



Item: CG: A-M

**COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, February 19, 2013**

**SUBJECT: ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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**PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION**

Initiate roll call to document member participation and ensure quorum.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. Robert Rubin, Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Jeffrey Feingold, Vice Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Anthony Barbar (ex-officio) \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Angela Graham-West \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Robert Stilley \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Paul Tanner \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Thomas Workman (ex-officio) \_\_\_\_\_

**PARTICIPATING BOT MEMBERS**

Mr. David Feder \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Robert Huffman \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. William McDaniel \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Abdol Moabery \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Sherry Plymale \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Julius Teske \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2012

#### CG: A-M Roll Call and Approval of Draft Minutes for the October 18, 2012 BOT Community and Governmental Relations Committee meetings:

Trustee Robert Rubin, Chair, called the meeting to order and initiated the roll call. In addition to Trustee Rubin, the following committee members were present: Trustee Abdol Moabery, Vice Chair; Trustee Anthony Barbar (ex-officio); Trustee David Feder; Trustee Jeffrey Feingold; Trustee Angela Graham-West; Trustee Robert Huffman; Trustee Sherry Plymale; Trustee Robert Stilley (ex-officio); and Trustee Paul Tanner.

Other Trustees attending the meeting included: Trustee William McDaniel; Trustee Julius Teske; and Trustee Thomas Workman.

A quorum was present and the committee was called to order.

The following university officials participated:

Dr. Mary Jane Saunders, University President; Dr. Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson, Vice President of Community Engagement & Executive Director, FAU Foundation, Inc.; and Mr. David Kian, Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

Trustee Rubin called for approval of the October 18, 2012, meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve meeting minutes without change or correction. No discussion or commentary followed. **The motion passed unanimously.**

In Trustee Rubin's opening remarks he reported the committee work plan, which is a work in progress, will be presented for approval; the database is being updated to assist in working with the legislature and other constituencies; several county and state level legislative meetings and hearings were upcoming with the anticipation that Trustees will attend as their schedule permits; and an overview of the election results and the 2013 legislative session. Trustee Rubin recognized in attendance Pamela Landi, Assistant Vice President University Relations, and announced the recent hire of Ryan Britton, Director of State Relations University Relations. Work is ongoing for the legislative priorities for upcoming session and Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson will discuss them individually with each Trustee when the

priorities are ready. Trustee Rubin invited Jennifer to approach the podium for her presentation

**CG: A-1 Approval of Annual Committee Work Plan 2012-2013:**

Jennifer O’Flannery Anderson referred the Trustees to the work plan included in the packet of documents prepared for each Trustee. Some of the highlights in the work plan include: anticipated regular updates from Board of Governors meetings; scheduling of presentations on federal priorities taking place in Washington; plans for legislative session; what will take place locally with municipalities, cities, counties – a critical piece of outreach which presents many opportunities; and recognition efforts for our locally elected officials. She requested consideration and approval of the work plan. A motion for approval of the work plan was made and seconded. No discussion followed. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Update on Board of Governors Meetings:**

Jennifer next gave an update on the current Board of Governors meetings. The Blue Ribbon Task Force has met, presented its report covering three areas – accountability, funding and governance. This report has been distributed to each Trustee. Either Pamela Landi or Jennifer will be happy to discuss the report in detail with each of you if you are interested. The big issue facing the Board of Governors now is refunding the \$300M previously cut from the system and performance funding of \$118M. The Board of Governors Strategic Planning Committee will be in Davie on Monday, December 17, discussing 4 options for online learning. Another issue for the Board of Governors is PECO funding and revenue options to replace critical building maintenance funding. Congratulatory letters were sent to all who were elected in the recent November elections. Plans are to meet with you one-on-one to provide updates on some of the priorities. In the packet you will find a listing of those in our delegations and plans are to establish a network of advocacy with your help.

**CG: I-1 Overview of Elections Results:**

On the federal side, the House Democrats gained 8 seats and the Senate Democrats gained 2 seats. This reduces the Republican control over the House and Senate on the federal level and reduces their ability to negotiate related to the approaching fiscal cliff. For FAU the fiscal cliff is critical with the issue of sequestration and the money available to fund research and funding through the department of education. Locally several new county commissioners were elected and we will be reaching out to them. On a personal note, Broward County Sheriff Al Lamberti, an FAU alum, was not re-elected and this will be a big loss; however, we will become big supporters of the new sheriff. Recently the City of Deerfield Beach presented FAU with a gift through the Broward County Sheriff’s Law Enforcement Trust Fund providing Deerfield Beach at-risk youths scholarships to attend FAU. This is a \$50,000 gift to be matched

by the FAU Foundation for a \$100,000 total. This builds on a long standing partnership through the FAU Athletics Department and several of our faculty and staff.

