



Full Board  
April 26, 2022

FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms and via Zoom

## MINUTES

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### 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 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 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 (*via Zoom*); Natasha Lowell; Gene Prescott; Joerg Reinhold; Chanel T. Rowe; Alexander Rubido; and Marc D. Sarnoff.

Carlos Trujillo was excused.

Board Chair Colson welcomed all Trustees and members of the University administration. He welcomed Trustees participating via Zoom and the University community accessing the meeting via the webcast. He also welcomed Mr. R. William "Bill" Funk and members of the R. William Funk and Associates team.

Board Chair Colson invited Trustees to a hardhat tour of Tamiami Hall at the conclusion of the Full Board meeting. He remarked that Tamiami Hall will feature fully furnished four-bedroom/two-bathroom apartments and studio apartments and will be home to 676 upper-class students, 17 resident assistants, and four professional staff.

In recognition of Trustee Alexander Rubido's service on the Board, which concludes on May 8, 2022, Board Chair Colson presented Trustee Rubido with a plaque.

### 2. Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

### 3. President's Report

Interim University President Kenneth A. Jessell welcomed members of HCA Healthcare's Florida team and announced that a formal presentation and acceptance of the \$1.5M gift would follow later in the afternoon. He reported that the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences received a \$1.5M gift from HCA Healthcare Inc. and noted that FIU is the first Hispanic serving institution in the country to receive a grant. Interim President Jessell stated that the partnership with HCA will improve the pipeline of nursing educators to help address the nursing shortage.

Interim President Jessell commented that FIU participated in the Miami Beach Pride Parade. He stated that the FIU Relay for Life raised \$57,000 for the American Cancer Society. He remarked on Admitted Student Day, which took place on April 9, 2022. He pointed out that FIU's 17-hour dance marathon, Roarathon, raised over \$59,000 in benefit of the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals program. He mentioned the closing ceremony of the Bob Dylan exhibit, *Retrospectrum*, at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum. Interim President Jessell highlighted FIU's presence at eMerge America's. He indicated that FIU's successful efforts to improve student success while aligning its strategy with state performance metrics was highlighted at a gathering hosted by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU) at the University's Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Interim President Jessell stated that after two years without a national competition in the sport, FIU cheerleading placed first in both the preliminary and final rounds, closing out the competition with a final score of 97.4 points. He indicated that FIU is to receive \$5.5M in federal funds for strategic research projects with community impact. He pointed out that five (5) FIU professors received National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Awards to conduct innovative research and promote diversity in engineering. Interim President Jessell mentioned that a post-doc and two Ph.D. students won awards from the Society of Toxicology for Alzheimer's research.

#### **4. Action Items – Consent Agenda**

Board Chair Colson indicated that the Finance and Facilities Committee recommended approval by the Board of action items FF1-FF3 and that the Governance Committee recommended approval of action items G1 and G2 contained in the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the Consent Agenda, and members of the Board approved the following actions:

- **BT1. Minutes, March 3, 2022** - Approval of Minutes of the FIU Board of Trustees, Full Board meeting held on March 3, 2022.
- **BT2. Minutes, April 5, 2022** - Approval of Minutes of the FIU Board of Trustees, Full Board meeting held on April 5, 2022.
- **FF1. FIU Ventilation Improvements at Modesto A. Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses** - Approve a list of HVAC improvement projects, throughout the Modesto A. Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses, as specified in the Board materials, and delegate to the President or his designee the authority to execute all contracts and take all actions necessary to effectuate the improvements.
- **FF2. Interior Renovation of Lakeview North Residence Hall** - Approve the interior renovation of the Lakeview North Residence Hall at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, which is being completed in two phases for a total cost of \$3,855,146, and delegate to the President or his designee the authority to execute all contracts and take all actions necessary to effectuate the renovation.

