



Item: CG: A-M

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 17, 2016

SUBJECT: ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 15, 2016 MINUTES

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Initiate roll call to document member participation and ensure quorum.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Robert Stilley, Chair _____

Mrs. Mary Beth McDonald, Vice Chair _____

Mr. Anthony Barbar (ex-officio) _____

Mr. Michael Cairo _____

Mr. Daniel Cane (ex-officio) _____

Dr. Michael Dennis _____

Mr. Abdol Moabery _____

PARTICIPATING BOT MEMBERS

Dr. Christopher Beetle _____

Mr. Shaun Davis _____

Dr. Malcolm Dorman _____

Dr. Jeffrey Feingold _____

Mr. Robert Rubin _____

Mr. Thomas Workman _____



COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2016

SP: A-M Roll Call:

Trustee Robert Stilley, Committee Chair called the meeting to order and initiated the roll call. In addition to Trustee Stilley, the following committee members were present: Trustee Mary Beth McDonald; Trustee Anthony Barbar (ex-officio); Trustee Kathryn Edmunds; Trustee Abdol Moabery and Trustee Michael Dennis.

Other Trustees attending the meeting included: Trustee Jeffrey Feingold; Trustee Julius Teske; Trustee Thomas Workman; Trustee Shaun Davis and Trustee Christopher Beetle.

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

The following university officials participated: Dr. John Kelly, University President; Ms. Stacy Volnick, Vice President, Administrative Affairs & Chief Administrative Officer and Interim Vice President of Institutional Advancement; Mr. David Kian, Vice President for Legal Affairs & General Counsel and Interim CEO of FAU Foundation, Inc. and Mr. Ryan Britton, Executive Director of Government Relations.

Trustee Stilley called for approval of the December 15, 2015 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.

Trustee Stilley invited VP Volnick to approach the podium to give the legislative update.

CG: I-1 Legislative Update:

VP Volnick thanked The Board for their time and welcomed Trustee Davis to the FAU family. Before I invite Ryan Britton who is our Executive Director of Government Relations up to give an update I'd like to thank all of you and the board for your participation this year in helping to move forward our legislative priorities, many of you participated in FAU Days as well as calls and visits to Tallahassee which was greatly appreciated. Again, thank you on behalf of all of the rest of us here.

VP Volnick invited Ryan Britton, Executive Director of Government Relations to begin with the update.

We will talk about the Legislative Session that just came to a conclusion last Friday March 11th and it was another successful Session for the university and a very busy one. I will give a brief recap and then I'll be happy to entertain any questions you might have.

As I stated the Legislative Session came to a close on Friday with the final passage of the budget as well as a flurry of other policy activities that relates to higher education. The saying goes, "You have to be present to win" and one of the things that we've been working on over the past few years is establishing a consistent and reliable presence in Tallahassee, that's both in terms of my and the office's presence in Tallahassee and also a University wide presence. I've seen a number of you up in Tallahassee as well as members of the University community. To give you a couple examples of the individuals who have been; President Kelly and Chairman Barbar have made multiple trips, Trustees Stillely, McDonald, and Edmunds have all been up. Members of the Presidents ELT Team, Dean Coltman and Dean Bristor were both there this Session, Administrators from Harbor Branch and FAU's CARD Center, and then student representatives from across our colleges and campuses. Rarely did a week go by that a group or individual from the University was not up in Tallahassee. Trustee Edmunds and I worked together on a number of occasions as well as Hamilton Ezell who is the Director of SGA's Government Relations. Student Government has been very organized and very engaged legislatively both at the local and state level, continuing student engagement is great. A lot of the good feedback I received from events like FAU Days, Rally in Tally and others is that the Legislators were very pleased with the students they got to interact with. They had a wonderful experience talking with them and were very excited about the types of graduates we're producing. That's all great feedback and a testament to the quality of students in Student Government. I'll brag one more time about Trustee Edmunds; she was recently nominated to take part in the Gubernatorial Fellows Program. She's working on her application currently but just to be nominated is an honor. This is for elite students in the state to go and spend a significant amount of time which I believe is nine months up in Tallahassee, we're crossing our fingers to get her into that program.

In addition to the University's presence, one of the other things we've been working on is building community support. We've had a tremendous amount of 3rd party support for the University. It is one thing to go up as a University and advocate on behalf of yourself but everyone knows that you're doing it for yourself, it's another thing when community organizations go up and advocate on your behalf. Organizations like the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, the Palm Beach Economic Council, the Northern Palm Beach and Boca Chambers, and Palm Beach and Broward Counties have all gone to Tallahassee and carried our Legislative Priorities as their own and advocated on our behalf. This is because of some of the ground work that we are doing here and also building those

relationships and letting those organizations know that our priorities are the communities' priorities. If you want to build a better community you can support the University and we'll help carry that forward.

