

**Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Board of Trustees**



**MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Kelvin Lawson, Chair

Chair Lawson called the meeting to order. Attorney Barge-Miles called the roll and a quorum was established. The following trustees were present: Carter, Dortch, Grable, Harrison, Lawrence, Lawson, Mills, Moore, Perry, and Woody. Trustees Reed and Washington were not able to participate in the meeting due to previously scheduled work commitments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests for public comments.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Trustee Bettye Grable

Chair Lawson turned the gavel over to Trustee Bettye Grable for election of officers. Trustee Carter nominated Kelvin Lawson for chair of the Board. The nomination was seconded by Trustee Woody. Trustee Dortch moved that the nominations close on the said name. That motion was seconded by Trustee Moore and the motion carried. Through a voice vote Kelvin Lawson was elected chair of the Board of Trustees. Next, Trustee Grable asked for nominations for vice chair of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Woody nominated Kimberly Moore for vice chair. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carter. Trustee Dortch moved that the nominations close on the said name. That motion was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and the motion carried. Trustee Kimberly Moore was elected vice chair of the Board by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Larry Robinson, Interim President

Chair Lawson recognized Interim President Robinson for his report. Dr. Robinson presented a video with highlights from the past 90 days, which included the following:

- President Robinson was confirmed as the 12th President of Florida A&M University at the February 2018 Board of Governors meeting
- He shared his vision and highlighted strategic initiatives with faculty and students during fireside chats
- President Robinson welcomed The Honorable Sonny Perdue, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, to the campus to host a panel discussion regarding "Youth in Agriculture"
- C-Span visited FAMU as part of its "City Tours" to discuss government and national politics with our students

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- Roland Martin featured FAMU as part of a three-school HBCU tour
- President Robinson shared that the University is responsible for educating minorities in Florida regarding health and quality of life issues surrounding the benefits of medical marijuana and the consequences of the unlawful usage of marijuana
- While in California for the Black College Expo, President Robinson also visited Facebook headquarters and Intel. FAMU is currently receiving more than \$500,000 from Intel as part of its effort to diversify its workforce
- President Robinson spearheaded a toy drive for children in the Tallahassee community. Over 400 toys and 50 bicycles/helmets were donated by faculty, administrators and staff
- FAMU welcomed Head Football Coach Willie Simmons and Athletic Director Dr. John Eason
- FAMU signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the KIPP Charter School in Jacksonville
- Four FAMU graduates were elected mayor for the first time:
 - Keisha Lance Bottoms – Atlanta, GA
 - Melvin Carter – St. Paul, MN
 - Deana Ingraham, East Point, GA
 - Booker Gainor, Cairo, GA
- The following individuals also visited the campus:
 - Attorney Benjamin Crump – ML King, Jr. Convocation speaker
 - Bishop Vashti McKenzie – Commencement Speaker
 - Allstate Executive Chery Booker Harris – Commencement Speaker
- FAMU hosted a special screening of the documentary “Tell Them We Are Rising”, which features FAMU and other HBCU’s
- President Robinson indicated that the Presidential Recruitment Tour will kick-off Friday, March 9, 2018 and conclude in Miami on March 12, 2018.

President Robinson’s concluded his report with an update on the 2017 Work Plan goals, a scorecard on his annual goals and the University’s status regarding the Performance Based Funding.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Lawson next recognized the Committee chairs to present their respective reports.

Strategic Planning and Performance Measures

Trustee Harold Mills

Trustee Mills reported that the Strategic Planning and Performance Measures Committee had two informational items:

- Vice President Edington provided an update on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, which included an overview of the process to develop the Strategic Plan budget for year two and a presentation by Dr. Brenda Spencer on the Living-Learning Communities.
- Vice President Edington provided an update on Performance Measures and the new leading indicator metrics that the University and board will use to monitor ongoing progress on the Performance Based Funding Metrics. As a follow-up to the metric

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scorecards, the University will be developing online dashboards to track the University's performance.

Academic and Student Affairs

Trustee Matthew Carter, Chair

Next, Chair Lawson recognized Trustee Carter for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee report. Trustee Carter stated that the Committee had four action items for approval.

- Request for tenure upon appointment for Dean Henry Talley
- Recommendations for sabbatical leave for the 2018 – 2019 academic year
- Request for a Master of Science in Systems Engineering.
- Revision of the Bylaws of the FAMU Research Foundation authorizing the Vice President for Academic Affairs to appoint two members to the Board of Directors of the Research Foundation from the University's tenured faculty.

Updates were provided on the following items:

- The executive searches (*deans and directors*) being conducted by Greenwood Asher & Associates.
- The Memorandum of Agreement for the management of FAMU-FSU College of Engineering.
- Quality Enhancement Plan.
- Hazing prevention initiatives.
- The 2+2 program.

Special Committee on Athletics

Kelvin Lawson, Chair

Chair Lawson informed the Board that the Committee continues to monitor the deficit situation in Athletics. They will continue with their monthly updates to the BOG and its Inspector General. He will present a report to the Board of Governors at its next meeting. Chair Lawson said that the University is on-track regarding the commitment to repay the deficit. He indicated that a small deficit is projected for this year; however, in 2016/2017 Athletics finished in the black.

