I. Chairman’s Report/Update

Board of Trustees Chair Frank Martin called the Board of Trustees Committee Chair meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Maggie Mariucci called the roll: Chair Frank Martin, Vice-Chair Don Wilson, Trustee Robert Stork, Trustee Cliff Otto, and Trustee Richard Hallion were present.

Staff present: President Randy Avent, Dr. Terry Parker, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Ms. Gina Delulio, Mr. Kevin Aspegren, Mrs. Maggie Mariucci, Mr. David Blanton, Mr. Rick Maxey, and Mrs. Kris Wharton.

Chair Martin stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the University’s high priority issues and opportunities for both near and long-term. Issues include the need for two critical buildings, planning for student body growth, bringing staff from Poly South to campus, and fundraising needs. Trustees carry an important position within this University and honest, transparent discussions are critical to the institution’s success.

II. President’s Report/Update

President Avent stated the current and largest limiting factor at Florida Poly is the “one building campus.” The need for the Applied Research Center (ARC) is great. With the ARC, the University could handle close to 2,000 students. Office space is a critical need for both staff and faculty; it is difficult to attract top faculty without proper office and research space.

President Avent asked the Board of Trustees to assist staff in advocating state legislators for the funding necessary to complete the ARC. $15.5M is still required to begin construction. If the state provides $10M, Florida Poly will add the additional $5.5M to complete the $15.5M.

While the ARC is critical to the academic mission of the University, an administration building is critical for its employees. Costs for a new administration building are estimated at $18M. For $15M, Florida Poly could construct an operational first floor and phase in additional floors as more funds become available. Discussion occurred on the possibility of P3s for funding; however, P3s usually occur when there is a revenue source attached to them. Mark Mroczkowski stated a Request for Information (RFI) is being posted to explore ideas and options. Two organizations have expressed interest in having office space on campus. This could provide income through a lease. However, the University needs to prioritize workspace for employees.

Trustee Bob Stork inquired if Mr. Mroczkowski could handle bonding capabilities for the ARC to which the answer is ‘yes’. David Calhoun negotiated contracts with the ARC’s design firm that enables Florida Poly to phase construction based on availability of funding. Rick Maxey stated the
legislature views ARC as the priority. He confirmed with Chris Kinsley at the BOG that the University can start construction with $27M in hand. PECO funding was also discussed and Mr. Maxey asked Trustees to advocate with PECO’s leadership.

III. Committee Workplans

The committee workplan reviews were moved to the end of the agenda by the Chair. Subsequently, they were not reviewed due to lack of time.

IV. Campus Design Standards/Architect of Record

David Calhoun shared the initial baseline design standards were developed before Florida Poly existed. He reviewed the architectural items on campus with design standards. For future construction, design professionals must present a vision consistent with the University’s design standards. Many design firms and construction firms are eager to be on Florida Poly’s campus, next to a Calatrava building. Mr. Calhoun will present a recommendation for the Construction Manager (CM) to the Board of Trustees on February 28.

Chair Martin inquired as to Florida Poly’s control of design standards on P3 funded structures. The University has little control over this, however, it may be mitigated somewhat if Florida Poly contributed some funding towards the building.

V. Foundation Update

Kevin Aspegren stated $2M has been raised this fiscal year to date. He and his staff are conversing with a potential donor on naming the new Student Development Center and the athletic field and courts. Naming of a Student Achievement Center (estimated cost $25-30M) has been proposed to a potential donor.

There are currently six advancement staff who are opening doors with potential donors. Mr. Aspegren is comfortable with the number of people he currently has on staff.

Outside of Polk County, it takes longer to develop relationships that result in giving. In Polk County, donors are tapped out either from Florida Poly or from other causes. Mr. Aspegren spoke to Rob Gidel’s leadership with fundraising for the upcoming event Excelerate. Development also plans prospecting events such as Poly Connect receptions and dinners at the President’s home. The development office is still primarily event driven.

TIAA manages the Foundation’s endowment of $6.5M. The current rate of return is 4.83%.

Mr. Aspegren reviewed total fundraising revenue year by year, starting with 2013. Nearly $12M has been donated to the Foundation since 2013.

Regarding scholarship and tuition waivers, Mr. Mroczkowski recommends a debt forgiveness agreement with the Foundation. The financial impact to the University would be $8M. This subject requires further discussion.

Currently, new members joining the Foundation board members are required to contribute $25k per year.

VI. Strategic Planning Calendar
A SWOT analysis and focus groups with staff and faculty as well as external partners and constituents are complete. President Avent is currently forming an updated mission and vision statement and will present these at the February 28 BOT meeting. His intent is to present a new strategic plan at the May Board of Trustees retreat.

VII. Key Initiatives Proposal Framework

President Avent’s focus is on the following key initiatives:

- a five-year scholarship analysis
- increasing economic development around the University/developing a research park
- campus development
- economic growth
- Foundation plan

President Avent intends to form several ad hoc committees to review each initiative and may invite one Trustee to sit on each committee.

Additional initiatives:

- Executive Education with two professors from Harvard Business School
- Entrepreneurship and Industry
- Leadership and soft skills development of students
- Faculty hiring
- Internal communications

VIII. Organizational Overview

President Avent reviewed the organizational change presentation he gave to employees in December. He explained the evolution of the organizational structure to a line management format. Department Heads (staff) and Department Chairs (faculty) have been assigned and are receiving leadership development training as well as technical management training. Some directors are not department heads; rather, they are directors for their technical expertise. President Avent reviewed the new structure in detail.

Dr. Parker reviewed organizational changes in Academic Affairs, specifically the move of student development into the enrollment department and the new structure under academic support services. He also addressed the creation of Department Chairs for each of the four degree granting departments, the graduate program, and the Arts & Sciences (formerly General Education) department. Department Chairs have a three-year appointment to their position.

IX. AMI, Autonomous Vehicle – SunTrax MOU Status

President Avent provided an update on the progress of the Advance Mobility Institute (AMI), including Florida Poly’s involvement in each element of the five-step holistic approach (R&D, simulation, stimulation, closed-track testing, open-road testing). Florida Poly will own the R&D facility, simulation and stimulation aspect and will participate in open-road testing as well. Faculty have already been working on three AV related projects. There are three barriers to AMI progress: lack of faculty, lack of appropriate graduate research students, and lack of summer salary for faculty. Faculty growth, post-docs and AMI research staff are potential solutions but require legislative funding.
Florida Poly’s involvement is providing value-added services, research and development, and training and instruction. Discussions are ongoing with FTE.

FDOT awarded Central Florida AV Proving Ground (CFAVP) designation as a National Test Center. A business model study is being conducted to define Florida Poly’s services.

Last fall, Florida Poly hosted a CEO Summit on autonomous vehicles. Participants included industries that will be impacted by AV technology such as agriculture, logistics, planned communities and public transportation. Conversation is ongoing with attendees.

X. Entrepreneurship Program Update

Due to lack of time, this topic was not discussed.

XI. Board of Trustees Meetings and Schedule

Due to lack of time, this topic was not discussed.

XII. Executive Session: Labor Negotiation Update

At 1:57 p.m., the Trustees, Dr. Randy Avent, Dr. Terry Parker, Ms. Gina Delulio, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, and Mr. Rick Maxey relocated to the President’s Conference Room to begin the executive session.