

INDEX OF MINUTES
 STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
 BOARD OF GOVERNORS
 UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
 ORLANDO, FLORIDA
 June 30, 2022

*Video or audio archives of the meetings of the Board of Governors
 and its Committees are accessible at <http://www.flbog.edu/>.*

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MINUTES
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1. Call to Order

On June 30, 2022, Chair Brian Lamb convened the meeting at 10:58 a.m. with the following members present and answering roll call: Vice Chair Eric Silagy; Tim Cerio; Manny Diaz; Aubrey Edge; Patricia Frost; Nimna Gabadage; Ed Haddock; Ken Jones; Alan Levine; Charles Lydecker; Craig Mateer, and Dr. William Self.

2. Chair's Report to the Board of Governors

Chair Lamb thanked the chairs, presidents, and members for their high level of engagement during the Board meeting. He also thanked President Cartwright and Chair Martins for hosting the meeting.

Chair Lamb acknowledged the past legislative session as a milestone for higher education in the state of Florida. Since the last meeting, Governor DeSantis signed the Freedom First Budget into law, providing \$5.6 billion for state universities. He thanked Governor DeSantis and the Legislature for their support. From that, \$444 million will go to fixed capital maintenance and deferred maintenance. He noted this kind of financial support has not happened in more than a decade. He encouraged universities to go back and revisit their priorities; with over 416 fixed capital projects being identified in the System so far, this is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the return on investment for the state.

Chair Lamb noted the cost to students for an academic degree has continued to decrease significantly while great strides have been made in increasing academic and student success. However, there is still work to do around the operating costs as discussed throughout the meeting, which focused on balancing how to advocate appropriately for the System and encourage state investment in the System, while enhancing operational efficiency. Chair Lamb asked the chairs and presidents to review their operating budgets to make sure they are being disciplined and operating efficiently; this will in turn help when advocating for more state investment from the Governor and Legislature. He stated when the State University System operates with one clear voice, the strategies implemented have been successful. Chair Lamb asked Mr. Cerio to think about a legislative strategy to refine how we best communicate as one System.

Chair Lamb thanked Mr. Levine for leading the discussion around accreditation. He noted much progress has been made over the last 60-90 days around accreditation, but there is more work to do. The Board will meet on August 26th to provide guidance to the universities on the accrediting bodies they may want to consider. Leading up to this meeting, there will be continued dialogue on accreditation and he encouraged faculty, presidents, chairs, and trustees to work with Governor Levine and Board staff to share feedback.

Similarly, there has been much work done around regulations. Currently, there are 24 regulations that are either being eliminated or revised according to feedback received from the

universities. Nineteen regulations are still under review with an eye toward reducing redundancy and inefficiency and further empowering the boards of trustees.

Over the past few months, Chair Lamb has been meeting with a few university boards of trustees to talk with them. He particularly thanked the University of Florida for inviting him to meet with their Board and said they had a great discussion. He then extended the invitation to all universities for more engagement between boards and the Board of Governors. UF Board of Trustees Vice Chair Tom Kuntz said the feedback from their trustees was very positive and it was a valuable experience. Mr. Kuntz encouraged the other universities to take Chair Lamb up on his offer.

Chair Lamb stated tenure is still a priority and under review by the Board. He applauded the tremendous amount of feedback coming from the provosts and faculty. He thanked Dr. Self for being a vocal, thoughtful, and balanced leader to help the Board ensure they get this right. Chair Lamb said we are moving with a pace around tenure and will come back at a future meeting with a more substantial update.

In regard to financial outlook, Chair Lamb remarked no one is immune to what is happening in the economy. But despite the economic pressures, the State University System has been able to keep tuition flat and he thanked the universities for being able to continue to hold the line. He acknowledged this will require all universities to be diligent around their own operational efficiencies and noted this should be a regular topic between the boards of trustees and the presidents to determine how efficiencies can be reallocated to invest in institutional priorities.

3. Recognition of Outgoing Governors Nastassia Janvier and Dr. Bill Self

Chair Lamb recognized Ms. Janvier's contributions to the Board of Governors during her service as the student representative of the Board. He commended Ms. Janvier for her outstanding leadership in representing the students across the System and her active participation on their behalf as a board member. Chair Lamb then recognized Dr. Self for being the voice for all faculty across the System during his service on the board and thanked him for his leadership.

Ms. Shirley read the resolutions honoring Ms. Janvier and Dr. Self for their dedication and service to the Board and the State University System.

Mr. Lydecker moved the adoption of the resolutions honoring Ms. Nastassia Janvier and Dr. William Self. Mr. Silagy seconded the motion and the members concurred unanimously.