On the final day of Session they passed the budget, the Legislature passed an \$82.3 billion budget that contained several large scale priorities, including over \$400 million in tax cuts, a 1 percent increase in K-12 per student funding so the Henderson School will be the recipient of those and there were some increases in Public Education Capital Outlay (construction and maintenance) funding. The SUS portion of the budget totals about \$4.73 billion, there was a 5 percent increase over the previous year's funding. The cornerstone of the budget for the SUS system as it has been in years prior was performance funding. This year the performance funding pool is \$500 million, of that \$500 million \$225 million is from the state and \$275 million is institutional contributions. Because we are out of the penalty box our institutional contribution is immediately given back to us and we are now eligible to receive a portion of the performance funding. Last year the pot was \$150 million, they added \$75 million new dollars to it so if we are "in the money" as they say then we'll receive a proportional share of the \$150 million plus a share of the \$75 million. The proportional share is based on our budget. Performance Funding and as Provost Perry mentioned earlier Preeminence and Emerging Preeminence Funding remains a priority for the legislature.

While the final statewide budget is contingent upon the Governor's approval, the outlook is promising for Florida Atlantic University and there are a number of specific areas in the budget that are of specific importance to us. The STEM Life Science Initiative at our Jupiter Campus continues to receive legislative support; we received additional recurring funding for operational expenses on that campus with our collaboration with Scripps and Max Planck. The FAU Secondary Robotics Team received a small amount of recurring funding to support the teams that compete in the regional Robotics Competition and as CFO Russell talked about that's actually not money that comes directly to us, we are used as a pass through organization to support the teams that participated in the Robotics Competition. Tech Runway also continues to receive legislative support and was awarded additional nonrecurring funding, this is the third year in a row Tech Runway has received funding. The Legislature likes the program and has continued to invest in it year after year. In addition the Jupiter Stem Life Science Initiative this is the second year it has received funding and recurring funding year over year, that's a significant investment made by the state.

Last but not least FAU received PECO funds for the 1st year planning and engineering of its Jupiter Stem Life Sciences Research Building on the Jupiter Campus. This is the first time in 5 years the University received funding for a specific PECO project. FAU also will receive a proportional share of system-wide maintenance funding for the University and for the Henderson Lab School. This is obviously a first year investment but what it does is that it sets up the asks for years 2, 3 and 4 as we go back to the legislature and ask them to continue to

fund that project they know we are coming back and have an interest in finishing those funding obligations and continuing those projects.

We now await the Governor's approval of the budget. It should be noted, that the Legislature failed to support a number of Governor Scott's budget priorities (\$1 billion in tax cuts, \$250 economic incentive fund and ratification of the Seminole gaming compact) which could impact his veto decisions once he is presented with the final General Appropriations Act. However, he spoke positively about the budget on the final day of Session. We are working again with our community partners and internally to advocate on behalf of our funding initiatives.

Before I leave I want to give a couple of special recognitions, we would not be in the position we are now in had it not been for the help of a number of people integral to the process or at least very close to it. Representative MaryLynn Magar did a truly spectacular job with our Jupiter Life Sciences Initiative. Words cannot express our tremendous appreciation for her efforts. In addition, CFO Jeff Atwater also was instrumental in helping us secure funding for our Jupiter initiative by advocating on our behalf both on the House and Senate sides as well as Senator Joe Abruzzo who represents that area, he carried the request for us in that chamber as Rep. Magar carried them for us in the House Chamber. Tech Runway benefited from the advocacy of Representatives George Moraitis and Bill Hager and Senators Jeff Clemens and Maria Sachs. Lastly we received great support from a host of chairmen, including Sen. Lee and Rep. Corcoran, Sen. Latvala and Rep. Ingram and Sen. Gaetz and Rep. Fresen. They were all incredibly supportive; we can offer up the request but if the Chairman don't include it their budgets we don't go very far. We were given support and taken over the finish line which was wonderful.

I'll mention a handful of policy issues and then close with some brief comments. There were a number of policy issues that were passed; the one that was most important to us was our Medical School. As I've talked about before we don't have the ability to offer Medical Faculty Certificates which is a temporary authorization for a doctor that is hired out of state to come and practice in Florida. Right now if we hire a physician from out of state it takes them months to be able to get full licensure in the state to then go forth and practice. We were able to pass a bill sponsored by Representative Magar and Senator Sachs; it got through all of the committees and was just signed by the Governor. We will now be able to offer Medical Faculty Certificates starting July 1st to physicians that we recruit from out of state; it's an excellent recruitment tool. An Education Omnibus bill codified performance funding in the budget we also codified preeminence and emerging preeminence so that's in statute now forever. Textbook and educational material costs and pricing notification standards are in statute as well as notification by Board of Trustees for proposed tuition in fee increases. There will now be certain rules about how much in advance those notifications needs to be given. Expanding opportunities for special needs students was signed by Governor Scott. Concealed weapons on campus did not pass this year but it has been talked about that it will be brought back up.

