

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES FAU BOARD OF TRUSTEES August 11, 2004

Chairman George C. Zoley convened the meeting of the Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees on the Boca Raton campus at 10:08 a.m. with the following members present:

Nancy Blosser, Fred Hoffman, Virginia Miller, Sherry Plymale, Alvira Khan, and via phone conference: Scott Adams, Bill Bryant and Norman Tripp.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

Handout - Minutes of June 28, 2004
Minutes of July 20, 2004

Trustee Hoffman corrected misspelled and grammatical errors to page 3 of the June 28 meeting minutes. The recording secretary noted and made corrections.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the June 28 and the July 20 meetings. With corrections noted, the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – George C. Zoley**

- Chairman Zoley stated that Trustees should have received an announcement of new committee memberships via email. He also spoke to the meetings importance in terms of FAU's response to the BOG's policy recommendations.

3. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Frank T. Brogan**

- FAU Branding- President Brogan provided an update on the status of the branding process. Phase 1, which was an information-gathering phase, included a university-wide survey comprised of focus groups, faculty, staff and students observing all aspects of FAU. Phase 1 which is now completed, includes the following outcomes:

- Three general concepts
 - The owl to remain FAU's mascot
 - FAU Colors: Navy Blue and Red
 - There will be an academic seal, a collegiate seal and a logo

The next phase of the process is to identify items necessitating change along with associated timelines and costs.

- 40th Anniversary- President Brogan reminded trustees that the 40th anniversary yearlong celebration will kick off on September 14 with the state of the university address. He stated that invitations will be mailed soon and urged Trustees to make an effort to attend.
- UM/FAU Medical Partnership- Classes have begun for sixteen FAU medical students. This new program uses all the newest technologies to group both the UM and FAU students together. President Brogan shared his excitement about the Program and its development.
- Football- The first football game will be on Saturday, September 4: FAU against the University of Hawaii.
- President's Letters to BOG Chair Carolyn Roberts and Chancellor Debra Austin- All trustees have received copies of the letters sent from President Brogan to both Chair Roberts and Chancellor Austin. The letters addressed several issues, ranging from service districts to distance education and the need for a statewide calendar of events.
- Scripps- A Scripps/FAU partnership update was provided as handout to the trustees. President Brogan asked Ms. Camille Coley to give a brief update on key issues involving Scripps. A discussion as to which state universities would be present at the Scripps/FAU site occurred between Trustees. Chairman Zoley proposed that the BOG look at the current situation and distinguish which of the universities would be appropriate to collaborate with Scripps. Trustee Miller requested President Brogan write a letter to the BOG stating FAU's recommendations in regards to other universities coming into our service district to collaborate with Scripps. Trustee Bryant asked if the final decision comes from Scripps or the BOG? President Brogan explained that Scripps is very entrepreneurial and welcomes all universities to partner with them.

4. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE– Chair Nancy Blosser

- A. Recommendation to approve the 2005-2006 Five Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Mr. Bob Friedman presented a summary of the Capital Improvement Plan. FAU has been consistent in funding projects on the list, especially those where classroom space is concerned. President Brogan added that FAU's highest priority is the addition of lab and classroom space across FAU, particularly at the Treasure Coast and Davie campuses. Mr. Friedman reminded the BOT that this report is provided to them on an annual basis, allowing for consistent monitoring of capital improvement at FAU.

A motion was made and seconded to approve 2005-2006 Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Update on Strategic Planning.

Chair Nancy Blosser recapped actions taken place in the Strategic planning process thus far. On June 28, the BOT approved the four goals of the BOG. The committee then determined the Plan format. The next step will be up to the Strategic Planning council, headed by Dr. Kristen Murtaugh. Her council, comprised of faculty, students and staff will make sure that everyone in the university will get involved from college, campus, division, etc. Overall, Chair Blosser said she would like this document to be a usable plan that everyone is able to access. She thanked Dr. Pritchett for agreeing to help in developing a webpage and an interactive site for the FAU strategic plan. President Brogan added that the automated piece is very important because it will allow everyone at the university a portal to the one strategic plan. Trustee Miller recommended that FAU put a large emphasis on marketing to accomplish the four goals.