- **FF3. Approval of Florida International University's 2022-23 Allocation of Capital Improvement Trust Fund (CITF) Fees** - Approve FIU's revised 2022-23 allocation of CITF fees and authorize the University President to further amend said allocation as necessary, consistent with Florida Board of Governors and Florida International University Board of Trustees directives and guidelines.
- **G1. Bonus Plan Certification Form** - Approve the proposed Bonus Plan Certification Form.
- **G2. University President's Performance Goals for Incentive Compensation, 2022** - Adopt the Interim President's Performance Goals for Incentive Compensation, as specified in the Board materials, for the term of his employment agreement.

## 5. Action Items

### BT3. Presidential Position Criteria

Board Vice Chair and Presidential Search Committee Chair, Roger Tovar, indicated that Florida Board of Governors Regulation requires that the Presidential Search Committee, assisted by R. William Funk & Associates, be responsible for developing recommended position criteria that are consistent with the institution's mission, strategic plan, and aspirational goals, and approved by the Board of Trustees. Board Vice Chair Tovar added that, at its first meeting, the Presidential Search Committee discussed characteristics, attributes, experience, leadership style, and personality that FIU's next president should possess. Board Vice Chair Tovar pointed out that, over the course of two days on April 12 and 13, 2022, he was joined by Mr. Funk to lead listening sessions with a number of FIU constituent groups. Board Vice Chair Tovar recognized Board Chair Colson and Presidential Search Committee members who attended the sessions.

Board Vice Chair Tovar remarked that the Presidential Search Committee met on April 25, 2022 and at said meeting, finalized the proposed Presidential Position Criteria and Leadership Statement. He added that the updated version, which is being presented for Board of Trustees approval, was previously shared with members of the Board of Trustees. He noted that while there is no expectation that candidates possess all the attributes noted in the Presidential Position Criteria and Leadership Statement, it is expected that the best candidates will have a majority of these characteristics. Board Vice Chair Tovar commented that Mr. Funk continues to reach out to all Board of Trustees members in order to solicit their feedback on the presidential search process.

Pursuant to Florida Board of Governors Regulation, a motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees approve the Presidential Position Criteria.

Trustee Carlos A. Duarte commended Board Vice Chair Tovar's commitment to the presidential search process. Trustee Joerg Reinhold concurred that while it may be challenging for a good candidate to possess all the attributes (noted in the Presidential Position Criteria and Leadership Statement), the Board should expect that the best candidates will be "passionately student-centered and dedicated to enhancing the quality of student life and learning" and have an "appreciation of a world-class faculty and staff and respect for the principles of shared governance and academic freedom." Board Vice Chair Tovar explained that the Presidential Position Criteria will serve as a

blueprint for the interview process. Trustee Donna J. Hrinak shared her disappointment that international experience or perspective of FIU's role in the greater international community is not reflected in the Presidential Position Criteria and Leadership Statement. In response to Trustee Hrinak, Board Vice Chair Tovar stated that while the Presidential Position Criteria will not be fully inclusive, the international aspect was not purposely excluded and is included elsewhere, such as in the advertisement (for University President).

### **SP1. Florida International University Annual Accountability Plan, 2022**

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees approve Florida International University's Annual Accountability Plan, as provided in the Board materials, and delegate authority to the University President to perform finish editing as needed and to amend consistent with comments received from the Board of Governors.

### **6. Status Reports, Board Committees**

Board Chair Colson mentioned that the following Committees met earlier in the day: Finance and Facilities; Strategic Planning; External Relations; and Governance.

#### **Finance and Facilities Committee Report**

Board Vice Chair and Finance and Facilities Committee Chair, Roger Tovar, provided highlights from the Committee's meeting earlier in the day. He indicated that the Committee reviewed and approved to increase the purchase order with Apple for an additional expense of \$500,000 for the PantherTech store to cover anticipated purchases from April through June 2022 due to sales increase from personal and interdepartmental equipment purchases. He stated that the Committee also approved the request for the third amendment of the FIU National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) lease with BP Land Holdings, LLC located in Largo, Florida to add additional square footage of office space to meet current and future demands to further its academic mission, research, and training in the field of forensic sciences. Board Vice Chair Tovar stated that Interim Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Aime Martinez presented the results of the Financial Statement Audit for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2021 and the FIU Operational Audit findings and recommendations for calendar year ended December 31, 2020.

