



# Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

**Minutes Approved 06/05/24**

**Thursday, April 25, 2024**

**4:15 PM – 5:00 PM**

*(Or upon the conclusion of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting)*

## **Florida Polytechnic University BARC Virtual via Microsoft Teams**

### I. Call to Order

Chair Cliff Otto called the meeting to order at 3:51 p.m.

### II. Roll Call

Kristen Wharton called the roll: Chair Cliff Otto, Vice Chair Beth Kigel, Trustee Dorian Abbot, Trustee Melia Rodriguez, Trustee Lyn Stanfield, Trustee Ajeet Kaushik, Trustee Jesse Panuccio, Trust Patrick Hagen, Trustee Sidney Theis, and Trustee Ilya Shapiro were present (Quorum).

Trustees not present: Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Laine Powell

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Dr. Allen Bottorff, Kathy Bowman, David Blanton, David Fugett, Melaine Schmiz, Sherri Pavlik, Maggie Mariucci, and Kristen Wharton were present.

### III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

### IV. Recognition of Service: Trustees Ajeet Kaushik and Melia Rodriguez

Chair Cliff Otto recognized Trustee Ajeet Kaushik whose term ends May 5, 2024. Kristen Wharton read Resolution 2024-003, a proclamation honoring Trustee Kaushik's service, which is attached to these minutes. Trustee Kaushik then expressed his appreciation to the Board for their support and for the knowledge he gained in his year of Board service.

**Trustee Jesse Panuccio made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-003 in recognition of and in profound appreciation for the distinguished service of Trustee Ajeet Kaushik. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Otto then recognized Trustee Melia Rodriguez whose two-year term ends April 27, 2024. Wharton read Resolution 2024-004, a proclamation honoring Trustee Rodriguez's service, which is attached to these minutes. Trustee Rodriguez stated that she has had an outstanding experience collaborating with the trustees and thanked them for their work in ensuring Florida Poly remains such a great institution.

**Trustee Beth Kigel made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-004 in recognition of and in profound appreciation for the distinguished service of Trustee Melia**

**Rodriguez. Trustee Lyn Stanfield seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. Consent Agenda

**Chair Otto brought forward the consent agenda for trustee approval.**

**A. Finance and Facilities Committee**

- 1. Approve Compass Group USA, Inc. (Chartwells) Food Services Contract Amendment No. 7**

**B. Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

- 1. Approve Annual University Accountability Plan 2024**

**C. Board of Trustees**

- 1. Approve Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2024**

**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.**

VI. Approval of Presidential Employment Agreement

Chair Otto asked David Fugett, Vice President and General Counsel, to review the contract with the trustees. Fugett stated that pursuant to BOG regulation 1.002(d)(4), the President's Employment Agreement contains financial and key performance terms and is consistent with the compensation range approved by the Board of Trustees. The agreement also includes an express bonus structure that is in alignment with key performance terms. A summary of the agreement is below:

- Term commencing July 7, 2024, for three years ending July 6, 2027
- Base salary of \$490,000
- Relocation package of up to \$30,000
- Housing allowance valued at \$7,000 monthly
- Automobile allowance of \$1,200 monthly

Fugett noted two minor edits recommended by Trustee Jesse Panuccio, the first being in section 2.2. Trustee Panuccio recommended adding the phrase, "Subject to the provisions in subsections 2.3 and 2.4," to the beginning of the first sentence in section 2.2. This addition does not change the substance but makes the section clearer.

The second recommended edit was in section 12.2. Trustee Panuccio recommended combining 12.2(c) with 12.2(d) so it reads, "material dishonesty or serious misconduct that adversely affects the University, *including but not limited to* the commission of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude." This addition provides more clarity to the statement.

Fugett added a sentence at the very end of section 14.2. The sentence states, "After the conclusion of the second-year post-presidency, his salary and other benefits will be equivalent to those of other faculty members of similar rank." This clarifies what would happen to the president's salary and benefits should the president remain in the faculty beyond a second year of post-presidency.

Fugett turned the meeting back to Chair Otto, who asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he requested a motion to approve Dr. Stephenson's contract.

**Trustee Ilya Shapiro made a motion to approve the President's Employment Agreement for Dr. G. Devin Stephenson. Trustee Sidney Theis seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Kristen J. Wharton  
Corporate Secretary