Chairman Lutgert convened the meeting of the University Board of Trustees from the Sprint Room at 9:30 a.m., September 16, 2003, with the following members present:

Scott Lutgert  
Brian Cobb (via conference call)  
Jeff Faramo  
Larry Hart (via conference call)  
Donna Price Henry  
Renee Lee  
Bernie Lester  
David Lucas  
Harry Moon  
Ed Morton  
Jerry Starkey  
Michael Villalobos  
Charles Idelson Ex-Officio Trustee

Members of staff present were:

William Merwin, President  
Brad Bartel, Provost  
Steve Magiera, Interim Vice President for Advancement  
Joe Shepard, Vice President for Administrative Services  
Wendy Morris, General Counsel  
Susan Evans, Special Assistant to the President  
Kathy Bottoms, Administrative Assistant  
Barbara Krell, Executive Assistant to the President

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call – Chair Scott Lutgert**

Chairman Lutgert greeted the trustees and thanked audience members for attending. He stated that Trustee Cobb and Trustee Hart would be attending via conference call. Chairman Lutgert called on President
Merwin to introduce the faculty and staff speakers and then present the
President’s Report.

2. Remarks from FGCU Student Government – President Jeff Faramo

President Merwin introduced Mr. Faramo, President of the Student
Government Association who updated trustees regarding student government
activities.

3. Remarks from FGCU Faculty Senate – President Donna Price Henry

President Merwin introduced Dr. Price Henry, Faculty Senate
President, who reported on faculty senate activities after their first meeting.

4. Remarks from Staff Advisory Council – President Bob Swank

President Merwin introduced Mr. Swank, newly elected President
of the Staff Advisory Council. Mr. Swank updated trustees on the recent
election and activities of SAC. Mr. Swank and President Merwin recognized
Ms. Catherine Brown’s service as founding member of SAC and a ten-year
employee of Florida Gulf Coast University. Catherine will be leaving the
university this month in order to move her household to Pennsylvania.

5. Remarks from FGCU Foundation – Chair Charles Idelson

President Merwin introduced Mr. Idelson, Chairman of the FGCU
Foundation Board. Mr. Idelson provided trustees an overview of the activities
of the Foundation Board.

6. President’s Report – President Bill Merwin

President Merwin and Chairman Lutgert presented a Resolution of
Appreciation to Dr. Gray-Vickrey for her outstanding service and
commitment to Florida Gulf Coast University. Ms. Evans read the resolution
into the record (Appendix A). Dr. Gray-Vickrey thanked President Merwin
and the entire Board of Trustees for their support during her service period on
the board.

President Merwin provided an overview of the onset of the
academic year. He stated that we now have slightly over 5,900 students
which equates to over 3,300 FTE. However, due to the lack of funding for our
new enrollments, one out of five students is not funded. We are reaching
capacity in some of the classes, particularly Arts & Sciences which handles
the bulk of freshmen and sophomore general education experiences. President
Merwin complimented the various department chairs that have worked to find
adjunct faculty, however, it is important that we do not compromise the
quality of our academic programs by using too many part time faculty members. President Merwin stated that as we enter into the next legislative session, it is important to understand that it is essential we become effective in our lobbying efforts regarding enrollment funding. He advised trustees that he met with Board of Governors’ Chair, Ms. Carolyn Roberts, who understands our situation and recognizes our vulnerable position. President Merwin reported that by fall of 2008 we would exceed 10,000 headcount students on the campus. During that time it is essential that we continue to grow our academic programs. We currently have 34 undergraduate programs and we will need 50 by 2008. President Merwin reported that the capital needs will total $145 million for infrastructure, parking lots, etc., to accommodate the expected growth. The 5,900 students we have today represent a 13% increase in FTE and a 12% increase in headcount. President Merwin reported that the quality of this year’s incoming class has been the best that we have been able to track. The average SAT scores for our first time in college has risen to 1044 which is up 22 points over a year ago. The average grade point average is 3.5 and the ACT number went from 21 to 22.

President Merwin reported that the Freshman Convocation was a success. He stated that we have had some technology glitches to including viruses and that those problems were managed in an excellent manner.

President Merwin stated he is in the process of meeting with a number of legislators from the Southwest Florida Legislative Delegation. The next step is to convince the Governor and the Governor’s staff to support the Board of Governors’ budget proposal. In that proposal there is a $10 million increase for Florida Gulf Coast University. That amount would take care of our growth needs. He stated that state revenues would need to increase for this to occur. President Merwin also stated he plans to call on trustees as needed for assistance with legislators. He and Dr. Healy will make a presentation to the Southwest Florida Chamber of Commerce in October stating that our number one priority is growth.

