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BOARD OF GOVERNORS
BALLROOM, STUDENT UNION
TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 19, 2015

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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Chair Mori Hosseini convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m., on February 19, 2015, with the following members present and answering roll call: Vice Chair Tom Kuntz; Dick Beard; Dean Colson; Dan Doyle, Jr.; H. Wayne Huizenga, Jr.; Alan Levine; Wendy Link; Ed Morton; Dr. Katherine Robinson; and Norman Tripp. Stefano Cavallaro joined the meeting at 9:17 a.m., and Patricia Frost; Ned C. Lautenbach; and Elizabeth Webster participated by phone.

Chair Hosseini thanked President Murdaugh and his staff for hosting the meeting, recognizing the tremendous impact of the 2+2 plan on keeping a postsecondary education accessible and affordable for students and their families. He commended the President for his commitment to that plan and for being such a good partner with the State University System institutions. President Murdaugh welcomed the Board, saying it was an honor to host the Board and for their students to have the opportunity to see the great work the Board does on behalf of all Floridians.

2. Public Comment regarding Construction Projects

Chair Hosseini asked the Board's General Counsel Vikki Shirley if there were any requests for public comment for items on the Board's agenda. Ms. Shirley stated no requests for public comment were received.

3. A Resolution of the Board of Governors Approving Florida International University to Enter into a Sublease for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Student Housing on the Biscayne Bay Campus of FIU

Mr. Kinsley provided an overview of the transaction, explaining that FIU will enter into a 40-year ground lease agreement with a private developer who will be responsible for the debt on the project. The term of the debt is 34 years and features an ascending debt structure for the first five years. This item was deferred at the last meeting to address

concerns raised by the Board. FIU has since provided a letter reflecting a reduced forecast for rental rates. Specifically, the projected rental rate for 62% of the beds has decreased from \$12,487 per bed to \$11,608 per bed since the last meeting. This rate covers three semesters and is only 1.5% higher than the projected rental rates anticipated for comparable housing (4 bed/2 bath) on FIU's main campus. The projected rental rate for the remaining 38% of the beds is approximately 4% higher than the anticipated rates charged for comparable main campus housing (2 bed/2 bath). Because this is a stand-alone project and not part of FIU's housing system, the project will be required to cover all of its costs.

FIU provided information demonstrating how the longer term of the debt makes the project more affordable to students, even though it is not in compliance with the 30-year debt term recommended in the Debt Management Guidelines and will add approximately \$4 million to the cost of the project. Mr. Kinsley said Board staff is recommending approval of the project because there is no other housing at the Biscayne Bay campus and the project provides a reasonable option for students.

Dr. Ken Jessell, FIU's Chief Financial Officer, explained the significance of the project and why FIU selected a P3 method. He also reviewed the procurement process, the scope of the project and terms of the agreement, and steps FIU has taken to minimize the project construction and operating risks.

Chair Hosseini asked Mr. Ben Watkins, the Director of the State Division of Bond Finance, to share his views on the transaction. Mr. Watkins said he didn't come with any specific recommendation but was there to provide information to the Board. Mr. Watkins explained this transaction has attributes he normally doesn't see such as the length of the debt term and the ascending debt structure. He also said because this is a stand-alone project and will not be part of the FIU housing system, the project won't have the same credit strength and will cost more per bed than any other project they have reviewed.

Members raised questions about the 34-year debt term and whether this would open the door to requests to approve longer terms. Dr. Jessell explained FIU wanted to keep the rental rates as low as possible for students and that in the private sector, permanent financing following construction is often for a 30-year term. Members asked about the advisory committee that is responsible for reviewing rental rates. Dr. Jessell responded FIU has both membership on the advisory committee and veto power. He assured members that as occupancy increases, the rental rates should not increase and FIU has a good track record in keeping increases to a minimum.