#### **Strategic Planning Committee Report**

Strategic Planning Committee Chair Marc D. Sarnoff provided highlights from the Committee's meeting earlier in the day. He indicated that, in addition to engaging in a thorough review of the 2022 Accountability Plan, the Committee also received a presentation from Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Elizabeth M. Bejar of the historic overview and the Committee's role relating to the strategic planning process.

#### **External Relations Committee Report**

External Relations Committee Chair Gene Prescott provided highlights from the Committee's meeting earlier in the day. He indicated that Senior Vice President, Strategic Communications, Government and External Affairs Michelle L. Palacio reported on the ongoing reputation and rankings marketing campaign. He added that Sr. VP Palacio provided data points on the current campaign and reviewed the planning efforts for the 2022-23 campaign. Trustee Prescott mentioned

that Sr. VP Palacio provided updates on the recently completed 2022 state legislative session and the federal appropriations process.

## **Governance Committee Report**

Board Chair Colson noted that the Committee reviewed two (2) agenda items, which the Board approved as part of the Consent Agenda. He commented on the October 12, 2022 Committee Workshops of the Florida Board of Governors to be held at FIU and advised Trustees that further details will be shared on the annual Trustee Summit, which is required of all Board of Governors-appointed Trustees.

## **7. Presidential Search Update**

### **7.1 Presidential Search Marketing Plan** *(No Action Required)*

Board Vice Chair and Presidential Search Committee Chair Tovar explained that Board of Governors Regulation requires that the presidential search committee approve a marketing plan which is then submitted to the Board of Trustees. He added that the Presidential Search Committee, at its April 25, 2022 meeting, approved the marketing plan that was submitted to the Board of Trustees as part of the April 26, 2022 agenda materials. Board Vice Chair Tovar indicated that, at the Committee's April 25, 2022 meeting, Vice President for Operations and Safety and Chief of Staff Javier I. Marques was joined by the FIU team to highlight the progress in terms of FIU communication channels. Board Vice Chair Tovar shared the FIU viewbook with the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Funk commented on the progress to-date. He explained that the friends of FIU letter has been shared, the presidential search website is live, listening sessions with various constituent groups were held, and the Presidential Search Committee has held two (2) meetings. Mr. Funk indicated that he and his firm have sent letters to their 600-person proprietary mailing list to advise them of the launch of the search and provide them with the opportunity to share nominations. He stated that over the next 1-1/2 months, he and his firm will actively engage with prospective candidates to build a candidate pool. He requested that the Board of Trustees, Presidential Search Committee, and University community forward nominations that have been shared with them.

Board Vice Chair and Presidential Search Committee Chair Tovar stated that the marketing budget was not to exceed a cost of \$30,000, which he noted included ad buys and creation of collateral materials. Further responding to Trustee Hrinak's earlier comment, Board Vice Chair and Presidential Search Committee Chair Tovar referenced the language in the recent advertisement (for University President), specifically that "The next President will have the leadership talents to successfully elevate the University to greater national and international prominence." He requested that Mr. Funk reach out to Trustee Hrinak to ensure that (international) is highlighted and is given fair consideration throughout the interview process.

## **8. New Business**

Board Chair Colson introduced FIU Men's Football coach Mike MacIntyre, who is a 32-year veteran of collegiate coaching and has experience coaching in the National Football League. Board Chair Colson commented on Coach MacIntyre's efforts aimed at increasing fan involvement. Coach MacIntyre commented on the spring practice game and the support of the University community.

Trustee Rubido conveyed his gratitude to the Board and the University leadership. He also recognized his advisors and the leadership within the Student Government Association.

### **9. 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 26, 2022, at 2:03 p.m.

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Dean C. Colson  
*Chair*  
*FIU Board of Trustees*

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Kenneth A. Jessell  
*Corporate Secretary*  
*FIU Board of Trustees*