President Merwin reported that the University hosted a CEPRI meeting on campus, and as a result of that meeting, all of the universities in the system are being considered for funding contracts. The State University Presidents’ Association met in Orlando and agreed not to cap enrollments but to throw their unanimous support behind the Board of Governors’ budget request. He reported that the State Board of Education was currently meeting on the Edison Community College campus, and Dr. Healy and Ms. Cathy Duff are representing Florida Gulf Coast University regarding our cooperative degree programs with ECC. Tomorrow, the Board of Governors meet in Miami to discuss strategic planning and Dr. Bartel will represent FGCU.

President Merwin reported on the opening of the Center for Positive Aging in Charlotte County headed by Dr. Linda Buettner. He also
reported that the AFSME election was held and he was delighted by the results. President Merwin stated he plans to work with the Staff Advisory Council so that there will never be a reason to have a collective bargaining representative for our A&P and USPS employees.

7. Consent Agenda

Chairman Lutgert asked if there was a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Trustee Lee to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Trustee Morton. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Lutgert turned the Committee Meeting over to Chair Lee. Chair Lee brought the committee to order and asked that Dr. Bartel present the two agenda items. Dr. Bartel introduced Mr. Roberts, Director of the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs. Mr. Roberts updated trustees regarding the office’s accomplishments.

Action Item:

- FGCU Strategic Directives (Appendix B) – Dr. Bartel presented the FGCU Strategic Directives for approval by the Board of Trustees. He stated that the intent of these directives is to guide our planning and resource allocations and to align fundraising for the Office of Advancement. Trustee Lucas requested that the term “consideration of doctoral programs” be inserted in Strategic Objective # 3. Chairman Lutgert stated the guidelines give a great framework for decision making and where the university is going. A motion was made by Trustee Price Henry to approve the Strategic Directives. Motion was seconded by Chairman Lutgert. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Finance & Administration Committee Meeting – Committee Chair Bernie Lester

Chairman Lutgert turned the meeting over to Committee Chair Lester. Chairman Lester introduced Dr. Shepard, Vice President for Administrative Services who presented the Quarterly Finance/Budget Statement to trustees. (Appendix C)

Action Items:
Chairman Lester stated that with the appointment of Dr. Shepard in place of Mr. Bullock as Vice President for Administrative Services trustees need to substitute Dr. Shepard for Mr. Bullock as an authorized signatory for checks. (Appendix D) A motion was made by Trustee Lee to approve the signatory change. Motion was seconded by Chairman Lutgert. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Lester introduced Ms. Morris to present a housekeeping matter related to Public Business with the University. (Appendix E) A motion was made by Trustee Lee to repeal the Rule as indicated. Motion was seconded by Trustee Villalobos. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Lester asked Ms. Morris to review the Board of Trustees Bylaws Update (Appendix F). Ms. Morris explained that she will bring the proposed term shifts from a January to January schedule to a July 1 to June 30 schedule, however, one trustee received correspondence from the State recently stating the new term would be from January to January. Ms. Morris withdrew that portion of the agenda so she can investigate further and then possibly bring that portion of the agenda back for your consideration as the case may be. Ms. Morris does recommend the change to the academic freedoms and responsibilities portion today. Trustee Price Henry asked that the following changes be made to the last phrase on the academic freedom piece of the bylaws to read as follows: ..and to persistently refrain from introducing material having no bearing on the subject field. A motion was made by Trustee Moon to approve the Bylaws update. Motion was seconded by Chairman Lutgert. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Lester asked Ms. Morris to present the final action item of Authorization for President or Designee to Initiate and Settle Lawsuits and Claims (Appendix G) – Ms. Morris stated that by giving the President or designee the authority to initiate and settle these matters, legal issues can be resolved swiftly and the integrity of the settlement negotiations is preserved. This action item will be brought back to the November meeting for review and action.

10. Old Business – Chair Scott Lutgert

There was no old business to come before the board.
11. New Business – Chair Scott Lutgert

Chairman Lutgert reminded board members that there would be a Board Conference Call Meeting on November 20 at 10:00 a.m.

12. Chair’s Closing Remarks – Chair Scott Lutgert

Chairman Lutgert thanked everyone for their attendance.

13. Adjourn meeting

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.