



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FULL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2020
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 10:43 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, via Zoom.

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; Leonard Boord; Gerald C. Grant, Jr.; Donna J. Hrinak; Natasha Lowell; Gene Prescott (*joined after roll call*); Claudia Puig; Joerg Reinhold; Marc D. Sarnoff; and Alexandra Valdes.

Board Chair Colson welcomed Trustees and University administrators participating via the virtual environment and explained that the University community and general public were accessing the meeting via the FIU webcast.

2. Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

3. President's Report

University President Mark B. Rosenberg pointed out that over the last several months, the University has received approximately \$20M in combined new research awards, adding that research awards grew from \$157M to \$197M, representing a 25% increase over the prior fiscal year. He indicated that the Institute of Environment, FIU's largest research center designated by the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) as an area of Distinction for FIU, reached \$20M in research awards for the fiscal year, a 24% increase from the prior fiscal year. He also mentioned that the College of Engineering and Computing had a increase of 41% from \$32M to \$45M. President Rosenberg remarked that the amount of funding requested in proposals increased by 34%, from \$589M to \$788M, that thirteen license options were executed, and that licensing income totaled \$236K, surpassing the prior six years combined.

In terms of fall 2020 enrollment, President Rosenberg commented on frequent communications with the BOG and with the Chancellor and noted that nearly 7,000 courses will be offered in the fall and that of those courses, approximately 17% will be face-to-face, 6% hybrid, 27% online and 48% remote. President Rosenberg remarked that over 1,000 faculty members have earned the University's

Remote Teach Ready Badge, noting that the FIU Micro-Credential, in the form of a digital badge is intended for face-to-face faculty who will benefit from building their technological skills for remote teaching. He explained that while most of the biology, chemistry, earth and environment, and physics labs are planned for remote modalities, earth and environment and physics will have a significant percentage of in-person labs. He also described instances of enrollment by modality for the arts, indicating that, while subject to change depending on conditions within the next two weeks, it is the expectation that most sections will be in a remote modality.

In response to Board Vice Chair Roger Tovar, President Rosenberg explained that the University is on track in terms of its projections for online learning, noting that eight new online degrees are starting this year and that remote learning is a new modality that is being evaluated. President Rosenberg commented that data comparing pre-COVID to current conditions, will be shared with the Board. In response to Board Vice Chair Tovar, Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton pointed out that one of the University's strategic plan goals relates to the number of patents and licenses or options executed per year. He remarked that FIU was ranked 15th in the nation among public universities that were issued utility patents and pointed out that the University is focused on licensing. Vice President for Research and Economic Development and Dean of the University Graduate School Andres G. Gil explained that currently licensing success is being achieved in the areas of engineering and computer science, noting that biomedical and energy are other promising areas. Further responding to Board Vice Chair Tovar, VP Gil pointed out that further detail on the thirteen University licenses that the President described will be shared with the Board.

4. Action Items

AP1. Honorary Degree Nomination

Trustee Natasha Lowell, Academic Policy and Student Affairs Committee Chair, commented that the Committee met earlier and recommended Hashim Al Abri as a recipient of an Honorary Bachelor of Business Administration.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the Board of Trustees endorse Hashim Al Abri as a recipient of an Honorary Bachelor of Business Administration from Florida International University.

AP2. Approval of Amendments to Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Misconduct (Title IX)

Trustee Lowell indicated that the Committee recommended Board approval of the amendments to Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Misconduct (Title IX) as specified in the Board materials.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the Board of Trustees approve the amendment of Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Misconduct (Title IX) including the renaming to Regulation FIU-105 Sexual Harassment (Title IX) and Sexual Misconduct.

AP3. Proposed Amendments to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code

Trustee Lowell pointed out that the Committee recommended Board approval of the amendments to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code as specified in the Board materials.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the Board of Trustees approve the revisions to Regulation FIU-2501 Student Conduct and Honor Code, and delegate authority to the University President to approve any subsequent non-material amendments based on comments to the Regulation received from the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) or as a result of the regulation-making process.

5. New Business

Chair Colson commented on the Board's next regularly scheduled meetings in September and the likelihood that said meetings will be held via Zoom.

Trustee Marc D. Sarnoff voiced concerns over the percentages for the fall semester instruction modes and how these differed from the percentages approved as part of the University's repopulation plan. Chair Colson commented on continued communications with the BOG and the Florida Governor, noting that the plan remains fluid in order to adjust and respond to changes in local conditions. In response to Trustee Sarnoff, Provost Furton explained that University decisions are informed by a subcommittee of the Repopulation Task Force, adding that the subcommittee is based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and is formed by members of the administration, epidemiologists, and medical professionals. He added that Trustee Joerg Reinhold serves as a member of the subcommittee. Provost Furton remarked that the University's repopulation is consistent with the other State University System institutions, despite Miami-Dade County having the highest number of positive cases in the state. Trustee Leonard Boord requested that the Administration identify those courses that cannot be taught remotely. Given the dynamic situation, Chair Colson commented on providing a platform for increased communication with the Board of Trustees while also providing flexibility to the administration. Senior Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Robert Sackstein remarked on clinical skills courses requiring in-person learning. Further discussion ensued on CDC guidelines, how positivity rates are calculated, false negativity rates, and the increased positivity rate in the age group of 18-35.

6. 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 Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 11:34 a.m.

Dean C. Colson
Chair
FIU Board of Trustees

Mark B. Rosenberg
Corporate Secretary
FIU Board of Trustees