



# Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

**BOT approved 04.26.2021**

## MEETING MINUTES

**February 10, 2021  
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

### Florida Polytechnic University WEBEX TELE-CONFERENCE MEETING

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Gary Wendt called the Strategic Planning Committee meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Michele Rush called the roll: Committee Chair Gary Wendt, Committee Vice Chair Earl Sasser, Trustee Beth Kigel, Trustee Lyn Stanfield and Trustee Ala' J. Alnaser were present (Quorum).

Other Trustees present: Chair Cliff Otto, Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Connor Coddington, Trustee Laine Powell, and Trustee Narendra Kini.

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Ms. Gina DeJulio, Mrs. Kathy Bowman, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Mr. Rick Maxey, Mr. John Causey, Mr. David Calhoun, Ms. Lydia Guzmán, Ms. Melaine Schmiz, Mr. Alex Landback, Mr. David Brunell, Ms. Sherri Pavlik, Dr. Patrick Zhang, Mr. Gary Albarelli, Mrs. Maggie Mariucci, Mr. David Blanton.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of November 11, 2020 Minutes

**Trustee Lyn Stanfield made a motion to approve the Strategic Planning Committee meeting minutes of November 11, 2020. Trustee Beth Kigel seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. Strategic Planning Committee Charter Review

President Randy Avent explained the latest changes to the Charter further defined the committee's oversight of the development of Florida Polytechnic University's Strategic Plan, which occurs every five years.

Trustee Lyn Stanfield inquired as to the addition of Diversity & Inclusion to the Strategic Planning committee, if this had been moved from another committee and if so, which one. President Avent clarified Diversity & Inclusion has always been in the Strategic Planning committee with the presentation of the Equity Report. The new Charter language strengthens and broadens the Diversity & Inclusion discussion past the Equity Report.

This revision includes the following changes:

- Removed the Annual Accountability and Performance Based Funding (PBF) reports
- Added Diversity and Inclusion
- Added a statement regarding facilitation of ad hoc committees to conduct strategic studies

**Trustee Beth Kigel made a motion to recommend approval of the Strategic Planning Committee charter with changes to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VI. 2020-2022 Strategic Planning Committee Work Plan Review

There were changes to the Work Plan Review as outlined by President Avent. The changes in the work plan more closely align with the new committee Charter.

The Work Plan revisions include the following changes:

- Removed the Annual Accountability and Performance Based Funding (PBF) reports
- Added Diversity and Inclusion

**Trustee Earl Sasser made a motion to recommend approval of the Strategic Planning Committee Work Plan with changes to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Ala' J. Alnaser seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VII. Florida Industrial Phosphate Institute (FIPRI)

Provost Terry Parker presented a report on the Florida Industrial Phosphate Institute (FIPRI), covering its background, mission, funding, and areas of focus. Provost Parker discussed FIPRI's current projects and initiatives and led a discussion on moving FIPRI from its current location in Bartow, Florida to the Florida Poly campus.

Provost Parker walked the trustees through the history of the phosphate industry dating from the 1880's which led to the creation of FIPRI in 1978 as an independent state entity to address mining and reclamation, environmental and health effects, reclamation alternatives, wetlands reclamation, phosphatic clay, phosphogypsum disposal and utilization, education and in 2010 broadened to include commercial and industrial activity. In 1994 FIPRI was placed within USF and moved to USF Polytechnic in 2010. It became a part of Florida Poly when the university was created in 2012.

The work at FIPRI was limited to term research contracts to universities and businesses and remained unchanged until 2017. It is governed by a five-member board that includes the Florida Poly President and is wholly funded through a severance tax on phosphate mining activity of which FIPRI receives 5.6%. Expenses have exceeded income for the last ten years but it is expected to break even during this year, in part resulting from changes in the operation and focus of FIPRI made by Provost Parker.

The focus has been redefined to allow FIPRI to be a strong producer of research based on current phosphate industry and state needs in the areas of water, beneficiation, phosphatic clays, and phosphogypsum use and management. There is lab equipment valued at about \$500K that is used to support market-rate testing for the phosphate industry. The current FIPRI focus and structure allows FIPRI to scale up rapidly when demand for services warrants it.

As a research institute, FIPR's new focus provides an important launchpad for research at Florida Poly and supports the university's environmental engineering program by utilizing current FIPR staff and resources that make starting up of the program more efficient.

To gain even greater results Florida Poly must move FIPR to the main campus. Planning is underway for an 8,000 square foot facility which would increase joint research opportunities and create more research synergies.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.