Members inquired about the cost of the project and the cost of the financing if the university had used a traditional method of financing. Dr. Jessell explained in terms of a risk assessment, this model is a lower cost option for several reasons. First, the cost of

construction in Miami has greatly increased since the construction of FIU's last housing project. Second, the private operator FIU selected has vast experience in managing university housing projects and keeping costs down. Further, because the project is 30 miles away from the main campus, it would not be cost-efficient for the FIU housing system to manage the project. Finally, FIU is not assuming the risk for the debt; rather the developer is solely responsible for repayment of the debt.

Following additional comments by members about FIU's need for housing on the campus, Mr. Kuntz moved that the Board approve a Resolution of the Board of Governors Approving Florida International University to enter into a sublease for the construction, operation and maintenance of student housing on the Biscayne Bay Campus of FIU. Ms. Frost seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously. Chair Hosseini reiterated the need for the Board to adopt guidelines for the review of P3 transactions before any additional P3 transactions are brought to the Board for consideration.

4. Visit from the Honorable Andy Gardiner, President of the Florida Senate

Chair Hosseini welcomed the Honorable Senate President Andy Gardiner and thanked him for his tremendous support for higher education and the Senate's support for the Board's performance funding model and the accountability measures the Board has established. President Gardiner thanked Chair Hosseini, stating he is not here just as a member of the Florida Senate, but as a life-long resident of Orlando. President Gardiner described the UCF Downtown Project as a game changer for Orlando, which he expects will do more for the economic development of the state than any other initiatives undertaken in the last ten years. The project is part of a larger vision connected to pending legislation that will allow individuals with unique abilities the option to attend a college or university as residential students. The project will also change the Parramore area by establishing a new pre-kindergarten to eighth grade school through partnerships with Valencia College and Sunrail. President Gardiner asked for the Board's support in planning the project to ensure that the project is done right.

Governor Huizenga expressed his support for the project, but sought assurance that if the planning study indicates the project is not feasible, that the viability of the project will be reassessed. President Gardiner stated he believes the project will work in light of the needs of the community and the strong support for the project. However, he gave his assurance that if there are concerns with the project, they will be addressed. President Gardiner thanked the Board for its leadership on performance funding and close partnership with the Legislature.

5. Adding Project Funding to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay
Legislative Budget Request

Chair Hosseini moved to the next item on the agenda, which is an amendment to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. In January, the Board requested additional information on two projects for UCF and USF. The requests before the Board relate to seeking funding for those projects, with the understanding that both projects are subject to the Board's requirements for approving new campuses as new educational sites.

A. UCF Downtown Project

Mr. Kinsley explained UCF is requesting \$5,775,000 to be added to the Board's approved 2015-2016 Legislative Budget Request, with the expectation that the project will be funded with non-PECO revenues. The funding request encompasses two buildings: Building A which will house the core administrative functions of UCF and Valencia College, and Building B which will house the educational programs. The requested funds are 10 percent of the project cost for Building A and will cover the cost to begin design and site work.

Chair Hosseini called on President Hitt who introduced Mayor Buddy Dyer, President Sandy Shugart, Dr. Barbara Jenkins, Daryl Holt, Jacob Stuart, and UCF Trustees Olga Calvet, Richard Crotty, and Weston Bayes. President Hitt described the process by which UCF arrived at the decision to request funding to plan for a new campus in downtown Orlando, starting with visits he made to the Arizona State University campus in downtown Phoenix with Mayor Dyer. President Hitt noted that, as with the Rosen School of Hospitality and UCF's College of Medicine, location plays an important role in the impact of the academic programs and the success of graduates in finding employment. To take advantage of the 70 high tech firms operating in downtown Orlando and the 1200 digital and media tech firms serving the region, UCF will focus on programs in digital media, the arts and communication for the new location.

