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BOARD OF GOVERNORS
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 22, 2009

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The Chair, Sheila M. McDevitt, convened the meeting of the Board of Governors by telephone conference call, from Tallahassee, at 1:05 p.m., October 22, 2009, with the following members present: John Barnes; John Dasburg; Ann Duncan; Charlie Edwards; Dr. Stanley Marshall; Tico Perez; Carolyn K. Roberts; Commissioner Eric Smith; Dr. Judith Solano; Gus Stavros; Norman Tripp; and Dr. Zach Zachariah.

1. Call to Order and Chair's Report

Ms. McDevitt thanked the Board members for their participation in the meeting. She said she was pleased with the way the trustee nomination process had worked. She said they had attracted a high caliber of applicants. She said she had enjoyed her four days of interviews. She reported that she had met with several members of the Governor's appointments staff and with Mr. Dean Colson to report on individuals who would make excellent trustees or Board of Governors members who had not been recommended by the Trustee Nominating Committee. She said she hoped some of them would have a chance to be appointed by the Governor.

2. Approve Recommendations from the Trustee Nominating Committee to fill Trustee Vacancies at all Universities

Dr. Zachariah said that some Board members had not been on the Committee call earlier that day, so he described the process the Committee had followed in locating applicants, reviewing the applications, interviewing candidates and bringing the names forward to the Board for its approval.

He explained that the Trustee Nominating Committee, under the leadership of then-Chair Charlie Edwards, developed the Board's appointment process. The Committee had looked at models used by other governing boards, including North Carolina, to appoint trustees. He said Mr. Edwards had worked with staff, and had recommended the process which was approved by this Board in January 2007.

Dr. Zachariah said that in accordance with the process, the Committee announced on July 15, 2009, that the Board needed to fill 21 trustee vacancies that would occur on January 6, 2010. This announcement was widely publicized through

media releases, letters to university board chairs and presidents, communications with BOT liaisons, and by notice on the Board's website. Applications were due by August 28, 2009; the Board Office received approximately 200 applications. There were over 95 applications for the FSU vacancies; on average, there were about 11 applications for the other universities.

Dr. Zachariah said that similar to the way the Committee had filled the FIU vacancy in June, the Committee had been divided into teams of two or three Committee members who had been assigned to review the applications for specific assigned universities. Most of the members of the Committee had been assigned to review the applications for two of the universities; several members of the Committee had been assigned three universities. He said the Committee had also received verbal and written recommendations and nominations from the University Board Chairs and from the University Presidents.

He said that on September 3, 2009, Committee members had received all the applications submitted for the universities assigned to them. Each member had been asked to review the applications, and by September 25, to submit to the Corporate Secretary the names of the applicants they recommended for interviews. The Corporate Secretary compiled the complete list of interviewees and advised all the members of the university teams of all the candidates selected for interviews.

He said that between September 29 and October 9, 2009, members of the Committee had contacted the selected candidates and conducted independent telephone interviews with them. Members also made other inquiries to assist their independent deliberations of the background and qualifications of the applicants. He explained that members of each university team had been asked to give the Corporate Secretary the applicants recommended for appointment to the boards in ranked order. He noted that if the ranking were not clear, she had requested clarification of the top two priorities of the team members.

He said the names of the candidates recommended to fill the vacancies for each university board of trustees were the individuals identified on the Committee's agenda. He said that during the Committee meeting, the same individuals were now recommended to the full Board for its consideration. He commented that a large number of well-qualified persons had applied and that it had been a challenge to narrow this remarkable pool down to two individuals for each institution.

Dr. Zachariah thanked the members of the Committee for their careful and thorough review of all the applicants for the trustee vacancies. He said it had been a time-consuming process, but that he appreciated the thoughtfulness with which they had approached this most important task of appointing trustees to the university boards.

Dr. Zachariah said that through this process, the Board had assembled a huge talent pool of people interested in the universities and in the State University System. He encouraged the universities to invite these applicants to become involved. He said there were opportunities for service on Alumni Boards, Foundation Boards, and other university activities. These individuals had already demonstrated their interest by applying for these positions. He said he would encourage these outstanding people to come back again, as the Board would appoint another class of trustees next year.

Dr. Zachariah said the Committee had reviewed the proposed applicants and had discussed the qualifications and strengths of each of the applicants recommended to serve as trustees. He said as Chair of the Committee, he was prepared to bring forward the names of the applicants recommended to serve on the university boards. He inquired whether the Board wanted these to be brought forward, separately by university, or as a full slate. The Chair recommended that he make one motion on the full slate of new trustees.

