Chairman Lutgert convened the meeting of the University Board of Trustees in the Sprint Room on the Florida Gulf Coast University Campus at 1:00 p.m., December 2, 2002 with the following members present:

Brian Cobb  
Larry Hart  
Bernard Lester  
David Lucas  
Scott Lutgert  
Gerri Moll  
Harry Moon  
Edward Morton  
Adam Ricciardiello  
Jerry Starkey  
Linda Taylor – via conference call  
Michael Villalobos  

Peg Gray-Vickrey-Non Voting Member

Members of the staff present were:

William Merwin, President  
Brad Bartel, Provost  
Curtis Bullock, Vice President, Administrative Services  
Thomas Healy, Interim Vice President for Advancement  
Susan Evans, Special Assistant to the President  
Wendy Morris, General Counsel

1. Call to Order and Chair’s Remarks

Chairman Lutgert greeted Trustees and thanked audience members for attending. He announced that the January 9 Board of Trustees meeting has been postponed until February 6, 2003 due to the implications of Amendment 11 which go into effect January 7. He complimented
President Bill Merwin and President Ken Walker and both Boards of Trustees for the work that has been done in developing the joint degree programs. The cooperation between the university and the Community College has significant implications statewide. Chairman Lutgert also thanked Provost Bartel and Dr. Peg Gray-Vickrey for their leadership in the Mission Statement development process. He turned the meeting over to President Merwin for his report.

2. President’s Report

President Merwin greeted Trustees and said that in the past several weeks a number of interesting things have occurred. One was a visit by the American Association for Collegiate Schools of Business. This accreditation would place us in the top 25% among the nation’s colleges of business, and while we will not receive final word until April, the preliminary report has been encouraging. He reported that the Annual Scholarship Luncheon was held recently with donors and scholarship recipients. This event is very meaningful and included testimonies by students on the impact of these scholarships have on their lives.

President Merwin stated that the Alico Arena grand opening is tonight with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. followed by the women’s game begins at 5:30 p.m. and the men’s game at 7:30 p.m. At this event we plan to honor Ben Hill Griffin and Bernie Lester along with other members of the Alico Board.

President Merwin reminded Board members that Commencement would be held for the last time in the Teco Arena on Sunday, December 15, at 1 p.m. He announced that he has been elected to the Board of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. President Merwin met with Ave Maria University president and founder and wished them well. We are looking forward to them joining the Alliance of Education Leaders and the possibility of intercollegiate athletics.

President Merwin reported that the Degree Program in Partnership with Edison Community College has been accomplished and will come before the Trustees later this afternoon. He thanked Dr. Bob Burns who worked diligently to make this joint partnership a success.

President Merwin stated that he is optimistic regarding the outcome of Amendment 11, and feels we will be able to work successfully within the guidelines of that Amendment. He stated that the board of governors will govern the state university system and a board of trustees will administer each public university. Each university board of trustees will be comprised of 13 members. The board of governors will establish
the powers and duties of the boards of trustees. The Governor will appoint 6 to the board of trustees and the board of governors will appoint 5 to the board of trustees. The chair of the faculty senate and the president of the student body also will serve – resulting in the total of 13. The board of governors consists of 17 members. The governor will appoint 14 to the board of governors. In addition, the commissioner of education, the chair of the advisory council of the faculty senates and the president of the Florida student association will also serve – resulting in the total of 17 members. We hope to maintain the local autonomy that is serving FGCU so well. President Merwin stated that employees would not know the difference related to paychecks, and that benefits and retirement matters would not change.

3. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Moon to approved the Minutes of October 10, 2002 meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lester. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting – Committee Chair Renee Lee

Provost Bartel presented the following action items on behalf of Trustee Lee:

   Student Athletics Fee Increase for 2003-04 (Appendix A) – A motion was made by Trustee Moll to approve the recommended increase. Motion was seconded by Trustee Villalobos. Motion carried unanimously.

   FGCU Mission Statement (Appendix B) - A motion was made by Trustee Moll to approve the Mission Statement. Motion was seconded by Trustee Villalobos. Chairman Lutger stated he felt we now have a concise Mission Statement that fits the vision we all share for the university. Motion carried unanimously.