4. Public Comment

There were no requests for public comment.

5. Public Notice of Intent to Adopt New Board of Governors Regulation 10.005, Prohibition of Discrimination in University Training or Instruction

Chair Lamb called on Ms. Vikki Shirley, the Board's General Counsel, to present the new regulation. Ms. Shirley explained the Florida Educational Equity Act was amended during the 2022 legislative session to include certain enumerated concepts that constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex if the concepts are presented in university training or instruction in such a manner that would cause a person to believe the university is endorsing the concepts. In addition, section 1001.92, Florida Statutes, was amended to render

a university ineligible for performance-based funding in the event the Board of Governors, a court of law, or a standing committee of the legislature determines that a university committed a substantial violation of the new provisions in the Florida Educational Equity Act.

To implement the new requirements, Ms. Shirley said she worked with the university general counsels to develop a framework for addressing complaints arising out of alleged violations of the new provisions both at the university and Board of Governors' levels. The framework aligns with the processes in place for addressing similar complaints that arise at universities and strikes the right balance given the State University System's governance structure.

She also reminded members about the challenge to the constitutionality of the new legislation in the matter of *Falls v. DeSantis*. The district court and the plaintiffs in that matter have suggested that the proposed regulation is relevant to the plaintiffs' standing to bring their challenge and late the day before, the court ordered the Board to file a supplemental brief by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 1, 2022, setting out what action, if any, the Board takes on the proposed regulation. Ms. Shirley advised the Board that its outside counsel will be prepared to file a report with the court as instructed. She further advised the regulation will be noticed for public comment for thirty days and will be brought back to the Board for final adoption on August 26.

Mr. Cerio moved to approve the Public Notice of Intent to Adopt New Board of Governors Regulation 10.005, Prohibition of Discrimination in University Training or Instruction. Mr. Mateer seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

6. Chair's Report to the Board of Governors (continued).

Chair Lamb thanked UCF Board of Trustees Chair Martins and President Cartwright for hosting the meeting. Chair Martins welcomed all attendees on behalf of the 70,000 students and 12,000 faculty and staff at the University of Central Florida and thanked his fellow UCF trustees for attending the meeting over the last two days. The trustees have been fully engaged with President Cartwright to build a strong foundation to propel UCF's future. This includes a commitment to being more efficient and effective, modernizing business practices and enterprise systems, and leveraging data analytics to better inform business operations and student success initiatives.

Chair Martins said UCF recently completed a strategic planning effort that engaged the students, faculty, staff, industry leaders, and community partners to outline a vision for UCF to become a top 50 university in the next 5 years.

President Cartwright welcomed the Board to UCF. He remarked on how far UCF has come in the last 59 years. UCF is ranked in the top 25 in Student Outcomes among public national universities according to *U.S. News & World Report*. UCF is also among the top 15 most innovative schools in the country and among the top 10 public universities for National Merit Scholar enrollment. President Cartwright stated that UCF is looking forward to sharing the detailed 5-year strategic plan for UCF to become a top 50 public university and preeminent university within the next 5 years and a top 25 public research university by 2033. President Cartwright then introduced a video highlighting student success at UCF.

President Cartwright next introduced Mr. Henry Bell, a graduate student in UCF's Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy. Mr. Bell shared his experiences in becoming a part of

UCF's Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy and the excellent employment opportunities that exist for graduates coming out of the Academy. President Cartwright thanked the Board for their ongoing support of UCF and higher education across Florida.

Chair Lamb called on Ms. Janvier for her comments. Ms. Janvier thanked the Board, along with the Florida Student Association, for entrusting her with the opportunity to advocate on behalf of students across the State University System. She thanked Florida State University for the tremendous educational and experiential opportunities and President McCullough for his friendship. She announced she will be attending law school on a full scholarship awarded by the NAACP. She concluded by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve her fellow students.

Chair Lamb then called on Dr. Self for remarks. Dr. Self recounted his journey prior to and during his time as a part of the Advisory Council of the Faculty Senate. Recognizing the efforts of faculty members who served before him, he was humbled to have served as the faculty representative and contributed to this effort. He emphasized that the faculty voice is critical and there needs to be a continued effort to engage and advocate for faculty and faculty excellence. He thanked the Board and the Board staff for the opportunity to serve.

Chair Lamb next called on Florida Atlantic University President, John Kelly, and Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees Chair Brad Levine for remarks regarding President Kelly's recent announcement to step down as president of the university. Chair Levine expressed gratitude for the ongoing support enjoyed by FAU and noted when President Kelly joined FAU, the university was not ranked and now it is. Graduation rates have risen tremendously, and research and philanthropy dollars have grown. He said the university could not be prouder of President Kelly's leadership and the advances made at FAU.

