



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 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 Dean C. Colson on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 11:07 a.m. via Zoom.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Governance Committee members and verified a quorum. Present were Trustees Dean C. Colson, *Board Chair*; Roger Tovar, *Board Vice Chair*; Leonard Board; Gerald C. Grant, Jr.; Natasha Lowell; and Claudia Puig.

Trustees Cesar L. Alvarez, Jose J. Armas, Gene Prescott, Joerg Reinhold, Marc D. Sarnoff, and Alexandra Valdes and University President Mark B. Rosenberg were also in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

Board Chair Colson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Governance Committee meetings held on June 16, 2020 and July 23, 2020. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Governance Committee meetings held on June 16, 2020 and July 23, 2020.

3. Action Items

G1. Updated Exclusion Resolution

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the updated Exclusion Resolution for Committee review. He explained that an update to the Exclusion Resolution is needed in order to reflect the current composition of the FIU Board of Trustees. He pointed out that, as is noted in the proposed Resolution, FIU has entered into contractual obligations with agencies of the United States government, including contractual obligations requiring security clearance and that current Department of Defense (DoD) policy requires that the Chair of the FIU Board of Trustees and all FIU principal officers meet the personnel clearance requirements established for the level of the University's security clearance. He indicated that said DoD policy permits the exclusion from the personnel security clearance requirement of members of the Board of Trustees and other officers, provided that the Board adopts a resolution stating that such Board members and officers designated by name are effectively excluded from access to all classified information.

Provost Furton commented that the composition of the FIU Board of Trustees has changed since the adoption of the last Exclusion Resolution in that the term of Sabrina L. Rosell ended, and Alexandra Valdes is now serving as the President of the Student Government Council at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. He remarked that the updated Exclusion Resolution also reflects that the Chair of the Board now is Trustee Dean C. Colson and the Vice Chair is Trustee Roger Tovar. Thus, an update to the Exclusion Resolution is needed.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee recommend that the FIU 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.

G2. 2020 Florida Educational Equity Act Report

Director for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access and Title IX Coordinator, Shirlyon J. McWhorter presented the 2020 Florida Educational Equity Act Report for Committee review, explaining that the Report is comprised of five areas: academic program reviews; gender equity; employment representation; policies and procedures; and intercollegiate athletics. She reported on the University's performance in various areas. In terms of undergraduate participation, she commented that in Fall 2019, 88% of the full-time First-Time-In-College students (FTICs) at FIU were underrepresented minorities and that in Fall 2018, 87.1% of the full-time FTICs were underrepresented minorities. She pointed out that FIU exceeds the State University System average of 37% underrepresented full-time FTIC minority students. Ms. McWhorter remarked that 62.2% of master's degrees were awarded to female students, that there was an 8.5% increase in master's degrees awarded to Black female students, and that as a continuing trend, Hispanic students were awarded the largest number of master's degrees. She indicated that a total of 215 doctoral degrees were conferred during the reporting period, representing a 7% increase from the prior year and that a majority of doctoral degrees were awarded to Non-Resident Aliens, a continuing trend from the previous three academic years despite a 3% decrease from AY 2017-2018. Further commenting on doctoral degrees awarded, she added that there was an increase in the representation of Hispanic students, from 17% in the prior year to 21%, and that there was a decrease in the representation of Black students, from 8% in the prior year to 5%.

Ms. McWhorter indicated that there is a 3.82% gap between the participation rates of female student-athletes and male student-athletes compared to their respective enrollment rates, adding that this a program-low gap and has decreased significantly from prior years. She described employment representation in that the total amount of tenured female faculty increased by 8% between Fall 2018 and Fall 2019, that female faculty make up 32% of all tenured faculty, and that the University experienced a decline of retained Black tenured faculty by 4% since the last report as a result of one less Black tenured faculty member than the prior year. Ms. McWhorter remarked that FIU was named a "Great College to Work For" in 2019 by The Great Colleges to Work For program and that FIU was recognized for creating an exceptional work environment with Honor Roll status. She pointed out that FIU is one of only two universities in the nation and the only one in Florida to earn recognition in all 12 categories of the survey. She commented that this is the fifth time that the University has been recognized and the second time that FIU received recognition in all 12 categories.

Trustee Cesar L. Alvarez raised a question about the statistical information related to Hispanics. Ms. McWhorter responded that such information could be reviewed further, but that for purposes of this report, and what the Board of Governors requested, the information was accurate.

In terms of African American representation, Board Chair Colson commented on the importance of addressing issues relating to decreases in doctoral degrees awarded and tenured faculty.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees approve the 2020 Florida Educational Equity Act Report.

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 Governance Committee on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 11:21 a.m.