



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

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 Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 11:34 a.m. at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Governance Committee members and verified a quorum. Present were Trustees Claudia Puig, *Board Chair*; Cesar L. Alvarez; Leonard Boord; and Gerald C. Grant, Jr.

Board Vice Chair Jose J. Armas was excused.

Trustees Dean C. Colson, Donna J. Hrinak, Natasha Lowell, T. Gene Prescott, Joerg Reinhold, Sabrina L. Rosell, Marc D. Sarnoff, and Roger Tovar and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

Board Chair Puig welcomed all Trustees and University faculty and staff to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

Board Chair Puig asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on September 18, 2019. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

3. Action Item

G1. Updated Exclusion Resolution and Designation of Key Management Personnel and Delegation of Authority

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the updated Exclusion Resolution and Designation of Key Management Personnel and Delegation of Authority for Committee review. Provost Furton explained that the composition of the FIU Board of Trustees has changed since the adoption of the September 5, 2018 Exclusion Resolution, and that accordingly, an update to the Exclusion Resolution was needed to reflect the current composition of the FIU Board of Trustees and the exclusion of those Board members, including the new Board of Trustees members, from the requirements for a personnel security clearance.

Provost Furton indicated that the named Board of Trustees members shall not require, shall not have, and can be effectively excluded from access to all classified information in the possession of FIU, and do not occupy positions that would enable them to adversely affect FIU's policies or practices in the performance of classified contracts for the Department of Defense or other agencies of the National Industrial Security Program.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees adopt a Resolution that updates the exclusion of the named members of the FIU Board of Trustees from the requirements for a personnel security clearance.

4. Discussion Item

4.1 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

The Committee welcomed Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Dr. Wheelan provided an overview of accreditation in general and specifically of the SACSCOC. She explained that, founded in 1895, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is currently comprised of the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (CASI) and the Commission on Colleges (COC). She added that the Commission on Colleges was founded in 1917 and was organized to develop standards and a process for accrediting colleges and universities in the South.

Dr. Wheelan explained that national accrediting agencies accredit institutions of higher education that have a single focus irrespective of location, that regional accrediting agencies accredit all aspects of an institution of higher education in specific regions, and that specialized or professional accrediting agencies accredit programs within institutions. She described the three purposes of regional accreditation, namely, to ensure continuous improvement and quality at an institution, to demonstrate to the general public that there is a set of standards to which an institution has demonstrated compliance, and to serve as the gatekeeper for federal financial aid.

Dr. Wheelan delineated the characteristics of regional accreditation and noted that there are six regional accrediting associations. She added that the Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC) is a collective of seven regional organizations responsible for the accreditation of approximately 3,000 of the nation's colleges and universities. She provided an overview of C-RAC activities, noting that since it reconvened in 2010, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) has been advising the U.S. Secretary of Education on matters concerning accreditation, the Secretary's recognition process for accrediting agencies, and institutional eligibility for federal student aid, through the Committee's public meetings.

Dr. Wheelan presented an overview of the SACSCOC's governance structure, noting that the Appeals Committee is elected by the College Delegate Assembly to enable applicant, candidate, and member institutions to appeal adverse decisions taken by the SACSCOC Board. She pointed out that the thirteen-member Executive Council is the executive arm of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees and functions on behalf of the Board and the College Delegate Assembly between meetings. Dr. Wheelan indicated that Senior Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Elizabeth M. Bejar serves as the Florida representative on the Executive Council. Dr. Wheelan explained that the standing committees of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, the Committees

on Compliance and Reports, review applications for membership, reports prepared by off-site and on-site reaffirmation committees, and the institutional responses to those reports, and recommend action on those accreditation issues to the Executive Council.

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 Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 12:05 p.m.

There were no Trustee requests.