

SUMMARY MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting
FAMU Board of Trustees
Via Telephone Conference Call
April 22, 2009
3:30 p.m.

Chairman C. William Jennings called the meeting to order. Mrs. Fuse-Hall called the roll and the following trustees were present: Chairman Jennings, Vice Chairman R.B. Holmes, Trustee Robert Brown, Trustee Dent, Trustee Solomon Badger, Trustee Daryl Parks, and Trustee Karl White. A quorum of the executive committee was established. Other Trustees present include Trustee Maurice Holder and Trustee Spurgeon McWilliams.

Chairman Jennings recognized President Ammons to present the first item regarding the proposal of a four-day work week for ten weeks during the summer. President Ammons noted that he received numerous requests from faculty and staff regarding this matter. He asked Provost Cynthia Hughes Harris to explore the feasibility of implementing a four-day work week as a cost-saving mechanism as one of various cost reduction options. President Ammons asked Provost Hughes Harris to provide more details.

Provost Hughes Harris noted that a committee of faculty and staff were convened. The committee reviewed other campuses that have implemented or explored the four-day work week. The board members received a copy of the committee report. The Committee supports implementing this idea which means that the administrative offices of the University would be open from Monday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., working 40 hours each week with a half-hour paid lunch. This is a cost-saving measure given the energy saved by the decreased usage of energy within buildings and offices.

The Provost consulted with Ms. Nellie Woodruff, Director of Human Resources, who offered further insights into this idea. Ms. Woodruff also devised the schedule for implementing this process with the least intrusion into the payroll cycles and holiday schedule. As outlined in a matrix of each week, Provost Hughes Harris noted that the process would begin on May 29 and end on August 7. Since July 4th falls on Saturday, ordinarily the holiday would be observed on the previous Friday. With this schedule, the staff will already be off; this holiday would be delayed until August as noted on the schedule.

The Leadership Team reviewed the proposal as well as the faculty on two (2) occasions. This information was presented at a General Faculty meeting on Monday and the Faculty Senate received the information yesterday. If this proposal is approved, the staff will address the exceptions of a few units that will need to operate on a regular schedule. Examples of these situations include where research experiments require it or where animal research is underway. Another component of trying this idea for the summer is as a morale boost for a faculty and staff that have not received by monetary increases in three (3) years.

Trustee Holder moved that the Executive Committee approve the four-day work week. The motion was properly seconded and it carried.

Following the motion, President Ammons mentioned three additional items. First, in regards to the spring commencement, especially for the 9:00 a.m. ceremony with former President William Clinton. After the stage is constructed then additional seats are lost, reducing capacity from 10,000 seats to 7600 seats. Tickets will be issued to ensure that the facility is overcrowded, unsafe and subject to being closed by the fire marshal. Accommodating the graduates is the top priority; therefore, each graduate is allotted ten (10) tickets. There will be in the most preferred areas of the arena. About 2000 tickets will be made available to the public; however, the University will broadcast the ceremony to deter members of the public from coming to campus. Further, the University will webcast and broadcast the ceremony in Gaither Gym for the overflow spectators. Several students and parents have expressed their discontent with this situation; however, after careful and thoughtful consideration, the University will try to accommodate the families and the general public. Former President Clinton is great; but, we might have unintended consequences.

Next, President Ammons updated the members of the Board about the legislative session. It was predicted that the budget conference would have begun by now. There are wide disagreements on the budget. Chancellor-in-Residence Delaney convened a conference call and invited the SUS presidents to join him to voice their opposition at 11:00 a.m. on the Capitol steps. The staff has worked extremely hard; but they are not getting much assistance. This is especially true of the House. The House is willing to concur on all revenue proposals by the Senate, if the Senate will accept all the House tax constraints. If the House budget passes, then the SUS budget reduction will equal \$232 million. The president sent the trustees an alert and asked each to call House members, especially the House leadership to express one's concern. He also welcomed trustees to join the rally tomorrow at the Capitol.

Finally, the University has received an invitation from ESPN to participate in the MEAC/SWAC Challenge. He reminded the Trustees that ESPN is owned by Disney, a presenting sponsor of the Challenge that the former titled sponsor for the Florida Classic. ESPN submitted a contract for the University to consider playing in 2011 in Orlando during Labor Day weekend. President Ammons mentioned this matter for the Trustees' reaction. Aspects of the contract include:

- Guarantee of \$175,000.
- All expenses paid for the football team, cheerleaders, and the Marching 100 at a Disney property.
- Luncheon for the football teams and unlimited rides on designated rides on Friday.
- The Marching 100 appears in the Magic Kingdom parade on Main Street, Disney World.
- A seminar for high school students about career associated with athletics that doesn't require a student to become a professional athlete.

The President welcomed comments from the Trustees. Several trustees expressed concern about the impact of the game on the Classic. Others commented on the impact to Bethune-Cookman University. A trustee asked about the press conference held last year with FAMU and BCU imploring other HBCUs not to participate in this event and wondered about the appearance of

FAMU reversing its stance. Following this discussion, President Ammons thanked the trustees for their comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalind Fuse-Hall

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Assistant Secretary