UCF's provost, Dr. Dale Whitaker explained this is a multi-year project. Phases I and II will focus on programs in interactive entertainment, digital media, emerging media, advertising, communication, journalism, art, film and radio/television. UCF will initially relocate existing students enrolled in these programs on the main campus to the new site and anticipates that enrollment will increase at the rate of two percent per year in line with the system average. Dr. Whitaker noted workforce data shows a seven percent increase in jobs in fields related to the program array in Phases I and II. For Phases III through V, UCF plans to offer programs in health and public affairs that will benefit from the proximity to relevant downtown employers. UCF does not plan to

duplicate administrative and student services, but instead will offer a one-stop “shop” at the new campus for students. UCF will also charge the same tuition and fees to students at the new campus as that charged to students on the main campus.

Mr. Daryl Holt, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Electronic Arts Orlando, expressed his support for the program. He explained the video game industry has grown into a \$70 billion industry on an annual basis. UCF’s Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy (FIEA) was created ten years ago at the urging of EA Orlando in response to a business need for graduates in this field and this need has continued to evolve and grow. Currently, one of every seven members of the EA Tiburon studio is a FIEA graduate and last year 71% of new graduates at EA Tiburon came from FIEA. EA Orlando strongly supports UCF’s proposal, noting Orlando is emerging as a top 10 media and digital cluster with the epicenter of the cluster located downtown.

Dr. Sandy Shugart, President of Valencia College, explained Valencia’s contribution to the project. Valencia will use its strong 2+2 relationship with UCF to serve as the “front door” for students to transition into the programs at UCF. Valencia will also provide most of the lower division coursework. Valencia plans to relocate its own workforce-oriented programs to the new site, such as the Walt Disney World Center of Hospitality and Culinary Arts and its substantial computer graphics technology program. Finally, Valencia will offer certificate programs to persons who may never attend a university but need additional training for their employment.

Dr. Whitaker next explained the academic and economic returns on investment of the project. UCF projects increases in several of the academic performance metrics in the Board’s performance funding model, such as a five to seven percent increase in the number of undergraduates employed full-time or continuing their education, and a three to five percent increase in their FTIC six-year graduation rate. UCF projects an economic impact to the region of \$400 million with 4000 associated jobs and \$180 million in associated wages. According to Dr. Whitaker, taxpayers will yield \$5 for every \$1 of state investment in this project.

Mayor Buddy Dyer thanked the Board and emphasized the value the City of Orlando places on its collaborative partnership with UCF and ability of this project to connect students with career opportunities at downtown companies. He stated Orlando is ranked number one by Forbes Magazine for job growth in the United States and is the 13th fastest growing city in the nation. Downtown, one of every three jobs is in technology or government and the City is committed to further diversifying its economy. The City of Orlando approved a resolution in support of this project, which he will provide to us for the record.

Dr. Barbara Jenkins, the Orange County Superintendent of Schools, next spoke. Dr. Jenkins discussed the positive educational and economic impact to the Parramore area

due to the creation of a new pre-kindergarten through eighth grade school and their partnerships with UCF, Valencia, the Boys and Girls Club, and the City. The Rosen College of Hospitality will cover the cost of the preschool program at the new school and also offer full scholarships to students of the school who graduate from high school. The Boys and Girls Club will be co-located on site and will provide a \$4 million capital investment and UCF and Valencia will provide tutors, mentors and interns who will help these students succeed.

Dr. Hitt closed UCF's presentation by asking for the Board's support, emphasizing that the proposal is a model for education in the 21st century. By leveraging the proximity of students to industry, they are better prepared for jobs and UCF has proven success with location-based education, citing the example of the Rosen College of Hospitality.

Chair Hosseini thanked UCF for their presentation and said return on investment for the taxpayers and students is an area of emphasis as we move through this process. Governor Huizenga asked Mr. Kinsley for clarification on the funds appropriated to UCF in 2014. Mr. Kinsley explained UCF received \$2 million in recurring funds in its base budget for 2014-2015. To date, approximately \$1 million has been spent on planning for the project, which leaves \$1 million available from funds appropriated for this fiscal year and \$2 million in funds that will be appropriated as part of UCF's recurring base budget for fiscal year 2015-2016, for a total of \$3 million. Chair Hosseini inquired if that \$3 million could be used to fund part of UCF's \$5.775 million request for planning funds. Mr. Kinsley responded that it could with appropriate legislative authorization.

