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FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
JUNE 23, 2003

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The Vice Chair, Carolyn K. Roberts, convened the meeting of the Florida Board of Governors by telephone conference call, 1605 Turlington Building, Tallahassee, Florida, at 9:00 a.m., June 23, 2003, with the following members present: Pam Billbrey, Dr. Richard Briggs, Dr. Castell Bryant, John Dasburg, Miguel De Grandy, Rolland Heiser, Commissioner Jim Horne, Gerri Moll, Joan Newton, Ava Parker, Peter Rummell, Chris Sullivan, John Temple, Steven Uhlfelder, and Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah.

Also on the call were: Carol Thompson, Chair, UNF Board of Trustees; Karen Stone; Lina Monell; Terry Bowen, UNF Faculty and Member, UNF Board of Trustees; Tony Lombardo, FAU; Bill Merwin, Tom Healy, FGCU; Paul Gallagher, FIU; Laura Brock, FSU; David Colburn, UF; John Hitt, UCF.

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Roberts thanked Board members for their participation in the conference call. She welcomed Mr. Rummell who was participating in his first Board meeting. Mr. Rummell said he looked forward to working with all the members of the Board.

Mr. Uhlfelder said he had asked that a Resolution be prepared to express the Board's appreciation and thanks to its first Chairman, Mr. Tom Petway. He read the Resolution, and moved its adoption by the Board. General Heiser seconded the motion, and members of the Board concurred.

Mrs. Roberts noted that this was also the last meeting for Dr. Briggs, and she thanked him for his service to the Board. She said that Mr. Paez, the student member, had also attended his last meeting of the Board in April, and she welcomed Mr. Patrick Sullivan, the current President of the Florida Student Association.

2. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Austin said the Division of Colleges and Universities was busy defining the roles and responsibilities of the Chancellor's office, and the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Governors. It was clear that Board members should be the advocates for higher education in Florida. She reported that she had visited members of Florida's Congressional Delegation with the University System Presidents to discuss federal support for research at the universities. She had also briefed the Governor on university issues, including admissions for 2003-2004, second-year student retention data, and the six-year graduation rate. Proviso language in the budget required a revised five-year enrollment plan to be submitted by September 1, 2003.

3. Election of Officers, Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mrs. Roberts said the Board needed to elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman with the resignation of Chairman Petway. Ms. Parker said she was pleased to nominate the Vice Chair, Carolyn Roberts, to serve as the Chair of the Board. She said she had vast experience and knowledge about the universities, having served as a member of the Board of Regents, first for a six-year term beginning in 1989, and again in 2001. She had been a member of the UF Foundation Board and had served as an inaugural member of the Florida Board of Education. She said Mrs. Roberts is uniquely qualified to serve as Chair as this Board sets the course for higher education in Florida as directed by the citizens of this State in approving Amendment 11 last November. Mr. Uhlfelder seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations, and members of the Board concurred unanimously.

Mrs. Roberts thanked her colleagues and said she was dedicated to the universities and their rightful place in the K-20 system. She said it was clear that Amendment 11 gave this Board an important governing role. She said she had already given some thought to committees for this Board, as requested by Mr. Petway. She said she proposed to divide the work of this Board through the following committees: Executive; Audit, to be chaired by Mr. De Grandy; Economic Development, to be chaired by Mr. Rummell; Facilities, to be chaired by Ms. Parker; Finance, to be chaired by Ms. Moll; Performance and Accountability, to be chaired by Mr. Uhlfelder; Strategic Planning/Educational Policy, to be chaired by Mr. Dasburg; and Student Affairs, to be chaired by Dr. Zachariah.

Mrs. Roberts invited nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Uhlfelder said he was pleased to nominate Mr. Dasburg to serve as Vice Chairman. He said he was confident he would be an outstanding and active member of this Board and well-qualified to serve as the Vice Chairman. Dr. Zachariah seconded the motion. There were no further nominations, and members concurred unanimously.

Dr. Zachariah moved that the Board establish two-year terms of office for its Chair and Vice Chairman. Mr. Uhlfelder seconded the motion. Ms. Parker concurred that this was an excellent proposal. She suggested that the terms of office should begin in July, but that the officers just elected should begin their service immediately. There were no further comments, and members concurred unanimously.

4. Consideration of Ratification of President, University of North Florida, as Recommended by the UNF Board of Trustees

Mrs. Roberts said Board members had received the materials from the Board of Trustees of the University of North Florida recommending the appointment of Mr. John A. Delaney as the University's fifth President. She said it was the responsibility of this Board to ratify that recommendation.

