Chairman Lutgert convened the meeting of the University Board of Trustees in the Student Union Ballroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 with the following members present:

- Andres Adrade
- Sharon Irish Bevins
- Lindsay Harrington
- Larry Hart
- Bernie Lester
- David Lucas
- Scott Lutgert
- Harry Moon
- Edward Morton
- Michael Villalobos
- Jerry Starkey
- Jaynie Whitcomb

Members of Staff Present:

- William Merwin
- Susan Evans
- Steve Magiera
- Wendy Morris
- Joseph Shepard
- Bonnie Yegidis
- Barbara Krell
- Kathy Bottoms

Guests: Steve Gift, Consultant

1. Call to Order – Chair, Scott Lutgert

   Chair Lutgert greeted the Trustees and called upon President Merwin to introduce the next four presentations.

2. Remarks from FGCU Student Government – President Andres Andrade

   President Merwin introduced Mr. Andrade who reviewed current student events and programs on campus.

3. Remarks from FGCU Staff Advisory Council – President Robert Harris
President Merwin introduced Chief Harris who updated Board members regarding Staff Advisory Committee activities planned.

4. Remarks from FGCU Foundation Board of Directors – Mr. Magiera on behalf of Mr. Joseph Catti

President Merwin introduced Mr. Magiera who updated Trustees regarding the FGCU Foundation activities on behalf of Mr. Catti.

5. President’s Report – President Bill Merwin

President Merwin stated that in December we learned that FGCU’s bid for reaffirmation of its SACS accreditation was granted. He stated that this was a tremendous milestone for the University and represents thousands of hours of work from our faculty, staff and students. President Merwin thanked the Provost and members of the steering committee for their diligent effort.

President Merwin reported the fall Commencement was a very special event with the conferral of an honorary degree on Mr. Raymond Lutgert and participation by State Representative Dudley Goodlette and Chancellor Mark Rosenberg.

President Merwin stated that FGCU sponsored a regional issues event for Southwest Florida legislators and community leaders. He stated FGCU remains committed to our role as a catalyst for this regional effort that emphasizes strength in working together. FGCU will serve as the central clearinghouse for a regional collection of key data.

President Merwin reported that the Ginn Company made a $2.5 million gift to FGCU to enhance the construction of our new School of Engineering building. He explained that the Ginn Company President, Mr. Bobby Ginn, had previously made a future $5 million gift pledge, and Mr. Ginn was willing at our request to give $2.5 million early so we could meet the state’s deadline of January 6th for requesting state matches.

President Merwin reported that FGCU has entered into an agreement with UCF to offer an EdS in Curriculum and Instruction. The program will fill the void for advanced education left when UCF decided to cease offering the EdD locally to Southwest Florida residents and will act as a bridge until FGCU attains approval to offer its own EdS and EdD programs by fall 2008.

President Merwin reported that the College of Arts and Sciences has been working with the USF College of Medicine to offer exceptional students who meet stringent criteria of academic success an opportunity to have guaranteed
admission to the MD program after three years and to complete their undergrad and medical education in seven years rather than eight.

President Merwin stated there were questions from Board members regarding informational sessions on finances, and direct support organizations as well as internal audits. There will be presentations to the Board today to cover those subjects.

President Merwin stated in September, Mr. McAloose, Athletics Director, made a presentation on the difficulties of our not being in a NCAA conference. He stated that at the conclusion of that presentation he asked Carl McAloose to do a Feasibility Study as it relates to conference affiliations, adding new sports, and NCAA classification options including a possible move to Division I. Carl McAloose will present the Feasibility Study later in today’s meeting.

President Merwin reported that we are in the process of updating our Campus Master Plan, which must be updated every five years. He stated we are providing an opportunity today for input and will incorporate the Board’s feedback into an action item for the Board’s consideration at the April meeting.

President Merwin reported that the Foundation, at their December meeting, accepted a $5 million gift of 150 acres in Charlotte County for use in expanding our Charlotte County offerings. President Merwin stated that during the September meeting, Trustees asked us to consider a long-range plan for FGCU’s satellite centers in Naples, Charlotte County, Cape Coral and possibly other locations. We have already placed on the Board’s schedules a workshop for Thursday, February 9th at 8:30 a.m. to obtain feedback on a draft. Following the Board’s input during the workshop, staff will bring this item back to the Board as an action item in April.

President Merwin reported that $2.2 million has been raised for the Naples Center and the lead gift of $5 million is still being sought to name the facility. He stated that FGCU has signed an agreement with Brompton Road Partners to pursue the purchase of land at US 41 and Goodlette Road. Due diligence will be done in the next few months with the plan to purchase the land for $5 million. The goal is to erect a 50,000 square foot building, The Naples Center, where both credit and non-credit courses will be offered.

President Merwin announced the preliminary spring 2006 enrollment numbers are very good and we are just under 7,000 students.

President Merwin reported on the progress of the Early Learning Literacy Model (ELLM) which is an intervention program for Collier County preschool children with a focus on emergent literacy skills and language development.
President Merwin reported that some months ago we signed an agreement with Nankai University in China and Dr. Dan Borgia has been assigned the task of developing the cooperation. Also, The City of Yantai, Yantai University and Yantai Nanshan University will be sending a delegation to Southwest Florida in May with hopes of signing an agreement for a sister region relationship and to develop an academic cooperation with FGCU.

President Merwin stated he continues to be concerned about the lack of available workforce housing for our faculty and staff and he plans to look at various possibilities to address this situation to avoid negative impacts on FGCU’s recruiting and retaining employees.

Trustee Moon gave his congratulations to the President on the accreditation process and the recognition FGCU received. Dr. Moon stated that the Feasibility Study was exceptionally written and the methodology was superb. Dr. Moon asked that he go on record as supporting the creation of a Division I Athletics Program.