Dr. Zoley requested the BOT receive quarterly reports on the strategic plan, budget, and our partnership with Scripps. He also requested the BOT receive an update on the degree production status at the November BOT meeting. Additionally, Dr. Zoley requested President Brogan draft a calendar for upcoming BOT meetings detailed with planned agenda items.

5. AUDIT & FINANCE/ ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS JOINT COMMITTEE– Co-Chairs: George C. Zoley and Scott Adams.

- A. Recommendation to approve the implementation of a Master of Science degree in Finance.

Chair Scott Adams provided highlights of the M.S. in Finance. He explained that there will be no additional funding for these courses and that they will use the additional classes from the M.B.A. program.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the implementation of a Master of Science degree in Finance. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Adams signed off.

B. Recommendation to Approve the 2005 Capital Improvement Trust Fund.

Chairman Zoley asked Trustee Khan to provide an overview of the Capital Improvement Trust Fund. Trustee Khan first thanked the committee that worked on the CITF. She then summarized what the proposed Wellness Center would consist of and who would benefit from it. The proposed Wellness Center would be a fitness/health facility for faculty, staff, alumni and students. Trustee Miller recommended the Wellness Center be proposed to the FAU Foundation.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal of a student wellness center. Motion passed unanimously except for Trustee Fred Hoffman, who abstained.

FIVE-MINUTE BREAK

6. Six Policy Areas- President Frank T. Brogan and Provost John Pritchett

A. Targeted Degrees

A discussion occurred between trustees on the topic of targeted degrees. Trustee Plymale questioned if the BOG will state their expectations as to what will be required in terms of degrees in certain fields. President Brogan responded by giving example of degrees in psychology. Currently psychology degrees are high in Florida, even though there is not a shortage of psychologists in the state. He added that the purpose of targeting certain degrees is to ask for additive funding and not to diminish existing funding in other areas. Trustee Plymale stated that just because shortages exist does not mean we have to ruin the intellectual dynamic of the university.

The following statement will be issued to the BOG's on behalf of the FAU BOT:

Targeted degree programs. The concept of targeted degree programs has now developed into the "Y-axis" programs under consideration of the BOG as part of its strategic plan. FAU has embraced and endorsed this plan and adopted the four BOG goals as key elements of the university's developing strategic plan, with the understanding that growth in emphasized programs must be encouraged and supported with additional revenues rather than a redirection of existing resources.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the statement above. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Billing Statements

President Brogan introduced the concept of billing statements. The focus of this policy is to provide detail for the student identifying who is paying and how much is contributed towards their education. Currently an average of 75% of student fees is paid for by the state and 25% paid by the students. This cost may be detailed on the student's electronic tuition bill. President Brogan added that the only barrier to accomplishing this is to have a clear formula that truthfully delineates funding sources. Trustee Hoffman added that it would be very difficult to figure this out per student, as they would all be different. Trustee Blosser recommended that instead of reporting actual costs of the education, that a general statement reminding the student how much and by whom their education is being paid would suffice.

The following statement will be issued to the BOG's on behalf of the FAU BOT:

Billing statements. FAU financial systems are not currently structured to provide information to students on the state provided contribution to each student's educational costs. The FAU Board of Trustees recommended that the BOG prepare a general statement on the proportion of instructional costs provided by the state on average. This statement could then be included on each billing statement.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the statement above. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Accountability and Effectiveness

President Brogan introduced the topic of accountability and effectiveness to the BOT. He assured the BOT that he and the administration are focused on making FAU and its faculty and staff accountable and more productive. FAU is moving in the right direction as seen in our new budget process, strategic planning update and quarterly reporting systems. Chairman Zoley added that more specificity in accountability & effectiveness will evolve as we move into the quarterly reporting system. Dr. Pritchett stated that in 2002 the BOT approved the program review process for FAU. The process for measurable student outcomes are still being refined.

D. Excess Credit Hours

Dr. Mike Armstrong provided a PowerPoint presentation on excess credit hours. Following the presentation, President Brogan added that there are basic assumptions for and against the idea of banning excess credit hours. The BOT's job is to rationalize the advantages and disadvantages and make an educated decision. Further discussion occurred on the difference of FAU and traditional four-year universities. Trustee Khan questioned who would be responsible to go through each student's schedule to distinguish whether or not they had taken extra credits. Dr. Armstrong replied that it would take a large staff to do this and more funding from the state.

The following statement will be issued to the BOG's on behalf of the FAU BOT:

Excess credit hours. If the Board of Governors/Florida Legislature should decide to implement the policy of charging students full cost for credit hours in excess of 115% of graduation requirements, then FAU recommends that hours attempted in certain circumstances/categories be exempt from this calculation as being important elements of state policy. These should include courses in the following categories:

- a. Foreign language
- b. Multiple majors or minors
- c. Excess hours transferred from community colleges or other institutions
- d. ROTC
- e. ESOL and other state mandates
- f. Withdrawals/failures

Alternatively, the limitation for payment of the state provided component should be set at 125% of degree requirements. Although FAU supports the intent of this policy, the FAU Board of Trustees notes that such a policy may be prohibitively difficult to implement.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the statement above. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Non-degree Seeking Student Tuition

Dr. Sharron Ronco gave a presentation on non-degree seeking students at FAU. Dr. Hoffman explained to the BOT, that FAU's non-degree seeking students are not taking up space as they can register only after degree-seeking students have registered.

The following statement will be issued to the BOG's on behalf of the FAU BOT:

Non-degree seeking students. The FAU Board of Trustees has analyzed the course-taking patterns of non-degree-seeking students and recommends that no action be taken to impose full cost of instruction on this group at this time. Although FAU may indeed enroll some non-degree students whose main purpose is self-enrichment, they are few in number and impossible to identify without penalizing those whose educational goals the state has an interest in supporting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the statement above. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Block Tuition

Dr. Norman Kaufman gave a PowerPoint presentation on Block Tuition. Chairman Zoley recommended that we support the policy objective on the basis of a trial. President Brogan agreed and stated that FAU is supportive in looking at alternative ways to fill classrooms and assisting students to graduate at a faster rate. Trustee Tripp stated that while the idea of an independent BOT has been promoted, we are spending a lot of time on BOG mandates and not on independent BOT ideas. Chairman Zoley stated that the BOT is supportive of the BOG as they are the policy initiators, however, it is obvious that each institution is different and that the BOT will have the opportunity to indicate why FAU is different.

Discussion: Trustee Tripp stated that while recognizing the importance of the BOG's vision of statewide policy, it is important that the BOG recognize the creation of the BOT and supports its policy setting ability. President Brogan stated that the BOG Chairwoman recognizes that there are commonalities and uniqueness among the various universities.

The following statement will be issued to the BOG's on behalf of the FAU BOT:

Block tuition. Analysis of student information indicates that an across-the-board adoption of block tuition may not be applicable for FAU. Should the Board of Governors wish to consider block tuition, then FAU would recommend and be willing to participate in a trial program with a select group of students. However, should the University consider a trial it would be over an appropriate period of two or three years.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the statement above. Motion passed unanimously.

On a general note, FAU recommends that as the BOG examine such policy issues and the university be provided maximum flexibility within existing statutes and constitutional provisions. To consider such items as differential tuition by program, time, and location; and recommend to the Legislature the availability of Bright Futures funding for students in summer terms.

7. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

- **No old/new business was reported at the meeting.**

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comment was made at the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.