

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
University of South Florida
September 18th, 2024
Full Board

2:53 p.m.—3:39 p.m.

Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors and its committees are accessible at:

<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/9-18-24-florida-board-of-governors-meeting-part-2/>

1. Call to Order.

Chair Brian Lamb called to order the Full Board portion of the meeting. Rachel Kamoutsas called the roll. Chair Lamb, Vice Chair Levine, Governors Brinkman, Cerio, Diaz, Edge, Frost, Good, Haddock, Jones, Lydecker, Mateer, Oliva, Phalin, and Silagy were present, and a quorum was met.

2. Chair's Remarks and Report to the Board.

Chair Lamb first welcomed President Fuchs back and then recognized the Presidents Beard and Stephenson. Chair Lamb summarized the various successes of the State University System and commended the Board of Governors for their devotion and attention. He reported that roughly 100,000 degrees were distributed and further commended the students for their involvement.

3. Chancellor's Remarks and Report to the Board.

In his remarks, Chancellor Ray Rodrigues thanked the hosts and other university presidents. He commended their prioritization of student safety in the face of last year's demonstrations, examples of antisemitism and harassment of Jewish students across the country. Florida was a model state in managing the unrest and led by example. He informed the board that Oct. 7th, 2024, will be high in activity as various protestors intend to hold events again. He noted that all campuses would ensure students were safe in these events.

He also reflected on the intended amendment to Title IX proposed by the Biden-Harris administration that would remove protections for women. This amendment would undermine women's progress in sports in which biological men can compete in women's sports and use women's locker rooms and bathrooms. Florida pushed back on this rule, the 11 Circuit Court of Appeals agreed and prevented the rule change from going into effect. Finally, he mentioned his recent attendance at the national conference of SHEEO but due to time constraints he will present that update in the next meeting. He concluded his report.

4. Public Comment.

The first to offer comment was Jono Miller on remarking on New College of Florida and the business plan, on the grounds that the plan is not specific enough. He asked that the plan be made more specific before its approval. He concluded his statement.

The second member of the public to offer comment was Carolyn Collins regarding Performance Based Funding and the Board's strategic plan. She spoke about the involvement of FAMU alumni in representing the state of Florida to offer input on the strategic plan. She urged for the alignment of stakeholders on the strategic plan.

No other members of the public were

Rachel Kamoutsas then concluded the public comments portion of the meeting.

5. Presentation of Board of Governors Resolutions.

Chair Lamb asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions recognizing former President Cliff Otto and former President Larry Robinson. The motion was moved by Governor Cerio, seconded by Governor Levine, and was carried without further comments.

6. Approval of the Interim President of the University of Florida.

The interim president, Kevin Fuchs, was introduced by Chair Hosseini. Chair Hosseini recounted President Fuchs' prior experience with UF and requested Board approval of President Fuchs. Chair Hosseini also explained that the UF BOT previously approved an interim contract but since that meeting, had made updates to their contract consistent with the Board of Governor's contract template. Chair Lamb's noted the motion will include that Board approval is subject to Chair Hosseini taking the updated contract back to The UF Board of Trustees on Oct 3rd, 2024, for approval. The motion was moved by Governor Good and properly seconded by Governor Frost and the motion carried.

7. Approval of the Interim President of Florida A&M University.

The interim president, Timothy Beard was introduced by Kristin Harper. Chair Harper shared President Beard's accomplishments while serving as a Florida College President and his qualifications to serve as Interim President for Florida A&M University. Chair Harper requested approval of Interim President Timothy Beard. Chair Lamb called for a motion. The motion was moved and properly seconded, and the motion carried. Chair Lamb asked for a motion to adopt the interim president, which was moved by Governor Jones and properly seconded by Governor Edge, no further discussion was held and the motion carried.

8. Presidential Search Updates.

Governor Mateer provided an update on the Florida Atlantic University search which conducted a series of 16 listening sessions; the committee is now working on the position criteria and marketing plan. Chair Harper provided an update on the Florida A&M University search that they intend to start their search soon. Chair Hosseini stepped out of the room, Chair Lamb pivoted to seek an update on the UF search at a later time.

9. Consent Agenda.

Governor Silagy requested two items be removed from the consent agenda. The first item came forward from the Budget and Finance Committee. Governor Levine moved for the board to approve the recommendation for the budget and finance committee to approve the New College Business plan and seek the release of the \$15,000,000 in accordance with the plan, properly seconded by Governor Jones. Governor Silagy opposed. No further discussion. Motion Carried.

Chair Lamb brought forward the regulation that was approved in nomination and governance committee regarding Regulation 1.002. Governor Jones asked for additional clarification regarding scenarios where the Board of Governors Chair sends back an applicant. Chair Lamb clarified that it is the point in the process during the search committee, where the Board Chair's determination would be communicated to the Chair of the Search committee and the search committee could then determine if 3, 2 or 1 candidate(s) would ultimately be put forward to the board of trustees.

Governor Silagy thanked the Chair for the engaged discussion and then made a motion to amend the language of the regulation, specifically to strike the word "approval" in the proposed amendment. Chair Lamb called for a second, which was made by Governor Brinkman. Chair Lamb engaged in a roll call vote, Silagy and Brinkman, voted in favor of the amendment, the remaining governors voted in opposition to the amendment.

Regulation 1.002 as approved by the nomination and governance committee was then taken up by the full board, first motioned by Governor Levine and properly seconded by Governor Jones, no further discussion and adopted unanimously.

The remaining items on the consent agenda were moved for approval by Governor Cerio and properly seconded by Governor Good, no further discussion was had and the motion carried.

10. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Lamb adjourned the meeting.