



Strategic Planning Committee

December 8, 2021

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

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The Florida International University Board of Trustees' Strategic Planning Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Marc D. Sarnoff at 11:05 a.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

General Counsel Carlos B. Castillo conducted roll call of the Strategic Planning Committee members and verified a quorum. Present were Trustees Marc D. Sarnoff, *Committee Chair*; Cesar L. Alvarez, *Committee Vice Chair*; Donna J. Hrinak; Gene Prescott; Joerg Reinhold; Alexander Rubido; and Carlos Trujillo.

Board Chair Dean C. Colson, Board Vice Chair Roger Tovar, Trustees Carlos A. Duarte, Natasha Lowell, and Chanel T. Rowe (*via Zoom*) and University President Mark B. Rosenberg also were in attendance.

Committee Chair Sarnoff welcomed all Trustees and members of the University administration. He indicated that while the Committee remains focused on the top-50 ranking in *U.S. News & World Report*, the Committee will begin tracking the University's performance in terms of the *Wall Street Journal's* college rankings.

2. Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Sarnoff asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on September 14, 2021. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on September 14, 2021.

3. Information Discussion Items

3.1 Statement of Purpose

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton explained that the Board's Bylaws provide an overview of Committee responsibilities, indicating that the Board's Bylaws provide that the "Strategic Planning Committee is responsible for providing strategic direction to the University. It shall provide oversight responsibilities for the development of the University's strategic plan and the subsequent monitoring of progress toward goals, including ensuring alignment of strategic planning across the University to include all of its affiliated entities. The Committee duties include approving and supporting the implementation of the University's strategic plan and reviewing and, when applicable, approving, performance targets, performance metrics, and associated reports to the Board of Governors."

Provost Furton presented, for discussion purposes, a draft charter stating as follows: “At each of its meetings, the Strategic Planning Committee will receive updates on the progress towards achieving strategic plan goals, including updates to the University’s national rankings, updates to the Florida Board of Governors performance-based funding rankings, updates to the Preeminent State Research University program academic and research excellence standards, and updates on our efforts to ensure a more sustainable future in support of our academic and research goals. In addition, the Committee will receive updates on possible changes to Board of Governors performance ranking metrics, updates on how new incremental University funds are being allocated toward achieving strategic plan goals, and any proposed new goals not in the current approved strategic plan.”

Committee Chair Sarnoff commented that the proposed charter will be presented for Board review and approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

3.2 Rankings and Hiring Update

Provost Furton indicated that the University now has 89 top-50 rankings. He pointed out that the *Princeton Review* has ranked FIU #21 in public university graduate entrepreneurship and # 26 in public undergraduate entrepreneurship. He commented that *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings began in 2015, stating that the 2022 rankings include nearly 800 universities and are based on 15 performance indicators. He presented an overview of five-year trends in terms of *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings, noting that FIU ranked 500 to 600 in 2017 and is now ranked 337 overall and 101 among public universities. Provost Furton described the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings metrics in terms of their related weights and how FIU’s metrics compare to other institutions. Board Vice Chair Roger Tovar commented on the importance of true comparisons and consistent reporting when looking at other institutions. Provost Furton compared top-10 ranked *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* institutions with top-10 ranked *U.S. News & World Report* institutions. In response to Trustee Donna J. Hrinak, Provost Furton indicated that while *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings are not currently recognized by the Florida Board of Governors for top-50, said rankings are gaining more attention.

Provost Furton remarked that a majority of new hiring is focused around preeminent and emerging preeminent programs. He presented an overview of fiscal year 2022 expenses, through the end of September, in terms of the \$32M Legislative Budget Request. He described progress relating to FIU Next Horizon 2025 Strategic Plan metrics, noting that the University is on track in the majority of categories with the exception of the number of postdoctoral appointees, total doctoral degrees per year, auxiliary income, and alumni giving. Provost Furton provided an update on the University’s plan to hire 110 new faculty within five (5) years, stating that 39 faculty have been hired. He highlighted three (3) new faculty hires within the College of Law. He explained that websites are created for new and existing faculty, adding that the software provided by Altmetric automatically links news stories and publications for faculty.

3.3 Updates on University Locations

Committee Chair Sarnoff indicated that the Board has been substantially briefed on University locations. There were no Trustee requests for presentation/update on the item.

4. New Business

No new business was raised.

5. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

With no other business, Committee Chair Marc D. Sarnoff adjourned the meeting of the Florida International University Board of Trustees Strategic Planning Committee on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 11:32 a.m.