



**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus
Graham Center Ballrooms

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020
11:30 a.m.**

or

Upon Adjournment of Previous Meeting

Chair: Claudia Puig, *Board Chair*

Vice Chair: Jose J. Armas, *Board Vice Chair*

Members: Cesar L. Alvarez, Leonard Boord, Gerald C. Grant, Jr.

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks | Claudia Puig |
| 2. Approval of Minutes | Claudia Puig |
| 3. Action Item | |
| G1. Updated Exclusion Resolution and Designation of Key Management Personnel and Delegation of Authority | Kenneth G. Furton |
| 4. Discussion Item (<i>No Action Required</i>) | |
| 4.1 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges | Belle S. Wheelan |
| 5. New Business (<i>If Any</i>) | Claudia Puig |
| 6. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment | Claudia Puig |

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**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governance Committee**

February 26, 2020

Subject: Approval of Minutes of Meeting held September 18, 2019

Proposed Committee Action:

Approval of Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, MARC 290, Earlene and Albert Dotson Pavilion.

Background Information:

Committee members will review and approve the Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, MARC 290, Earlene and Albert Dotson Pavilion.

Supporting Documentation: Minutes: Governance Committee Meeting: September 18, 2019

Facilitator/Presenter: Claudia Puig, *Governance Committee Chair*

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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

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, September 18, 2019 at 12:32 p.m. at the FIU, Modesto A. Maidique Campus, MARC 290, Earlene and Albert Dotson Pavilion.

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

Trustee Cesar L. Alvarez was excused.

Trustees Dean C. Colson, Michael G. Joseph, 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. Chair Puig indicated that the Board will engage with Dr. Belle Wheelan, President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, at a future meeting where Dr. Wheelan will discuss the new accreditation standard of board self-evaluation. Chair Puig explained that while the Board looked forward to hearing from Dr. Wheelan at the regularly scheduled September 5, 2019 meetings, her travel plans were cancelled, and the Board of Trustees meetings were postponed in anticipation of Hurricane Dorian's impact on parts of South Florida.

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 June 19, 2019. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

3. Action Items

G1. Revisions to Florida International University Annual Accountability Plan, 2019

Provost and Executive Vice President Kenneth G. Furton presented the revisions to FIU's 2019 Accountability Plan for Committee review, noting that the Board of Trustees approved the University's 2019 Accountability Plan at its April 2019 meeting. He explained that the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) reviewed the 2019 university accountability plans at their June 2019 meetings and that the revisions to FIU's 2019 Accountability Plan incorporate comments received from the

BOG as part of the review process. He described the revisions, indicating that in all cases, the proposed goals are now the same as the prior year's approved goals.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees (1) approve the revisions to Florida International University's Annual Accountability Plan as provided in the Board materials and (2) delegate authority to the University President to perform finish editing as needed and to amend consistent with comments received from the Board of Governors.

G2. Ratification of the revised 2018-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Florida International University Board of Trustees and the United Faculty of Florida - FIU Chapter

Provost Furton explained that representatives of the BOT and the UFF have engaged in collective bargaining negotiations and that the bargaining teams have reached an agreement on revisions to the terms of the currently in-force 2018-2021 BOT-UFF Collective Bargaining Agreement. He indicated that for academic year 2019-2020, eligible employees will receive a one percent (1.00%) retention increase to their base salaries with a minimum of \$750.00. He pointed out that for academic year 2020-2021, eligible employees will receive a one percent (1.00%) retention increase to their base salaries with a \$750.00 minimum increase. He added that a potential one percent (1.00%) merit-based increase was contingent on the University receiving new recurring funding legally available to be expended on faculty salary increases in excess of the prior year's base funding for faculty salaries.

In response to Trustee Leonard Boord's inquiry, Provost Furton explained that of the 1,331 faculty members under the collective bargaining agreement, 431 earn less than \$75K.

A motion was made and unanimously passed that the FIU Board of Trustees Governance Committee recommend that the Florida International University Board of Trustees (the BOT) ratify the revised 2018-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the BOT and the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) – FIU Chapter.

G3. 2019 Florida Educational Equity Act Report

Director of Equal Opportunity Programs and Diversity Shirlyon J. McWhorter presented the 2019 Florida Educational Equity Act Report for the Committee's review. Ms. McWhorter provided an overview of the University's 2018-19 Florida Equity Report, explaining that the Report is comprised of three areas: enrollment; athletics; and employment. She reported on the University's performance in various areas, including the representation of under-represented groups among full-time First Time in College (FTIC) students, research doctorates awarded, and female students' participation in college athletics.