Mr. Kuntz sought clarification of the request before the Board. Specifically, whether the Board was being asked to approve a new campus or whether the Board was being asked to approve funding for the design of a new building that would be constructed downtown. Mr. Kinsley explained the request before the Board is for planning funds, and not for the approval of a new educational site. Chancellor Criser confirmed UCF will have to follow the Board's educational sites process in order to gain Board approval of a new campus, and that any funding decision made today will not be binding on a subsequent request for approval of a new campus.

Members asked about the projected \$45 million in projected philanthropic contributions, particularly whether those funds would be in addition to contributions sought for the main campus. Questions were also raised about the \$22.5 million value being placed on the land the City of Orlando currently leases to UCF for \$1.00 per year, which is subject to a reverter clause. President Hitt assured members the \$45 million in philanthropic contributions will be solely related to the downtown campus. While President Hitt acknowledged the logic for valuing the City's contribution at \$1.00 per year based on UCF's lease, he said the City stepped up when UCF needed the help and contributed \$4 million in renovation costs to the existing building. Chair Hosseini

remarked that they need to look at the lease and the reverter clause. He emphasized the need for a clean title from the City when UCF returns for approval of the campus as a new educational site.

Members also asked about UCF's plan for student housing and parking on the site; specifically whether that had been taken into account and, if so, how it would be funded. UCF responded they intend to build student housing and parking on the land being donated by the City and their preference would be to use traditional bond financing and incorporate the residence hall and parking garage into UCF's existing housing and parking systems. Chair Hosseini asked UCF to address their housing and parking needs during the educational site approval process.

After additional discussion relating to the possible funding sources, Mr. Kuntz moved that the Board add the UCF Downtown Project to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request in the amount of \$2,775,000 and request legislative authorization for UCF to use up to \$3,000,000 from the recurring operating appropriation for a total of \$5,775,000 (\$1,000,000 from 2014-15 funds and \$2,000,000 from 2015-16 funds). Mr. Tripp seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

B. USF Health College of Medicine Project

Chair Hosseini called on Mr. Kinsley to provide a brief overview. Mr. Kinsley explained USF is requesting \$17 million to be added to the Morsani College of Medicine Project, with the intent to combine this amount with prior appropriations for the USF Heart Health project and the College of Medicine, resulting in one shared facility for both programs. Mr. Kinsley then turned to Mr. Hal Mullis, the USF Board of Trustees Chair, for USF's presentation on the project.

Mr. Mullis thanked the Board for the opportunity to present additional information on the project. He commented on the strong local support and enthusiastic student support for relocating the project to downtown Tampa. He introduced Vice Chair Brian Lamb, former Chair John Ramil, and Trustee Nancy Watkins who were seated at the presentation table with him and turned the presentation over to Mr. Lamb.

Mr. Lamb thanked the Board for the opportunity to have this dialogue. He briefly described the process that led up to this point and the strategy behind relocating the College of Medicine downtown. The College of Medicine occupies a 40-year old 192,000 square foot facility on the main campus. The new project will consist of a state-of-the-art 319,000 square foot facility located in close proximity to Tampa General Hospital. He noted there is a strong correlation between the proximity of a medical school to its teaching hospital in terms of national ranking for research. USF currently

ranks 63rd in National Institute of Health (NIH) funding among medical schools and its goal is to move into the top quartile. The condition of the current facility and its distance from Tampa General presents challenges to recruitment of faculty and students and places USF at a competitive disadvantage.

USF's medical school is the only school in the top 100 that is located more than 25 minutes away from its teaching hospital, and out of 138 medical schools receiving NIH funding, USF is the furthest from its teaching hospital. The majority of inter-professional student interaction occurs in clinical settings located primarily at Tampa General.

Mr. Lamb next addressed student success and faculty, student, and community support for the project. He noted USF's medical school tuition has remained flat, while other medical schools have increased tuition and fees by 20%. He stated USF will not increase the tuition and fees at the medical school, in line with keeping its tuition competitive. As to parking and housing, he said there are 1000 new parking spaces associated with USF's partnership with other entities in the downtown development and that 100 spaces will be dedicated to faculty on site. Approximately 40% of the current students in the medical school live within close proximity to Tampa General and there is capacity for additional housing in the three to five mile radius of the site. He described student and faculty support for the project as unanimous and indicated the project enjoys strong community support from organizations within the Tampa Bay Region as well as the City and Tampa General.

Mr. Lamb discussed the advantages of being located downtown. Specifically, the advantages associated with proximity to the USF Health Tampa Bay Research and Innovation Center at CAMLS in collaborative research and research funding. He noted the productivity of faculty has increased over the last three years and expects the downtown location to accelerate the program growth to reach \$28 million in additional NIH funding for the Heart Health Institute in five years, as opposed to 12-15 years if the school remained on the main campus.

Turning to the facility, Mr. Lamb said the 319,000 square foot facility will cost \$152 million. He thanked the developer, Jeff Vinik, the City and the County for the \$30 to \$40 million improvements they will fund, which adds value to the project. To complete the project, USF will need to raise \$22.6 million from private donors. Mr. Lamb described the success of USF's "Unstoppable" fund raising campaign and recent donations made in the last two years for facilities. Private philanthropy will account for 27% of the total project cost.

Dr. Charles Lockwood, the Dean of the College of Medicine, spoke to the return on investment. He described the downtown location as being fundamental to moving the medical school from 63rd in NIH funding to the top quartile. He estimated the projected

\$28 million in increased research funding for the Heart Health Institute will have a multiplier effect of \$73 million for the local economy, especially with the additional office space for new biomedical companies. Co-locating the Heart Health Institute next to Tampa General is crucial to the success of this strategy in terms of research funding and student access to research, particularly in cardiology. Tampa General has the third largest heart transplant service in the country.

From an academic standpoint, USF looks to increase the average MCAT score of its students so it can move up into the top quartile. They also seek to increase their students' board scores to exceed 235, which is critical to student placement in residencies. In addition, USF hopes to increase the overall satisfaction ranking by the Association of American Medical Colleges from 83.8% to 90%. With regard to student indebtedness, USF wants to decrease the percentage of students with debt down to 20%; currently just below 50% of their students graduate with debt. Dr. Lockwood also briefly described USF's goals for increasing the ranking of the medical school on several quality indicators, including the overall ranking of the school with *U.S. News and World Report*.

Mr. Lamb concluded the presentation by explaining that while USF's current funding request for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$17 million, they will be seeking an additional \$40 million in state funds divided between fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. He thanked the Board, the Governor, and the Legislature for their prior support for the \$5 million that USF received last year, and asked for the Board's continuing support for the project.

Chair Hosseini thanked Mr. Lamb and Mr. Mullis for their level of engagement, effort and good work on the project. Mr. Colson moved that the Board add the USF College of Medicine Project to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request and Mr. Tripp seconded the motion. Governor Levine commended USF on their thoughtful presentation and strategy, but reminded members there will be additional funding requests in the future for the pharmacy school and to renovate the existing College of Medicine facility on main campus. Chair Hosseini then called for a vote and the members concurred unanimously.

C. UF Norman Hall Remodel

Mr. Kinsley provided an overview of the University of Florida's request to reinstate the renovation of Norman Hall to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. The project had been on the list as a UF priority but was removed after the university requested to add a new boiler. Norman Hall is listed on the National Historic Register and provides classroom and office space for the College of Education. The building was constructed in 1932 and while improvements have been made over

time, the building has significant mechanical and structural needs. The building also lacks a multi-functional meeting/conference space. Mr. Kinsley next discussed the return on investment. The College of Education is currently ranked first among public universities in the Southeastern Conference and 21st among public universities nationally. The college has \$74.4 million in externally-funded research projects. The renovation will assist the college with improving its national ranking and boost the capacity for research funding and training.

Mr. Levine moved to add the UF Norman Hall Renovation Project to the 2015-2016 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. Mr. Morton seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

6. Public Comment regarding FAMU-FSU Joint College of Engineering

Chair Hosseini asked the Board's General Counsel Vikki Shirley if there were any requests for public comment relating to the agenda item for the FAMU-FSU Joint College of Engineering. Ms. Shirley said one request for public comment was received from Mr. William P. Tucker. Mr. Tucker was invited to address the Board, stating he is the co-chair for the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University National Alumni Association Governmental Affairs Committee and a retired professor from FAMU. He indicated the FAMU National Alumni Association is in favor of the proposal to keep the Joint College intact. The Association also agrees that whatever management issues exist should be worked out and their only recommendation is for the governance council to be augmented by a representative from each of the national alumni associations for FAMU and FSU. Mr. Tucker said the Association would be happy to assist with those appointments. Chair Hosseini thanked Mr. Tucker for his comments.

7. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University – Florida State University Joint College of Engineering Study

Chair Hosseini explained that last session, the Legislature asked the Board to engage an independent consultant to study the pros and cons of maintaining the status quo collaboration between the two universities for the FAMU-FSU Joint College of Engineering or developing differentiated engineering programs at each university. The study was to include a cost-benefit analysis of each option analyzed in the context of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the case of United States versus Fordice. The Board engaged Collaborative Brain Trust University Consultant to conduct the study. After extensive fact gathering and analyses, Dr. James Bean, Dr. Robert Dixon, and their team at CBT produced a final report analyzing the pros and cons of each approach.

After receipt of the report, Chair Hosseini and Chancellor Criser had a series of discussions with President Mangum and President Thrasher about how to address the issues identified in the report. Those discussions resulted in a set of guiding principles and a plan of action for moving forward as a Joint College. Chair Hosseini called on Dr. Bean and Dr. Dixon to provide an overview of their work and the final report.

On behalf of CBT, Dr. Bean thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in the discussions regarding the future of the Joint College. He described his and Dr. Dixon's credentials and experience and introduced Bob Smith, the Vice President of CBT. Dr. Bean said they were very impressed with the dedication and commitment of the faculty, staff and students at the Joint College and its special mission. However, during the course of the study, they found that productivity at the Joint College lags far behind that of the engineering colleges at UF, UCF, and USF. Dr. Bean noted that during the course of the interviews with faculty, staff and students at the Joint College, one statement with which everyone could agree was that the Joint College was not achieving its potential.

He stated both presidents made strong cases for their approaches. FSU aspires to become a top 25 public university and a member of the AAU and believes a more productive college of engineering would enhance their output profile consistent with an invitation to the AAU. FAMU, as a historically black land grant university, requires that engineering be an integral part of its curriculum and believes the Joint College enhances the university's research profile and maintains access to lucrative careers for students lacking the advantage of elite preparation.

Dr. Bean explained the final report lays out a number of realities and boundaries that must be addressed and that are important to the future development of the Joint College. A first priority is to charge a strategic planning group with reviewing the mission of the Joint College and augment the mission statement to reflect the goals and aspirations of each university for the college for the next five years. This group should develop a small set of rallying goals that includes the development of an identity for the Joint College. Certain questions need to be answered such as whether the goal of the Joint College is to move into the top 25 of public engineering programs. If so, everyone needs to understand what is required to achieve that goal, including the cost. If the goal is to increase the production of women and minority graduates or compete nationally or internationally, those requirements and costs need to be explored as well. Second, the Joint College needs to focus on student success and faculty productivity. This must be a prime focus going forward because both were relegated under the 1982 management agreement. Finally, both parent institutions need to view the new collaboration as creating a college that is larger than the sum of its parts, and will allow both parent institutions to commit to resolving complications as they arise.