President Kelly thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve. He said hearing students speak during the UCF presentation was a reminder of the voices of all students across the System. State universities provide a gateway to education that will forever change the trajectory of these students. It has been a great journey at FAU and he hopes to continue to be of service throughout the remainder of his career.

7. Confirmation of Appointment of the President for the University of North Florida

Chair Lamb called on Mr. Kevin Hyde, University of North Florida Board of Trustees Chair, to present Dr. Moez Limayem for confirmation. Chair Hyde stated UNF was the first university to conduct a presidential search with the new confidentiality law in place, which served to attract more applicants. He commended Dr. Pam Chally who served extraordinarily well as Interim President and thanked her for the work that she has done.

Chair Hyde described the search process used to select UNF's next president, which attracted applicants from all over the country. They received extensive input from over 2,000 people in the campus community and the importance of UNF to the community was integral to the search process. He thanked Governors Self, Edge, and Stermon for their assistance with the search.

Chair Hyde stated that out of 100 applicants, 4 finalists were presented to the UNF Board of Trustees for interviews. The UNF Board of Trustees unanimously selected Dr. Limayem, who was the current dean of the USF College of Business. Chair Hyde reflected on Dr. Limayem's influence in the Tampa Bay community and said UNF needed a leader like him to carry the institution forward. He emphasized the work Dr. Limayem has done in the Tampa Bay community, including being named in the Tampa Business Journal Power 100 the previous year. During the interview

process, Dr. Limayem brought a sense of enthusiasm, passion, and energy that could be translated to the university. Chair Hyde was honored to present Dr. Limayem for confirmation by the Board as the university's next president.

Chair Lamb called on Mr. Edge who served as the Board's representative to the UNF Presidential Search Committee. Mr. Edge thanked Chair Hyde for his leadership during the search process, along with the UNF Board of Trustees. Mr. Edge remarked that the Committee was committed to not settling. He described Dr. Limayem as hitting all of the marks and as someone who will become a great leader in North Florida. Mr. Edge said he was honored and proud to be a part of the Search Committee and he is pleased with the candidate selected.

Mr. Cerio asked Dr. Limayem if he was familiar with the State University System Statement on Free Expression. Dr. Limayem responded affirmatively and said universities are places where faculty, students, and staff are exposed to different ideas, even those they might not agree on, and learn how to have discussions in a civil way. Dr. Limayem recounted his childhood when some of his family were imprisoned for not agreeing and speaking their own minds. He commended President Chally and past administrations at UNF for instilling free speech and civil discourse in the culture of UNF. He noted the UNF Board of Trustees created their own statement of free expression that will be endorsed in September by the board, the faculty senate, and the UNF student government association.

Chair Lamb said he has known Dr. Limayem for over a decade. He asked Dr. Limayem about student success and how moving into a presidential role may impact his thinking and priorities around student success. Dr. Limayem reflected on his upbringing in Tunisia and how his father's experience as an elementary school principal demonstrated the importance of and commitment to improving student success – one student at a time. Student success became a family affair and as in his father's time, it is still one student at a time. Dr. Limayem stated UNF will invest in the necessary infrastructure so it can become a model of student success for the System.

Mr. Edge moved to confirm the appointment of Dr. Moez Limayem as the President of the University of North Florida. Mr. Silagy seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

Chair Lamb congratulated Dr. Limayem on his appointment and welcomed him as the new President of UNF.

8. Presidential Search Update

A. Florida Gulf Coast University

Chair Lamb called on Mr. Blake Gable, Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees Chair, to provide an update on the presidential search. Chair Gable stated that the search committee was selected and put together on April 4. AGB was selected as the search firm and they have conducted a number of outreach polls. The portal was open on June 15th to accept applications, and it will close on August 15th. Chair Gable said they hope to present the new president to the Board for confirmation in November.

B. Florida International University

Chair Lamb called on Ms. Frost, the Board's designee for the FIU Presidential Search. Ms. Frost stated that the FIU Search is well underway and FIU is working with R. William Funk &

Associates to conduct the search for its sixth president. She said the Committee unanimously approved a marketing plan on April 25th, 2022, and received feedback from 10 listening sessions. The feedback was used to inform the Presidential Position Criteria and Leadership Statement, which was recommended by the Search Committee on April 25, 2022, and approved by the FIU Board of Trustees on April 26th, 2022.

Ms. Frost said the search process has recently ramped up. Through consensus and dialogue, the Committee, at its June 24, 2022 meeting vetted applicants and selected those which the Committee would like to interview. The interviews are expected to take place in July. R. William Funk & Associates is in the process of vetting the individuals selected.

C. University of Florida

Chair Lamb called on Mr. Lydecker, the Board's designee for the UF Presidential Search. Mr. Lydecker said the search has been led by Mr. Raul Patel. SP&A Executive Search has been selected to serve as the search consultant, and five working groups have been created. Mr. Patel has worked to hold 15 listening sessions to provide forums for students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and the community. The Committee recommended the selection of the compensation firm Mercer to conduct an executive compensation study, which was approved by the UF Board of Trustees at its June 16th meeting. Campus visits are also being planned for potential candidates for the fall semester. He stated that the goal is to bring the Committee to a conclusion in October.

Chair Lamb thanked Mr. Gable, Ms. Frost, and Mr. Lydecker for their reports and their work.

9. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Mateer moved approval of the slate of items on the Consent Agenda as amended to remove Regulations 8.010 and 1.002 from consideration. Mr. Lydecker seconded the motion, and the members concurred unanimously.

10. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Criser said the work that has been done over the last 8 years has been astounding and deeply gratifying. He said that through collaborative efforts, the System has seen an unprecedented achievement in student outcomes. He is proud of the work that has been done, and values the friendships that he hopes are life-long. Throughout his career, he has guided 16 presidential searches and served on two in the System when he was a trustee at the University of Florida. He said it reaffirms the contributions to the System and the state, from the leaders who have moved on and the value created by those who have followed.

Chancellor Criser recounted a comment his father made when accepting a leadership position with many accolades: "it was better to leave too early than too late". Chancellor Criser said he will not be asking the Board to renew his contract after it ends in December. He and his wife, Kimberly, have not chartered their next steps, but it is time to get started. He lauded the universities for doing big things, not only for the state but for the nation. He said it will always be an honor to have been a part of the State University System.

Mr. Levine said he has known Chancellor Criser for some time and reflected on Chancellor Criser's father tenure as president of the University of Florida. When Chancellor Criser was chosen for this position, he couldn't have been more proud of him and for the System for selecting someone of his caliber to lead. Ms. Frost said she served on the Chancellor Search Committee in 2013. Chancellor Criser came with great enthusiasm and experience in business, and it's clear they made the right choice. She thanked him for all his work and wished him well.

Mr. Silagy echoed Mr. Levine's comments and said Chancellor Criser's counsel was always thoughtful and wise. He said he is happy for his next opportunities but sad for the State University System. Mr. Silagy said Chancellor Criser's commitment, impact, passion, and compassion have been amazing and his footprint will be left for decades to come. Chancellor Criser has touched the lives of many and he thanked him for his service.

Mr. Self said in the meetings held with Chancellor Criser and the Advisory Council of the Faculty Senate, he has learned more from him than anyone in the System. Mr. Self said Chancellor Criser always met with and was frank with the Advisory Council, which made them feel supported on the faculty side. Mr. Lydecker said when he was a new Board member, the transition was easy because of the guidance Chancellor Criser was able to provide. He applauded the leadership that Chair Kitson and Chancellor Criser showed during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was strong and unwavering. Mr. Cerio noted that Chancellor Criser made them a better Board by always sharing his expertise and his ability to get things done with dignity. New College of Florida Board of Trustees Chair Mary Ruiz said the trustees have felt very supported by Chancellor Criser through orientations, advice given, and access to staff. She remarked on the great job he has done in making the System one successful team.

Chair Lamb stated he and Chancellor Criser share a business background and great outcomes occurred under his watch. He explained Chancellor Criser will be staying through his contract term and will assist with the transition. During the Chancellor's tenure, historic results have been achieved as evidenced by over \$1 billion in additional operating funds, over \$350 million in additional research expenditures, and substantial gains in retention and graduation rates. In fact, there have been improvements in all of the elements that contribute to the success of our students. Chair Lamb said the key to being a great leader includes driving outcomes, having empathy, and inspiring others to think about the responsibility and impact they have on others. Chair Lamb commended Chancellor Criser for leaving the Board well-positioned as it moves forward, noting he has assembled a great staff. As a friend and a colleague, Chair Lamb said he will miss him and congratulated him on a job well done.

11. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Lamb announced that a Board conference call is scheduled for August 26, 2022, via Zoom. Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m. on June 30, 2022.

Brian Lamb, Chair

Vikki Shirley,
Corporate Secretary