Chair Lawson recognized Mr. Tommy Mitchell, Executive Director of the FAMU Rattler Boosters, regarding its fund raising strategy. Mr. Mitchell reported that one strategy is the creation of a "Life Membership" for \$750.00. The Boosters also selected new board members, who were required to donate at least \$1,000 to the Athletic Department. The Boosters initiated a "Homecoming Campaign", which is an annual giving campaign designed to increase the amount of funds provided to Athletics. The goal is to recruit 10,000 graduates to give at least \$100.

Budget, Finance and Facilities

Trustee Kimberly Moore, Chair

Trustee Moore reported that the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee had five (5) action items. Four were approved as presented. The housing plan required modification. There were 8 informational items,

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and four action items that were generated from discussions in the Committee meeting and will be addressed in an upcoming meeting.

Direct Support Organizations

Trustee Thomas Dortch, Chair

Chair Lawson recognized Trustee Dortch for the DSO Committee report. Trustee Dortch stated that Interim Vice President, Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud provided a snapshot regarding fundraising. She expressed a commitment to acquire adequate staffing and indicated that they are preparing for a capital campaign. The Committee recommended the decertification of the Rattler Booster, Inc. and the certification of the Florida A&M University Rattler Boosters, Inc. It also recommended approval of the budget for the Florida A&M University Rattler Boosters, Inc.

Trustee Dortch shared that President Robinson has attended several National Alumni Association activities. He said that the FAMU Foundation Board of Directors will meet May 24-25 in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with the FAMU NAA National Convention and that the endowment value stands at \$114M.

Governance

Trustee Harold Mills

Trustee Harold Mills reported that the Governance Committee is recommending that the Board only notice its meetings on the website. This is a cost savings for the University and is a more effective and efficient method of providing notice to the public. The Committee also discussed the self-evaluation tool. They stated that the committee would tweak the tool used last year. Trustee Mills indicated that this process is in line with the new SACSCOC standard regarding Board self-evaluation. Finally, President Robinson gave an update on the status of the University's governmental relations activities. He reported that HBCU Capital Finance Bill is on the Governor's desk, awaiting his signature.

Special Committee on the College of Law

Trustee Belvin Perry, Chair

Trustee Perry shared that the Special Committee on the College of Law held an on-site meeting at the College of Law in Orlando on February 22, 2018. He indicated that they met with Dean Pernell, who provided information regarding the PASS Project, which helps increase the Bar passage rate.

He stated that the Committee heard a presentation by the City of Orlando and the University of Central Florida regarding "Creative Village", an area that is located near the College of Law. Creative Village will house UCF and Valencia College downtown campuses and is expected to enroll 7,700 students. The campus is expected to open in August 2019. The committee recommended that the administration explore opportunities for FAMU to participate in this endeavor.

The Committee also met with faculty and students and they expressed concern regarding the well-being of the College of Law, safety, scholarships, the curriculum, and the College of Law Vision

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Trustee Perry ended his report by indicated that the College of Law has tremendous potential and could become the flagship program in Orlando. Chair Lawson asked Trustee Perry to meet with Dean Pernel and Provost Wright to address some of the opportunities identified and report back to the Board with next steps.

Audit and Compliance

Trustee Belvin Perry, Vice Chair

Trustee Perry reported that Vice President Givens gave an overview of the audit reports for the FAMU Foundation, the FAMU National Alumni Association and the Rattler Boosters. The Committee recommended approval of the reports.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Lawson asked if there were any changes or if anything needed to be removed from the agenda. Chair Lawson then stated that the following should be added to the Consent Agenda - Trustee Perry will establish a team to come back to the Board with next steps regarding the College of Law. Chair Lawson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. It was moved for approval by Trustee Dortch and seconded by Trustee Carter and the motion carried. The consent agenda included the following items:

Board of Trustees (BT)

BT1	November 30, 2017 Minutes
BT2	January 18, 2018 Minutes
BT3	February 20, 2018 Minutes
BT4	Presidential Leadership Committee November 29, 2017 Minutes
BT5	Presidential Leadership Committee January 11, 2018 Minutes

Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASA)

ASA1	Tenure Upon Appointment – Dean Henry Talley
ASA2	Sabbatical and Professional Development Leave Nominees
ASA3	Request for New Degree Program (M.S. – Systems Engineering)
ASA4	Amendment to Bylaws of FAMU Research Foundation, Inc.

Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee (BFF)

BFF1	CASS Amendment #2 for Civil Package
BFF2	Draft Masterplan Update
BFF3	Housing Project Plan-Phase 1a
BFF4	Food Service Vendor Next Steps Recommendation
BFF5	Amend FAMU Regulation 10.106

Direct Support Organizations Committee (DSO)

DSO1	Decertification of (former) FAMU Rattler Boosters
DSO2	Certification of (new) FAMU Rattler Boosters
DSO3	Approval of Articles of Incorporation
DSO4	Approval of By-Laws
DSO5	Acceptance of Rattler Boosters 2017-2018 Budget

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Governance Committee (G)

G1 BOT Operating Procedures, Section 5.4

Audit and Compliance Committee (AC)

AC1 Acceptance of DSO Audit Reports:

- Foundation
- Rattler Boosters
- National Alumni Association

LICENSURE AND PROGRAM UPDATES

Next, the Board heard presentations regarding licensure passage rates and associated plans of action from the School of Allied Health Sciences and the School of Nursing.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting adjourned.