Changes to bright futures in the acceptance period passed, this has nothing to do with the financial aspects of the bill but students who leave and go on a religious or other service obligation in the years right after high school will be given a grace period so that they can then accept the award at some point later in the future. Lastly, expanded access for military personnel passed.

Our attention will now turn toward stewardship and thanking individuals who helped us achieve this success and keeping them informed about our progress. Moreover, we want to continue to bring elected officials and influential individuals to campus and directly connect them to the great things happening here at FAU. I appreciate your continued support and thank you so much for all that you do to help us here and in Tallahassee.

This concluded Ryan Britton's update; he invited questions and comments from the Trustees and thanked them for their continued support.

Comments from Trustee Feingold: What I would like to know and have you report back to this board is the asks for each of the 12 universities and what they ended up getting in the budget. I read about Palm Beach State College getting \$9 million and we got less than them, that bothers me because they're right down the street from us on our campus and got more than us. What I'd like to know is what each of the 12 universities asked for and what they got versus what we asked for and what we got. Budgets change every year, the asks change every year and the political climate in Tallahassee changes every year; we need to address our competition in what they asked for and what they've gotten. I'm concerned and I've made this point that our lobbying efforts and our asks maybe too small versus the size of this university and I felt that during the Session Trustee Stilley's wife was stellar on both a personal and professional level as well as our leadership in the county. But, the political dynamic in this county is different than some of the other counties in the state and I always look at who the President and Speaker will be in 2, 4 or 6 years down the road because they pick them all and I don't see anybody on the cloud here that's going to be from Palm Beach, Broward, Martin or St. Lucie County for a long time to come. The way I look at it is this coming Session is going to be critical because Joe Negron is the President of the Senate that our asks and our structure is such that we come out a real winner and if we have to double down on our lobbying efforts and hire more outside lobbyist I think we need to do that because if I look at the lobbyist list from each of the other state universities they have an army, so when they get an army and we just have a couple of people armies count and they go talk to these legislators all the time not just during the Session. I feel that we need to double down our lobbying efforts, hire more lobbyist and our asks have to be bigger. My concern is our asks now and we need to have some sort of workshop with this board preparing for the Session because they're going to start committee meetings in the summer time and our asks has to be better. I compliment you on what you've done but I want a report back on what everybody asked for, what they got and the veto pen will be there I'm sure but I want to make sure that we have a bigger piece of the

pie on a percentage level than some of our competition, same as our rating with the BOG. I want an exceptional ask and an exceptional win and not come back with a few dollars to fix a building up. Thank you.

Comments from Trustee Barbar: First of all Ryan outstanding job, the work that you have done over the last couple of years has really paid huge dividends for us. I think we need to make sure that we don't confuse apple and oranges. Palm Beach State got money for a building that they have to finish, that's the last stage of it, and we got money for design fees. We're going to get the money hopefully next year to build the building and that's going to be a much more substantial asks than what we asked for this year. I think that one of the things that we have done in the last 2 or 3 years that have paid off for us is that we have been consistent in what we're asking for, in other words the Jupiter Science Initiative is building one year after another and the recurring dollars if I recall last year and this year we got about 4.1 or 4.2 million in recurring dollars, if I looked correctly that's at the top of what other universities got in recurring dollars. I think we need to make sure that we don't mix apples and oranges; if UCF for example is getting 20 million for their downtown campus because that's what the Senate President wants then that's what he wants.

Comments from Trustee Stillely: These are both good points and I agree we need to keep working hard. I will tell you though that having been involved the past few years up in Tallahassee it's substantially better than what it was you have to admit that, it's like night and day. We're making good progress and I wish you guys could have seen Representative Magar work on this project; it was pretty phenomenal and impressive.

Thank you to President Kelly and Chairman Barbar for making multiple trips up to Tallahassee, thank you to Trustee Edmunds for all you did in the Capitol. I want to thank everybody who was involved up there, it was phenomenal. The Leadership within the House is very impressed with FAU and that's why they're giving us all those recurring dollars. They know what's going up in Jupiter and they know it's not going to make a difference just for FAU but a difference for our state and nation. Let me just finish with this, we focused the first couple months of the year on doing government relations and making sure that we get everything we can out of Tallahassee, the other part of this committee is the community engagement. Stacy and I talked this morning; I don't think either one of us are happy with where we are with that but we really had to focus on the government side. Over the next couple of months we're going to meet and maybe even have a workshop to decide what we can do not only from the standpoint of staff here at FAU but also with us as leaders of the University as Trustees and what we can do to go out and help promote the University so I'm open to suggestions anyone of you might have. We're from the Treasure Coast all the way down to Broward so we should be able to bring people to this University and make them aware of what we're doing. This is what we will be working on for the next couple of months.

Trustee Stilley requested a motion to adjourn the committee's meeting; a motion was made and seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved.