.

Mr. Funk indicated that he and his firm have been researching and targeting potential candidates. He added that he and his firm will send letters to their 600-person proprietary mailing list and have prepared nomination letters that will be sent to everyone who was nominated. He stated that while many variables can impact a presidential search timeline, it is his expectation that the applicant pool will be completed beginning no earlier than mid-June and that this will be the point at which the Presidential Search Committee will evaluate the pool of active candidates and begin to distill the

pool to a group of first round interviewees. Mr. Funk added that before the interviews are conducted, he and his firm will conduct background checks on the individuals that the Presidential Search Committee selects. He stated that the first-round interviews will be held in approximately late June and that the Presidential Search Committee will immediately thereafter, in July, select the five (5) finalists that they are recommending to the Board of Trustees and inviting for campus interviews. He highlighted active R1 (Carnegie Classification: Doctoral Universities – Very high research activity) searches within the State University System of Florida and nationally for public and private institutions.

Trustee Carlos Trujillo urged that the Presidential Search Committee define the criteria as expansive as possible to attract the largest number of qualified applicants that necessarily might not come directly from only academia. Board Vice Chair Tovar concurred. Mr. Funk added that there are excellent leaders in corporate America and not-for-profit organizations that possess sought-after leadership qualities. Trustee Jose. J. Armas recognized Board Chair Colson's efforts in forming the Presidential Search Committee and Board Vice Chair Tovar for serving as the Committee's Chair. Trustee Donna J. Hrinak remarked that FIU's next president should have international perspective, experience, and vision. Trustee Joerg Reinhold also commended Chair Colson on the formation of the Presidential Search Committee.

Board Vice Chair Tovar recognized Vice President for Operations and Safety and Chief of Staff Javier I. Marques for his efforts in facilitating the Presidential Search Committee on behalf of the FIU administration along with other members of the FIU team who are providing support as it relates to their respective areas.

4. New Business

No new business was raised.

5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Board Chair Dean C. Colson adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Full Board on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 11:38 a.m.

Dean C. Colson
Chair
FIU Board of Trustees

Kenneth A. Jessell
Corporate Secretary
FIU Board of Trustees