Dr. Zachariah moved that the Board accept the recommendation of the Committee and approve the appointment of the following individuals to serve as university trustees, for terms ending January 6, 2015, as follows: at the University of Florida, Marshall M. Criser, III and Carolyn K. Roberts; at Florida State University, Mark Hillis and Margaret A. Rolando; at Florida A & M University, Marjorie R. Turnbull; at the University of South Florida, Brian D. Lamb and Harold W. Mullis, Jr.; at Florida Atlantic University, Anthony K. Barbar and David S. Feder; at the University of West Florida, Stephen C. Riggs and Bentina C. Terry; at the University of Central Florida, Raymond Gilley and Daniel A. Webster; at Florida International University, Michael M. Adler and Joseph L. Caruncho; at the University of North Florida, A. Hugh Greene and Oscar Munoz; at Florida Gulf Coast University, Ann H. Hamilton and Robbie B. Roepstorff; and at New College of Florida, William R. Johnston and Felice C. Schulaner. Mr. Dasburg seconded the motion.

Mr. Barnes thanked the members of the Committee for their work. He said this early approval would give the universities the time to prepare their trustees for Board service.

Ms. McDevitt noted that this was the first time the Board had made appointments on this large scale. She commented that the Governor also had 22 university board appointments for terms ending January 6, 2010. She said she had forwarded to the Governor the names of the outstanding applicants who had not been recommended for appointment, as they were also well qualified for these positions.

Mr. Stavros thanked Dr. Zachariah for his leadership of this trustee nominating process. He said the Committee work had brought strong new members to the university boards of trustees. He said he continued to be proud of the work of this Board.

There were no additional comments, and members of the Board concurred unanimously in the appointment of the university trustees, as presented.

Chancellor Brogan also thanked Dr. Zachariah for his leadership. He thanked Ms. Bestebreurtje for her staff work and Ms. Shirley for her legal advice to the Committee. He said the Committee had developed a high quality process which would serve as the template for future appointments by this Board. He said the applicants had been kept informed throughout the selection process. He said he would be developing an orientation for these new trustees. He said he continued to work with the Governor's Office and had forwarded the applications of the outstanding applicants not chosen by this Board. He said these individuals had given thoughtful interviews with Committee members.

Dr. Marshall noted that there had been approximately 100 applicants for the FSU positions. He said this imposed a considerable job on the Committee members assigned to review these applications. He said the Alumni Association had issued an open invitation to apply for the trustee positions, and he wondered whether there should have been a more selective invitation. Ms. McDevitt acknowledged that it had been a challenge to review all the applications, but she applauded all the applicants for the time spent preparing their applications.

Mr. Tripp said he had a different approach. He said he encouraged a greater applicant pool. He said he was opposed to some pre-determined selective mechanism, noting that there might be excellent candidates who were not already connected with the institutions.

Dr. Solano suggested that there were processes in place at the universities. She noted that applications for various positions were encouraged, but that each college did a pre-screen of the applicants. She said the Board might ask the universities to pre-screen the applicants and provide a smaller pool of potential applicants for these trustee positions. Ms. McDevitt said the applicants had applied for positions to be appointed by this Board. She said the Board members owed it to the governance structure to perform this responsibility. She said she felt these appointments extended beyond the interests of the universities.

Mr. Tripp said he felt the Committee had functioned well. He said the applications had been fully reviewed. The process was in place and members of the Board had exercised their responsibilities in screening the applicants. He said he did not favor a pre-screening process.

Mrs. Roberts said that reviewing the applications had been an enjoyable exercise. She said she had interviewed individuals with much to offer. She said it had taken time to read all the applications, but that service on this Board was a commitment of time.

She said she was not offended by the large number of applications, nor by the time required to conduct personal interviews. She said she appreciated that so many were interested in applying for these positions.

Mr. Tripp inquired whether Chancellor Brogan had any sense when the Governor might appoint the successor to Lynn Pappas' seat. Chancellor Brogan said he was in constant contact with the Governor's Office, but that he could not answer the question.

3. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chancellor Brogan reminded the Board members of the joint workshop of this Board and the State Board of Education, hosted by the Council of 100, to be held November 12, 2009, at the Scripps Research Institute. He said the intent was to have a meaningful dialogue by those with responsibilities for different delivery systems on the creation of an environment that would foster Florida's knowledge-based economy.

Having no further business, the Chair adjourned the conference call meeting of the Board of Governors at 1:35 p.m., October 22, 2009.

Sheila M. McDevitt,
Chair

Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,
Corporate Secretary