Chancellor Austin described the search process and said the UNF Trustees had approached this search very seriously. They had worked to identify the qualities they sought in the next President and had received the names of 23 candidates from the

search firm helping them with the search. Candidates had on-campus interviews with the Search Committee and three candidates were presented to the full Board for its consideration. The candidates met with members of the Board of Trustees, campus groups, alumni, and community representatives. She said that the UNF Board had recommended a candidate for ratification whom they felt was the ideal candidate for the presidency of the University of North Florida, Mr. Delaney.

Mrs. Roberts recognized Ms. Carol Thompson, Chair, UNF Board of Trustees. Ms. Thompson said she had great confidence in the presidential search process. The Board had considered the candidates in light of the needs of the University and its history. She said that Mr. Delaney had accepted the offer to become UNF's next President, contingent on the ratification by this Board.

Mr. Uhlfelder moved that the Board ratify the appointment of Mr. John A. Delaney as the fifth President of the University of North Florida, as presented. General Heiser seconded the motion.

Dr. Briggs inquired of Ms. Thompson why experience in higher education had not been included in the qualifications for the president. Ms. Thompson said there had been considerable discussion of this issue in the original search process. The decision was made that candidates' credentials would be reviewed, but that there would be no requirement for the terminal degree. There were a number of qualifications listed. While higher education experience was certainly desirable, it was but one factor among many. Ms. Parker said she had watched the search process and deemed it to be fair. She noted that Mr. Delaney had also made a clear commitment to Jacksonville and the University of North Florida. She said he had a vision for UNF that would benefit the entire University System.

There were no further comments. Members of the Board concurred, with Dr. Briggs voting no.

Mrs. Roberts expressed the Board's congratulations to Mr. Delaney and asked that Ms. Thompson tell him of the Board's ratification.

Dr. Briggs read a personal statement that the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, as the elected representatives of the faculty of Florida's 11 public universities, expressed concern over the recent trend of appointees to the position of President, and the importance of having a President with knowledge and experience in higher education. He said that overemphasizing the political qualifications and underemphasizing the educational qualifications would greatly harm the higher education system in Florida. He said there had been general consensus on this position, except from the representative of UNF.

Commissioner Horne said Mr. Delaney would be an excellent President. He said leadership was the first and foremost qualification for President. He observed that President Brogan had previously served as Commissioner of Education; Dr. Wetherell had years of experience in community colleges, as well as having served as the President of Tallahassee Community College. He said these individuals had served

well in their previous positions; Florida was well served by all these University Presidents. Mrs. Roberts noted that all had been selected with faculty support on their campuses.

Mr. Uhlfelder said universities nationwide were going beyond academia in seeking new leaders. He said he would not criticize the university trustees who had reviewed the candidates' credentials and who had conducted a fair and open search process. He added that it was wrong to take a few examples and cast a wide net of criticism about the whole process. He also would not want to influence unfairly the search process of any other universities.

5. Consideration of Proposed Meeting Dates, Board of Governors, 2003

Mrs. Roberts said the agenda included proposed meeting dates for the remainder of 2003, as follows: July 23, 2003; September 24, 2003; and December 3, 2003. She suggested that the Board begin meeting at university campuses around the State in 2004. There were no further comments.

6. Consideration of Reappointment, Members of University Boards of Trustees, Named as the Appointees of the Board of Governors

Mrs. Roberts said members of the University Boards of Trustees, identified as the Trustees appointed by the Board of Governors, had not been confirmed during the 2003 Legislative Session. She said the agenda included the names of the appointees to each one of the University Boards, but that several appointees had been inadvertently omitted. She said the following individuals should be added to the list of appointees: Mr. Leerie Jenkins and Ms. Challis Lowe, Florida A & M University; Mr. Luther Coggin, University of North Florida; and Mr. Bob Allen, New College of Florida.

Mr. De Grandy moved that the Board reappoint the members of the University Boards of Trustees, designated as appointees of the Board of Governors, as presented in the Agenda and by the Chair. Mr. Dasburg seconded the motion, and members of the Board concurred. Mrs. Roberts said the Board looked forward to working with all the members of the University Boards.

7. Miscellaneous

Dr. Briggs inquired about the status of the Board's resolution on the Matching Gifts program. Dr. Austin said that staff had circulated draft language among the Board members, but agreement on the language of the resolution did not occur until the Legislature had completed the budget for the year. She said conversations on this issue would continue. General Heiser encouraged the Board to take a firm position to serve the best interests of the universities. He said this might be a topic for Finance Committee discussion. In addition, General Heiser said the Board also needed to make an appointment to the board at New College to replace Mr. Robert Blaylock who had resigned. The Chair said this would be on the July agenda.

8. Adjournment

Having no further business, the Chair adjourned the telephone conference call meeting of the Florida Board of Governors at 9:40 a.m., June 23, 2003.

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Carolyn K. Roberts,  
Chair

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Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,  
Corporate Secretary