The Florida elections resulted in 44 new members of the House, 50 new members of the Senate, the Speaker and the President of the Senate have vowed to become more bipartisan, one of our Broward Senators has been named chair of the Health & Human Services Committee. The Senate has lost its super majority, but a majority of the key players in Tallahassee are still Republicans. Some of the key players in the Senate are Senate President Don Gaetz, Senators Joe Negron, Bill Galvano, Joe Abruzzo, and Maria Sachs, they are on Education Appropriations. Also, Senator John Legg is Chair of the Education Committee. The key players in the House are Will Weatherford, Erik Fresen Chair of House Appropriations Sub-Committee, Marlene O'Toole - Education, George Moraitis Vice Chair of Choice & Innovation Sub-Committee which is important for our research and Jeanette Nunez Chair of Higher Education & Workforce Subcommittee. She will be at the Board of Governors meeting on Monday, Dec 17.

**CG: I-2 Review of Delegation Hearings:**

Jennifer next reviewed briefly the upcoming delegation hearings, an updated handout was distributed. The Trustees were invited to attend the hearings and represent FAU.

**CG: I-3 Discuss Legislative Advocacy Days:**

FAU advocacy days in Tallahassee will be February 12, 13, and 14. Hopefully you can attend February 13 and 14. We will set up meetings with our delegation members. If you are not able in February, there will be committee meetings in March and April which you can attend and speak if needed.

**CG: I-4 Ann Duffield Preliminary Report:**

Ann Duffield held the focus groups the end of October and did an amazing job. She met with 99 people over 19 focus group sessions: mayors, elected officials, donors, alumni, State Senators, Community Council members, Lifelong Learning, and current students.

She gathered an enormous amount of input from our constituents. Ann is preparing a detailed report which will be shared with you later. Sitting in on the sessions, some insight gleaned is that while people outside of Boca Raton know of FAU, they do not necessarily know a lot about it. Our elected officials and community council members know FAU exists; however, they know the singular area in which they are involved - not necessarily the broader spectrum beyond their affiliations. That is a great area for us to work on. People want to take advantage of the programs and services at FAU, but it can be difficult to access the information. We need to develop an easier access to the university. Interestingly, people seem to recognize and

know FAU is a research university and they feel that is important for the community, but they don't know why. This represents a good story for us to tell and to tell succinctly. They clearly view President Saunders as a tremendous asset to the community and for the University – she is making a difference. These are Jennifer's "take aways". Many of the participants thanked Jennifer for the opportunity to take part in the focus groups and appreciated the opportunity to meet and interact with fellow participants.

**Closing remarks:**

Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson:

Thank you to all who were able to attend the Gala. We netted almost \$200,000 after the event was over, 700 people attended, over 90 people and companies were sponsors. Several significant gifts were announced this week. We will be expanding the Memory & Wellness Center which is a significant service to our community. Christine Lynn gave \$500,000 to the College of Nursing for faculty enhancement, recruiting and retention. The third gift was \$500,000 from ADT towards the FAU Stadium and includes a clock which now hangs at the FAU Stadium. The clock used to hang at Fenway Park. ADT will also provide internships to FAU students and participate with the College of Business.

FAU is also in the process of contracting with Sunrise Sports & Entertainment, the company that runs the BB&T Center. They will help us identify prospects for naming for the FAU Stadium plus help promote and book concerts and events at the FAU Stadium.

We are also working with economic development organizations, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, to bring them to campus for a tour. Last year the Martin County Business Development Board was here and this year we will also be bringing the Palm Beach County Development Board to campus.

With your documents at your place, you will find a wonderful two page "Points of Pride" information sheet with good talking points to share with people. If you have ever thought about getting an FAU license tag, we are running a special promotion to pay you to upgrade your license tag to an FAU tag. Please remember we are nearing the end of 2012 and we are available to take your donation to FAU.

Jennifer then opening the floor for any questions the Trustees might have.

Trustee Feingold thanked Jennifer for the great job she is doing. The opportunities for FAU are amazing. The elections have consequences; however, we will be able to bring new legislators and leaders to the campus who have never been here before. Trustee Feingold suggested a survey be taken of the student body to identify which counties they are from so legislators can know the impact FAU is making on their constituents – the students vote and

their parents vote. A note of congratulations should be sent to Ira Sabin who just became the Republican Party Chairman of Palm Beach County. Broward County has a new chairman also. He doesn't know who the democrats have picked or if they have picked one yet.

Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson agreed that a census needs to be taken of how many students, how many FAU employees and how many alumni are in each city and municipality so the legislatures take away an awareness of the impact FAU brings and FAU is an integral part of the community.

Trustee Feingold also recommended that FAU alumni retain their FAU email address beyond the six months provided now – they should retain their FAU email address forever. Home addresses change; however, email addresses seldom change and this allows FAU to retain contact with well over 100,000 people for easy email news blasts.

Trustee Rubin was surprised the focus group sessions highlighted that local elected officials are not as well informed about FAU as we thought they would be. We just assume they know FAU better than they do. This new awareness on our part will help us better prepare for opportunities to share the FAU story with them – not only learning about FAU as a university, but also the impact FAU has on their communities and constituents.

Trustee Rubin made a motion to adjourn the committee meeting, the motion was seconded and **motion to adjourn was approved.**