   New Degree Proposal: FGCU/ECC Partnership for an FGCU Bachelor of Science in Applied Science with Concentration in Computer Technology and Public Services Management (Appendix C) - Provost Bartel commended Dr. Bob Burns and Ms. Cathy Duff, Associate Dean of Planning & Evaluation for their hard work and dedication to this process. Motion was made to approve the new degree program by Trustee Lucas. Motion was seconded by Trustee Villalobos. Motion carried unanimously.
New Degree Proposal: Hospitality Management (Appendix D) – Provost Bartel stated this was a very important degree program for Florida Gulf Coast University. Dean Johnny McGaha, College of Professional Studies, outlined plans regarding this new degree program. Trustee Morton requested that budget sheets accompany all new degree program requests. Motion was made by Trustee Moll to approve the Hospitality Management Degree Program. Motion was seconded by Trustee Morton. Motion carried unanimously.

New Degree Proposal: Biotechnology (Appendix E): Provost Bartel reviewed this new degree program and the need for such a science program at Florida Gulf Coast University. Motion was made by Trustee Morton to approve the Biotechnology Degree Program. Motion was seconded by Trustee Moll. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Finance & Administration Committee Meeting (Includes Public Input) – Committee Chair Bernie Lester

Committee Chair Bernie Lester called the Committee to order and presented the following action items:

Signature Authority for Checking Signing (Appendix F): Section 1011.42 (7), Florida Statues, effective January 7, 2003, requires that the Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees “specifically designate and spread upon the minutes of the board the legal name and position title of any university employee authorized to sign checks to pay legal obligations of the university”. The recommendation is that William C. Merwin, President and Curtis Bullock, Vice President, Administrative Services be authorized to sign checks and pay legal obligations of the university. Motion was made by Trustee Morton to approve the recommendation. Motion was seconded by Trustee Starkey. Motion carried unanimously.

Transition from State Accounting System (FLAIR) to FGCU Accounting System (Appendix G): The recommendation is that the Board of Trustees approve FGCU’s Initial Transition Plan, to be submitted to the State Comptroller for review and subsequent submission to the Board of Education. Motion was made by Trustee Taylor to approve this Transition Plan. Motion was seconded by Trustee Morton. Motion carried unanimously.

2003-04 Legislative Agenda (Appendix H): Trustee Lester introduced Dr. Tom Healy to review the Legislative Agenda with Board members. A motion was made by Trustee Moll to approve the 2003-04
Legislative Agenda. Motion was seconded by Trustee Moon. Motion carried unanimously.

President’s Employment Contract (Appendix I): Chairman Lutgert reviewed the process regarding the evaluation of the President. He stated that in January, the Board adopted the performance measures to evaluate the President. The next step was to hire a consultant, Dr. James Koch, to assist the Board in fact finding and evaluating the President. Dr. Koch interviewed many members of the faculty and the community-at-large and friends of the university. Dr. Koch provided us with a report which the Board reviewed at the June meeting. In addition, the Board, at the June meeting, reviewed the President’s performance based on the standards we set in January, and at that time, decided to extend the President’s contract for a period of time. We delegated the negotiating of the President’s new contract to Trustee Lester with the assistance of Dr. Koch. We will present that contract today.

Chairman Lutgert turned the meeting back to Trustee Lester who outlined the process for today’s presentation of the President’s contract. Trustee Lester introduced Mr. Curtis Bullock, Vice President for Administrative Services who summarized the contract. Trustee Moll stated that she was part of the search committee who brought President Merwin to Florida Gulf Coast University and that in her estimation he has exceeded her high expectations of him at the time of his hiring. She stated that this contract confirms that the Board is extremely pleased with President Merwin’s performance. Trustee Moon echoed those comments and stated that he felt FGCU has been transformed since it’s inception due to President Merwin’s leadership and that the President has done a superb job. Motion was made by Trustee Moon to approve the President’s contract. Motion was seconded by Trustee Moll. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Taylor proposed that the Board look into a performance package for other top management and Trustee Morton stated that it would be important to find an appropriate performance matrix for the entire management team. President Merwin will report back on this matter to Board members.

Chairman Lutgert thanked the Board for their ability to work together over this past year in order to accomplish all that has been done.

Meeting adjourned 2:55 p.m.
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Approved February 6, 2003
APPENDIX:

A. Student Athletics Fee Increase for 2003-04
B. FGCU Mission Statement
C. New Degree Proposal: FGCU/ECC Partnership for an FGCU Bachelor of Science in Applied Science with Concentration in Computer Technology and Public Services Management
D. New Degree Proposal: Hospitality Management
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