Dr. Dixon began by noting women have achieved parity with men in the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded in the biological sciences and chemistry, but that is not the case with degrees in physics and engineering. Given this, the reasons for establishing the Joint College in 1982 are as compelling today as they were then. He indicated parity in participation at the Joint College was almost achieved when there were driving forces at each university committed to advocating for engineering. Going forward, the Joint College must have advocacy representation at each university if it is to achieve its mission and goals.

In addition, both universities must assess whether their students have the requisite preparation in mathematics and natural sciences. There must be a concerted and maintained effort to provide adequate preparation if students are to be successful in the programs. He noted the Joint College has great potential to achieve national and international recognition in education and research and, by the agreement today, is positioned to lead at a new level.

Chancellor Criser commended the students, faculty and administration of the two universities for their efforts in reaching a resolution. He also thanked Presidents Mangum and Thrasher for their leadership and CBT for its work and responsiveness. Chancellor Criser provided an overview of the Commitment to Guiding Principles and Plan of Action for the Joint College. Under the Guiding Principles and Plan, a governance council is being established comprised of the Presidents, Provosts, Vice Presidents of Research, and Chief Financial Officers from each university; the Chancellor; and the Dean of the Joint College and two student representatives, the three of whom will serve in an ex officio capacity.

The governance council will meet quarterly to ensure the success of the Joint College and address the topics described in the Guiding Principles and Plan, for which they will be accountable. They will seek to establish a new budget entity for the Joint College and will present a multi-year plan for the renovation of Buildings A and B, and the construction of Building C. By March 1, 2016, the council will submit a report to the Board of Governors to document the activities of the council and its progress.

Chair Hosseini asked the presidents if they would like to make any comments. President Mangum thanked Chancellor Criser and President Thrasher for the opportunity to work on the guiding principles, stating it is important to FAMU's students for the Joint College to continue. She believes they are taking a new progressive approach and is committed to working to the best advantage of the students, especially in the production of female and minority engineers. President Thrasher likewise thanked the Chancellor and President Mangum. He stated the organizational, transparency, and accountability changes encompassed within the document will make this a successful program for the students and help ensure that the students' aspirations are achieved.

Mr. Kuntz thanked both presidents and the Chancellor, calling this an incredibly positive result. Mr. Morton commended the consultants for the thorough, well-written report and their efforts.

Mr. Cavallaro moved that the Board accept the Florida A&M University - Florida State University Joint College of Engineering Commitment to Guiding Principles and Plan of Action as proposed by FAMU and FSU. Mr. Morton seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

Mr. Colson asked the consultants what we could do as a system to distinguish the State University System in engineering. Dr. Bean remarked this is a common question and identified three key strategies. First, moving up in the rankings is due in part to the increased visibility of the programs. According to Dr. Bean, winning large grants, such as the Magnetic Laboratory, enhances national visibility. Second, having state-of-the-art facilities is critical to enhancing the stature of the engineering programs because a college must have the type of facilities that meet the needs of the engineering faculty. Third, the strategic plan for engineering should be fine-tuned and provide for the universities to adopt a team approach where each university assumes a different role in the delivery of the engineering programs. Dr. Dixon agreed, stating that the Joint College is poised to make a unique contribution to the system in the production of more female and minority engineers.

Mr. Levine commented on the letter the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights sent to the Governor regarding the Joint College. He took issue with any implication that Florida is anything but integrated and said this Board is focused and committed to the diversity of the State University System. He asked for additional information on the agreement that the State is currently subject to with the Office for Civil Rights and whether there had been a response to OCR's letter. Chair Hosseini asked Ms. Shirley to provide him with that information.

8. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Hosseini asked the Chancellor and the Facilities Committee to look at creating a template by which new facility funding requests could be measured from the standpoint of return on investment. The Chancellor and Mr. Huizenga agreed to develop a template.

Chair Hosseini reported that the next full meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 18-19, 2015, at Florida A&M University.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m. on February 19, 2015.

Mori Hosseini, Chair

Vikki Shirley,
Corporate Secretary