

INDEX OF MINUTES  
FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
KAITAK/MIRABEL ROOM  
HYATT REGENCY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
AUGUST 1, 2012

| <u>ITEM</u>  | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Call to Order .....                                   | 1           |
| 2. Recognition, Members of Board of Trustees .....       | 1           |
| 3. Consideration, Election of Chair and Vice Chair ..... | 1           |
| 4. Adjournment and Scheduling of Next Meeting .....      | 2           |

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1. Call to Order

Mori Hosseini, Vice Chair of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Board of Governors Select Committee on Florida Polytechnic University, convened the inaugural meeting of the Board of Trustees, Florida Polytechnic University at 11:32 a.m., with the following members present: Mark Bostick, Dr. Sandra Featherman, Robert Gidel, Dr. Richard "Dick" Hallion, Scott Hammack, Kevin Hyman, Frank Martin, and Donald Wilson.

2. Recognition, Members of Board of Trustees

Mr. Hosseini thanked the Trustees for participating in the morning orientation session. During the orientation, each Trustee provided information about background experiences and goals for the new university. Through these introductions, the Trustees were able to get to know one another.

3. Consideration, Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Martin moved that the Trustees elect Robert Gidel as Chair and Mark Bostick as Vice Chair for a term ending July 31, 2014. Dr. Hallion seconded the motion, and the Trustees concurred unanimously. Mr. Hosseini congratulated Chair Gidel and asked if he had any comments.

Chair Gidel said that he is driven by the famous words of Thomas Edison, "Vision without execution is hallucination." He is a focused and task-oriented planner. As Trustees, our first challenge is to get on the same page with a vision that we can agree on as a Board. Another challenge is that we just "bought" a campus with a building under construction. We also have the daunting task of coming up with our own academic endeavor.

Chair Gidel said that he thought that he would break the Trustees into four different task groups. He said that he would send out a draft of tasks and assignments. He is excited to work with the Trustees and the people around the State who are excited about the university. He recited a Chinese proverb, "Success has a thousand fathers, and failure is an orphan." His hope is that three years down the road that the Board

will have thousands of people who will want to take credit for the success of the university. Chair Gidel reported that the Board of Governors, the University of South Florida, and the University of Florida have all committed to working as collaborative partners in ensuring the success of Florida Polytechnic University. He wanted to work to build a bridge for that triangle. He acknowledged that the Board has a big, big task, and the most important people are the people in Polk County.

Members of the Board of Governors Select Committee on Florida Polytechnic University Mori Hosseini, Dick Beard, and Norman Tripp offered the congratulations and support of the Board of Governors. Chancellor Frank T. Brogan echoed the words of congratulations and offered assistance from the office of the Board of Governors. Chancellor Brogan said that this is an unprecedented and exciting opportunity.

Vice Chair Bostick thanked the Trustees for the incredible opportunity. He is excited about the venture.

4. Adjournment and Scheduling of Next Meeting

Chair Gidel said that he would like to convene the next meeting within 2-3 weeks. Mr. Hosseini thanked the Trustees for wanting to serve the students and the State by serving on the Board of Trustees of this magnificent university. Mr. Hosseini turned the gavel over to Chair Gidel.

Chair Gidel asked if any of the Trustees have any further discussion. Mr. Hammack said that the challenge is to attract students to the new university, and he thinks that we have to do it in a new and innovative way. To him, the question is how the State keeps and attracts bright, risk-taking people with high intelligence. He would like to attract 100-500 students who fit that description, offer them experience in private companies while they are enrolled, and have the private companies guarantee these students jobs for two years after graduation.

Dr. Featherman said that she would like to look at a model with no tenure and no football. She would like to think about facilities that are partitionable because programs like engineering require flexibility. She is excited to be part of this opportunity to do something new.

Mr. Hyman said that he wanted to remember that the Board is not operating in a vacuum because they are a part of the State University System. He would like to take advantage of the efficiencies offered by being part of the System. He hopes that the university will be offered the flexibility to do new things.

Chancellor Brogan said that the System recognizes that the time to make change is now. He said that Board of Governors would be open to allowing the university to

do things significantly differently than conventional methodology. The Board of Governors would like to be involved in creating something unique.

Dr. Hallion said that he would like to have a clear focus on mission. He would like to avoid the problem of trying to be all things to all people. He thinks that the tenure issue has to be considered, and he does not favor it. As a person with experience in the museum world, he likes the idea of moveable partitions for the facilities to allow flexibility for the educational programs.

Mr. Martin said that the vision and the mission are critical because they will set the course for what will come. The Board needs to engage the key stakeholders including the students that the university wants to attract and local business groups. The Board needs to understand how flexible the building and facilities are. We need a work plan that will include longer meetings. Finally, the Board needs to think about its academic program and consider beginning as an upper division institution.

Chair Gidel asked if there was further discussion. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m., August 1, 2012.

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Robert Gidel, Chair

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Monoka Venters,  
Corporate Secretary,  
Board of Governors,  
State University System of Florida