



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

BOT approved 02.16.2023

**November 15, 2022
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM**

**Florida Polytechnic University
Applied Research Center and via WebEx**

I. Call to Order

Chair Cliff Otto called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Cliff Otto, Vice Chair Beth Kigel, Trustee Susan LeFrancois, Trustee Melia Rodriguez, Trustee Narendra Kini, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Lyn Stanfield, Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Laine Powell, and Trustee Gary Wendt were present (Quorum).

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Dr. Allen Bottorff, Kathy Bowman, David Blanton, Mike Dieckmann, David Fugett, Mustapha Achoubane, Alex Landback, Melaine Schmiz, and Kristen Wharton were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Chairman's Remarks

Chair Otto declined to make remarks and moved forward to the next agenda item.

V. President's Remarks

President Randy Avent declined to make remarks and moved forward to the next agenda item.

VI. Board of Trustees Work Plan FY23

Chair Otto reviewed the Board of Trustees Work plan. There was no discussion on this item.

VII. Staff Presentation: International Strategy Elements

Mustapha Achoubane, Associate Director of International Relations, gave a presentation on Florida Poly's International Programs, including the Fulbright Program, Killam Fellowship, and other international collaborations in Brazil, Spain, Estonia, and Australia. Achoubane also reviewed two appointments to advisory committees and academic boards in other countries, and the Executive Leadership Initiative (ELI) which seeks to bring people together from higher education, industry, and the political realm. Creating these alliances will further Florida Polytechnic's reputation not only world-wide but will have direct impact on elements such as campus enrollment strategies and the University rating in the U.S. News & World Report (USNWR).

VIII. Consent Agenda

Chair Otto read the following list of items to be approved on the consent agenda:

- A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee
 - 1. Approve the revised University Audit Risk Assessment and Audit Plan for FY23
 - 2. Approve FPU-1.015 Allegations of Fraud, Waste, Abuse, or Financial Mismanagement
- B. Academic & Student Affairs Committee
 - 1. Approve the FIPR Institute Annual Report
 - 2. Approve the Advanced Mobility Institute Annual Report
- C. Board of Trustees
 - 1. Approve the September 28, 2022, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

As each of the consent agenda items comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the respective Committees, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Committee Reports

- A. Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee

Committee Chair Mark Bostick reviewed the activity of the Committee which included an audit and compliance update from David Blanton. There have been no audit reports released since the prior Committee meeting; however, several audits are currently in progress – most notably the PBF audit and an external audit over Information Technology (IT) controls that is being conducted by the Auditor General. Additionally, the Foundation's financial audit is expected to be completed soon. The Board of Trustees just approved the revised University Audit Risk Assessment and Audit Plan for FY23 in the Consent Agenda.

Blanton discussed the Textbook Affordability Monitoring Report for Fall 2022. The University achieved compliance in posting at least 95% of textbooks for the Fall 2022 semester. Minor recommendations were noted to enhance compliance with the new textbook archiving requirements.

David Fugett, Florida Poly's new VP and General Counsel, presented an amendment to regulation FPU-1.015 Allegations of Fraud, Waste, Abuse or Financial Mismanagement which was approved in the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Bostick stated the Committee reviewed and discussed the composite of the Trustee's evaluations of the President's performance and recommends the composite be approved as the document reflecting the President's evaluation for fiscal year 2022. Chair Otto provided brief remarks on his conversation with BOG Chancellor Marshall Criser who stated the BOG has a high degree of confidence in President Avent.

The Committee unanimously recommends the Board of Trustees approve the "President's Annual Review, July 2021 to June 2022, Composite of the Trustees' Evaluations" as the document reflecting the President's evaluation for 2021-2022. As this recommendation comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Bostick then opened the floor for discussion on the renewal of the president's employment agreement. Hearing no discussion, Chair Otto called for a vote.

The Committee unanimously recommends the Board of Trustees approve the renewal of President Randy Avent's appointment term for an additional year ending July 6, 2024, and to approve the Amendment #3 to the President's Employment Agreement. As this recommendation comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

At this time, President Avent excused himself from the room. Trustee Bostick led the Board of Trustees in a discussion about the president's compensation adjustments and performance compensation bonus. All trustees agreed with the Committee's recommendations.

The Committee unanimously recommends the Board of Trustees approve the President's compensation adjustment as follows:

- a. To award President Randy Avent a 3.5% increase to his base salary, and;**
- b. To award a performance compensation bonus in the amount of 28% of his current annual base salary**

As this recommendation comes before the Board with unanimous approval from the Governance, Audit, and Compliance Committee, there is no need for a second. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Narendra Kini stated the Academic and Student Affairs Committee considered three action items: approval of revisions for the Student Code of Conduct, and approval of both the Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute (FIPR) and the Advanced Mobility Institute (AMI) financial reports. The Student Success Plan was also reviewed. Reasonable progress is being made on the 13 measures that must be met by March 2023.

Kini noted the Board should expect a formal proposal for a Civil Engineering degree and an Industrial Engineering degree in February 2023. The Board should also expect to see the beginnings of accreditation agency activity in its February meeting.

C. Finance and Facilities Committee

Committee Chair Beth Kigel stated the Committee received the University's financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2022, and noted the University started fiscal year 2023 strong with an 8.27% increase in net position over last year – with a net position of \$203,323,986. The Committee also received an update on bad debt write-offs of student receivables in the amount of \$4,225.25 for six (6) students. The terms of attendance include spring 2015 through fall 2017.

The Committee received updates on the major campus construction projects, Advancement, the Foundation's financial results for the quarter ending September 30, 2022, and the annual review of actual uses of University personnel and property.

D. Strategic Planning Committee

Committee Chair Gary Wendt provided a brief report on the Strategic Planning Committee's discussions. There is one item for discussion and approval: revising the University's vision statement.

Chair Otto called for approval of the University's new vision statement which reads: "Florida Poly will be the academic leader in building Florida's technology-based economy." A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

X. Board of Governors' Chair Address

At this time, Board of Governors Chair Brian Lamb addressed the trustees via WebEx. Trustees had opportunity to ask questions pertaining to accreditation and the regulatory environment.

X. Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

Chair Otto reminded trustees the next scheduled round of Committee meetings will be held virtually on February 8, 2023, and the full Board meeting in person on February 15 (*note: post-meeting this date changed to February 16*).

XI. Board of Governors Meeting Schedule

Chair Otto shared the next Board of Governors meeting will be held at Florida International University in Miami on January 24-25, 2023.

XII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.