Ms. McWhorter pointed out that for Fall 2018, 87.1% of the full-time University FTICs were underrepresented minorities and that this number increased from 85% in Fall 2017, indicating that this exceeds the State University System average of 47.2%. She reported that 62.17% of master's degrees were awarded to female students and in terms of continuing trends, she explained that Hispanic students were awarded the largest number of master's degrees and that the majority of doctoral degrees (47.00%) were awarded to Non-resident aliens.

In terms of gender equity in athletics, Ms. McWhorter stated that in Fall 2017, females were 57.4% of students enrolled full-time at the University compared to 51.3% of student-athletes. She reported that construction began in December for the new building to house locker rooms/lounge, coaches' offices, public restrooms and training room for the women's softball program. Relating to employment representation, she explained that the total amount of tenured female faculty increased by 12.06% between Fall 2017 and Fall 2018, that the University has been successful in improving the decline of retained Black tenured faculty, and that FIU made The Chronicle of Higher Education's 2018 "Great Colleges to Work For®" list with Honor Roll designation for the third consecutive year in a row.

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 2019 Florida Educational Equity Act Report.

4. New Business

G4. FIU Funding Certification Form

On behalf of the Committee, Chair Puig thanked Trustee Dean C. Colson for agreeing to spearhead a Working Group to develop a Certification Form for source of funding. Chair Puig also thanked Trustees Lowell and Alvarez for their willingness to serve on the Working Group. Chair Puig indicated that on September 13, 2019 a noticed meeting was held in which Trustees Colson and Lowell met with members of the administration and explained that as a result of that meeting, a Certification Form has been developed, and has been provided to the Trustees.

General Counsel Castillo referred Trustees to the agenda item page and related FIU Funding Certification Form. He explained that at its April 2019 meeting, the Board of Trustees reviewed the findings relating to the Florida House of Representatives' Report of Investigation into the misuse of funds at UCF and that as a result of this discussion and a request made by Trustee Cesar L. Alvarez, Trustee Marc D. Sarnoff introduced a motion, as new business, requesting that a senior administrator with the appropriate level of authority and expertise be present at every Board meeting to confirm that funds are being appropriated in accordance with BOG policy. General Counsel Castillo indicated that the motion passed unanimously.

General Counsel Castillo pointed out that at the June 19, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting, Sr. VP and CFO Jessell presented the BOG's financial training, "Flavors of Money" and that subsequently a Working Group developed a Certification Form to address source of funding. General Counsel Castillo stated that the proposed FIU Funding Certification Form was developed by the Working Groups' efforts.

General Counsel Castillo presented the Funding Certification Form for Committee review, noting that the Form provides that the Form is required by the FIU Board of Trustees (BOT) and/or a committee of the BOT as a condition for approval of items, containing a funding component, that come for approval before the Board and/or a BOT committee pursuant to the Delegations of Authority from the BOT to the University President or otherwise. He added that the certification reads "This is to certify that the above item has been reviewed and approved, and to the best of our professional judgment and knowledge, the type of funding for the item is authorized by state law and Board of Governors Regulations, and the Trustees may reasonably and in good faith rely on this

certification.” He described the required signatures as the relevant Vice President, the Chief Financial Officer, the General Counsel, and the University President.

In response to Trustee Roger Tovar’s inquiries, General Counsel Castillo indicated that when required, the executed Form would be provided to the Trustees as part of their agenda materials. In terms of implementation, Trustee Colson stated that the requirements set forth in the Form are effective immediately.

Trustee Leonard Boord proposed a motion that requires all of the actions regarding the financial expenditures approved by the BOT today, that the administration within a reasonable period of time or within two weeks, receive all of the appropriate Certification Forms.

General Counsel Castillo restated the motion, namely, that with respect to the action items that come within the purview of the Form with respect to the expenditure of funds and approved by the BOT today, that the Form be provided for those items within two weeks.

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 proposed FIU Funding Certification Form and that with respect to the action items approved today that are within the purview of the Form with respect to the expenditure of funds, that the completed Form be provided for those items within two weeks.

5. 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, September 18, 2019 at 12:59 p.m.

There were no Trustee requests.

**THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Governance Committee**

February 26, 2020

**Subject: Updated Exclusion Resolution and Designation of Key Management Personnel
and Delegation of Authority**

Proposed Committee Action:

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.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Florida International University (“FIU”), a university in the State University System of Florida, desires to enter and has entered into contractual obligations with agencies of the United States Government, including contractual obligations requiring security clearance; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, said DoD policy permits the exclusion from the personnel security clearance requirement of members of the Board of Trustees and other officers, provided that this Board adopts a resolution stating that such Board members and officers designated by name shall not require, shall not have, and can be effectively excluded from access to all classified information in the possession of FIU, and that they do not occupy positions that would enable them to adversely affect FIU's policies or practices in the performance of classified contracts for the DoD or other agencies of the National Industrial Security Program; and

WHEREAS, following a prior Resolution on the matter, by Resolution dated September 5, 2018 (the “Exclusion Resolution”), it was resolved that the following Board of Trustees members, who were at the time serving on the Board, shall not require, shall not have, and can be 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 (DoD) or other agencies of the National Industrial Security Program. As such, they were excluded from the requirements for a personnel security clearance.

Claudia Puig	Trustee, Chair
Jose J. Armas	Trustee, Vice Chair
Cesar L. Alvarez	Trustee
Leonard Boord	Trustee
Dean C. Colson	Trustee
Gerald C. Grant, Jr.	Trustee

Michael G. Joseph	Trustee
Natasha Lowell	Trustee
Justo L. Pozo	Trustee
Joerg Reinhold	Trustee
Marc D. Sarnoff	Trustee
Jose L. Sirven, III	Trustee
Rogelio Tovar	Trustee

WHEREAS, the composition of the FIU Board of Trustees has changed since the adoption of the Exclusion Resolution in that the term of the following Trustees ended on the following dates: Jose L. Sirven, III, September 30, 2018; Justo L. Pozo, January 5, 2020; and Michael G. Joseph, January 30, 2020 and the terms of the following Trustees began on the following dates: Sabrina L. Rosell, October 1, 2018; Donna J. Hrinak, January 6, 2020; and T. Gene Prescott, January 31, 2020. Accordingly, an update to the Exclusion Resolution is 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.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following 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 (DoD) or other agencies of the National Industrial Security Program. As such, they are excluded from the requirements for a personnel security clearance.

Claudia Puig	Trustee, Chair
Jose J. Armas	Trustee, Vice Chair
Cesar L. Alvarez	Trustee
Leonard Boord	Trustee
Dean C. Colson	Trustee
Gerald C. Grant, Jr.	Trustee
Donna J. Hrinak	Trustee
Natasha Lowell	Trustee
T. Gene Prescott	Trustee
Joerg Reinhold	Trustee
Sabrina L. Rosell	Trustee
Marc D. Sarnoff	Trustee
Rogelio Tovar	Trustee

This action is in the form of a resolution to take effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 26th day of February, 2020 by the Board of Trustees of Florida International University.

Claudia Puig
Chair
FIU Board of Trustees

Mark B. Rosenberg
Corporate Secretary
FIU Board of Trustees

Supporting Documentation: None

Facilitator/Presenter: Kenneth G. Furton

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Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges
(SACSCOC)
Reaffirmation Presentation

February 26, 2020

Executive Summary

Dr. Belle Wheelan, President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), will be presenting to the FIU Board of Trustees (the BOT) on the SACSCOC reaffirmation process, the quality enhancement plan, and the new accreditation standard of board self-evaluation. The purpose of the presentation is to provide the BOT an opportunity to engage with Dr. Wheelan as we prepare for the submission of our Compliance Certification Report due September 8, 2020 and our reaffirmation on-site visit scheduled for March 16-18, 2021.



Belle Wheelan, Ph.D. - Bio

President, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Dr. Wheelan currently serves as President of the SACSCOC and is the first African American and the first woman to serve in this capacity. Her career spans over 40 years and includes the roles of faculty member, chief student services officer, campus provost, college president, and Secretary of Education.

Dr. Wheelan received her Bachelor's degree from Trinity University in Texas (1972) with a double major in Psychology and Sociology; her Master's from Louisiana State University (1974) in Developmental Educational Psychology; and her Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin (1984) in Educational Administration with a special concentration in community college leadership.

She has received numerous awards and recognition including six honorary degrees; the Distinguished Graduate Award from Trinity University (2002), and from the College of Education at the University of Texas at Austin (1992); *Washingtonian Magazine's* 100 Most Powerful Women in Washington, DC (2001); the AAUW Woman of Distinction Award (2002); the Suanne Davis Roueche National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development's Distinguished Lecturer Award (2007); the John E. Roueche National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development's International Leadership Award (2010); and the AACC Leadership Award (2011); the John Hope Franklin Award from *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* for outstanding leadership in higher education; and the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Terry O'Banion Prize in Education from the League for Innovation in Community Colleges.