Trustee Morton echoed the President’s concerns regarding affordable housing. Trustee Morton stated there is a significant problem and it is important to look at solutions before essential services begin to suffer in our community.

6. Remarks from FGCU Faculty Senate – President Sharon Irish Bevins

Chairman Lutgert introduced Dr. Irish Bevins who outlined faculty activities this semester.

7. Consent Agenda – Chair Scott Lutgert

Chairman Lutgert asked for approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Trustee Lester. Motion was seconded by Trustee Harrington. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting – Committee Chair Larry Hart

Chairman Lutgert introduced the Chair of the Committee, Trustee Hart. Trustee Hart introduced Provost Yegidis. Provost Yegidis introduced the Director of Music, Dr. Cobb-Lippens, who updated Trustees regarding the Music Degree Program.

Action Items:

- A motion was made by Trustee Lucas to approve the New Degree Program: Master of Science (M.S.) in Criminal Forensic Studies. Motion was seconded by Trustee Villalobos. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix A)
A motion was made by Trustee Morton to approve the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Nomenclature Change. Motion was seconded by Trustee Starkey. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix B)

9. Finance & Administration Committee Meeting – Committee Chair David Lucas

Committee Chair Lucas introduced Dr. Shepard who provided informational updates for the Trustees on the following subjects:

- Overview of Finances for FGCU and its Direct Support Organization - Vice President Joe Shepard, Vice President for Advancement, Steve Magiera, Executive Director of the FGCU Financing Corporation, Curtis Bullock and Director of Internal Audit, Linda Moore
- Finance /Budget Update – Vice President Shepard
- Campus Master Plan Update – Vice President Shepard and Consultant

Action Items:

- President Merwin introduced Mr. McAloose, Athletics Director, who reviewed the Athletics Feasibility Study. President Merwin presented the following recommendations to the Board of Trustees:
  Recommendation #1: Reclassify FGCU Athletics to NCAA Division I, if FGCU can successfully join a Division I conference;
  Recommendation #2: Seek NCAA Division I conference membership in the Atlantic Sun Conference;
  Recommendation #3: Add the following three new sports: (1) Women’s Soccer, (2) Men’s Soccer, and (3) Women’s Swimming.

Trustee Lester stated he felt we need to make the move to Division I because each year it has become more difficult in Division II and the inadequate schedule will knock us out of competition, if we do not make this change.

Trustee Andrade stated he would like to commend Mr. McAloose and his staff for an outstanding job with this report and the outstanding athletics program. He stated he stands behind this decision even though the financial increase will be done under new student leadership.

Trustee Irish Bevins stated that while it’s difficult to speak on behalf of faculty as one voice, she feels she can support the move to Division I on behalf of faculty. She stated that external funding would be an important part of this decision and that no money is diverted from academic affairs because of the budget increase. Trustee Irish Bevins stated it is important that athletes remain students first, as they always have here.
Chairman Lutgert stated he concurs with Trustee Irish Bevins comments and he is sure that the student athletes will remain as they are. He is very supportive of the move to Division I. Chairman Lutgert asked for and received an explanation of how this would affect the overall budget from President Merwin and Dr. Shepard.

Trustee Harrington commended Mr. McAloose for a well-done study and stated that he believes sports programs are character builders and that it is important to promote high standards and character from our student athletes.

Trustee Villalobos stated he is in favor of the reclassification to Division I especially because of the time needed to accomplish this change.

Trustee Whitcomb thanked President Merwin and staff for the outstanding statistics provided the Trustees and stated she supports the move to Division I.

Trustee Starkey stated that the staff provided excellent detail and he supports the move to Division I.

Trustee Hart stated he felt that one of the most important aspects of this decision would be the opportunity for our student athletes to spend more time in the classroom.

A motion was made by Trustee Morton to adopt recommendations #1, #2, and #3 made by President Merwin. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lester. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix C)

- Dr. Shepard reviewed the Student-Athlete In-State Tuition Waivers. Motion was made to approve the tuition waivers by Trustee Morton. Motion was seconded by Trustee Whitcomb. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix D)
- Dr. Shepard reviewed the Audit Report for FGCU Foundation. Motion was made to approve the Audit Report by Trustee Villalobos. Motion was seconded by Trustee Starkey. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix E)
- Dr. Shepard reviewed the Audit Report for FGCU Financing Corporation. Motion was made to approve the Audit Report by Chair Lutgert. Motion was seconded by Trustee Whitcomb. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix F)
- Ms. Morris reviewed the FGCU Board of Trustees Bylaws changes with Trustees. A motion was made to approve the two Bylaws changes by Trustee Whitcomb. Motion was seconded by Chair Lutgert. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix G)
- Ms. Goen, Director of Government Relations updated the Trustees regarding the 2006 Legislative Agenda. Motion was made by Trustee Harrington to approve the Legislative Agenda. Motion was seconded by Trustee Morton. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix H)

10. Old Business – Chair Scott Lutgert
There was no old business to come before the Board.

11. New Business

Trustee Hart announced that if there is anyone who would like to purchase an FGCU license plate, he can assist with this process.

12. Chair’s Closing Remarks & Adjourn Meeting – Chair Scott Lutgert

Chair Lutgert reminded Trustees that there will be a workshop on Thursday, February 9th from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and that the next full Board meeting is April 18th. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.
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Approved April 18, 2006
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A. New Degree Program: Master of Science (M.S) in Criminal Forensic Studies
B. Approve the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Nomenclature Change
C. Athletics Feasibility Study
D. Student Athlete In-State Tuition Waivers
E. Audit Report for FGCU Foundation
F. Audit Report for FGCU Financing Corporation
G. FGCU Board of Trustees Bylaws changes
H. FGCU Legislative Agenda