She holds and has held membership in numerous local, state and national organizations including Rotary International; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; the American College Testing, Inc., Board of Directors; American Association of Community Colleges, Board of Directors; the Lumina Foundation for Education, Board of Directors; the President's Round Table of the National Council on Black American Affairs; the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, Board of Directors; *Excelencia* in Education, Board of Directors; National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Community College Honorary Board; Next Generation Learning Challenges, Advisory Panel; Project GOALS (Gaining Online Accessible Learning Through Self-Study); and the National Student Clearinghouse, Board of Directors.

SACSCOC Overview

- Recognized regional accrediting body in 11 states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia) and in Latin America for those institutions of higher education that award associate, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degrees
- Responsible for assuring the educational quality and improvement of the effectiveness of member institutions
- When an institution has earned accreditation by SACSCOC, it signifies that it has “a purpose appropriate to higher education and has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that purpose.”
- Accreditation status determines eligibility for Title IV funds (student financial aid)
- SACSCOC works to influence legislation and regulations that impact the work of member institutions

Philosophy of Accreditation

- Participation in the accreditation process is voluntary and is an earned and renewable status.
- Member institutions develop, amend, and approve accreditation requirements.
- The process of accreditation is representative, responsive, and appropriate to the types of institutions accredited.
- Accreditation is a form of self-regulation.
- Accreditation requires institutional commitment and engagement.
- Accreditation is based upon a peer review process.
- Accreditation requires an institutional commitment to student learning and achievement.
- Accreditation acknowledges an institution’s prerogative to articulate its mission, including a religious mission, within the recognized context of higher education and its responsibility to show that it is accomplishing its mission.
- Accreditation requires institutional commitment to the concept of quality enhancement through continuous assessment and improvement.
- Accreditation expects an institution to develop a balanced governing structure designed to promote institutional integrity, autonomy and flexibility of operation.
- Accreditation expects an institution to ensure that its programs are complemented by support structures and resources that allow for the total growth and development of its students.

The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement

- Section 1: The Principle of Integrity
- Section 2: Mission
- Section 3: Basic Eligibility Standard
- Section 4: Governing Board
- Section 5: Administration and Organization
- Section 6: Faculty
- Section 7: Institutional Planning and Effectiveness
- Section 8: Student Achievement
- Section 9: Educational Program Structure and Content
- Section 10: Educational Policies, Procedures, and Practices
- Section 11: Library and Learning/Information Resources
- Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services
- Section 13: Financial and Physical Resources
- Section 14: Transparency and Institutional Representation

Reaffirmation

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), requires its accredited institutions to undergo a comprehensive decennial review to ensure that each institution continues to meet member-driven standards of quality. These accreditation standards – formally adopted by member institutions – are found in *The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Educational Quality*. The comprehensive review includes the institutional submission of two documents: (1) a Compliance Certification and (2) A Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

The *Compliance Certification* is a document completed by the institution that demonstrates its judgment of the extent of its compliance with each of the Commission’s Core Requirements and other standards. The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee conducts the initial review of this document and presents preliminary findings to the institution and the On-Site Reaffirmation Committee.

The *Quality Enhancement Plan* is an integral component of the reaffirmation of accreditation process and is derived from an institution’s ongoing comprehensive planning and evaluation processes. It reflects and affirms a commitment to enhance overall institutional quality and effectiveness by focusing on an issue that the institution considers important to improving student learning outcomes and/or student success. The document submitted by the institution demonstrates that its *QEP* (a) has a topic identified through its ongoing, comprehensive planning and evaluation processes; (b) has broad-based support of institutional constituencies; (c) focuses on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success; (d) commits resources to initiate, implement and complete the QEP; and (e) includes a plan to assess achievement. The On-Site Reaffirmation Committee reviews the document and conducts interviews to determine whether the institution has demonstrated compliance

The success of the reaffirmation process depends upon four paramount concepts:

1. the belief that the accreditation of institutions should be determined through a system of **peer review** whereby institutional effectiveness and quality are evaluated primarily by individuals from institutions of higher education, professional educators whose knowledge and experience enable them to exercise professional judgment,
2. **institutional integrity** evidenced by all information disseminated by institutions seeking reaffirmation being truthful, accurate, and complete and all institutional interactions with constituencies and the public being honest and forthright,
3. commitment to **quality enhancement and continuous improvement**, and
4. **focus on student learning** and on institutional effectiveness in supporting and enhancing student learning.

Governing Board

The institution's governing board holds in trust the fundamental autonomy and ultimate well-being of the institution. As the corporate body, the board ensures both the presence of viable leadership and strong financial resources to fulfill the institutional mission. Integral to strong governance is the absence of undue influence from external sources.

Principle 4.2.g The governing board defines and regularly evaluates its responsibilities and expectations. (*Board self-evaluation*)

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