FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

COHEN CENTER BALLROOM, ROOM # 203-B
Florida Gulf Coast University

Meeting Minutes

Members:
Present: Trustee Kenneth Smith – Vice Chair and Acting Chair; Trustee Blake Gable – Elected Chair; Trustee Robbie Roepstorff – Elected Vice Chair; Trustee Darleen Cors; Trustee Richard Eide, Jr.; Trustee Joe Fogg III; Trustee Mike McDonald; Trustee Leo Montgomery; Trustee Russell Priddy; Trustee Christian Spilker; and Trustee Jalisa White.

Not Present: Trustee Kevin Price (Excused Absence).

Others:
Foundation Board of Directors Chair David Holmes; and Staff Advisory Council (SAC) President Teri Bigos.

Staff: President Mike Martin; Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James Llorens; Vice President for Administrative Services and Finance, and Executive Director of FGCU Financing Corporation Steve Magiera; Vice President for University Advancement, and Executive Director of FGCU Foundation Chris Simoneau; Vice President and Chief of Staff Susan Evans; Vice President and General Counsel Vee Leonard; Chief Compliance and Ethics Officer Stacey Chados; Director of Internal Audit Bill Foster; Project Manager Melissa Pind; Assistant Director of Board Operations Tiffany Jackson; and Director of Operations Tiffany Reynolds.

Item 1: Call to Order, Roll Call, and Opening Remarks
Vice Chair Ken Smith called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. stating, for the record, he would be conducting the meeting until the election of new officers as former Chair Dudley Goodlette’s Trustee term ended on January 6, 2018. He added Trustee Goodlette would attend the April 10, 2018 meeting where he would be honored with a Board resolution of appreciation for his leadership and service. Roll call was taken with 11 of 12 members present, thus meeting quorum requirements.
Item 2: Welcome to New Trustee Richard Eide, and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James Llorens

Vice Chair Smith welcomed new Trustee Richard Eide. Trustee Eide thanked Trustee Joseph Fogg and Board of Governors Chair Ned Lautenbach for their encouragement to join the FGCU Board of Trustees. Vice Chair Smith also recognized Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James Llorens. Dr. Llorens commented he was excited to be at Florida Gulf Coast University, and looking forward to working with the Board.

Item 3: Student Success Showcase

Vice Chair Smith called on Dr. Llorens to introduce the students in the Showcase. Dr. Llorens introduced Ms. Chelsea Atkins and Ms. Samantha Lloyd, who spoke about their successes at Florida Gulf Coast University. Vice Chair Smith added his compliments to these two outstanding students.

Item 4: Consent Agenda (See Tabs #1-2)

Vice Chair Smith stated there were two items on the consent agenda: (1) Minutes of the December 8, 2017 Meeting; and (2) the FGCU BOT Meeting Dates for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.

Trustee Darleen Cors made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Leo Montgomery seconded the motion. There was no public comment or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

Item 5: Election of Chair and Vice Chair of Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees (See Tabs #3-5)

Vice Chair Smith called on Officers Nominating Committee Chair Leo Montgomery.

Trustee Montgomery stated there were several items to be considered under this item. He said the first item was the Committee’s approval of the Minutes of the December 14, 2017 Officers Nominating Committee meeting.

Trustee Russell Priddy made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Officers Nominating Committee Meeting of December 14, 2017. Trustee Montgomery seconded the motion. There was no public comment or discussion. The vote was 2-0 in favor of the motion, with only Committee members voting on approval of the Committee meeting minutes.

Trustee Montgomery reported by unanimous vote the Committee recommended Trustee Blake Gable as Chair and Trustee Robbie Roepstorff as Vice Chair. He called for a motion to approve this recommendation.
Trustee Christian Spilker made a motion to approve Trustee Blake Gable as Chair and Trustee Robbie Roepstorff as Vice Chair. Trustee Smith seconded the motion. There was no public comment, or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

Trustee Smith congratulated the newly elected Chair and Vice Chair. He added the Board Bylaws provided an effective date of February 1 for the start of the terms for the Chair and Vice Chair. However, he said since Trustee Goodlette’s Trustee term had ended, the Board could suspend this provision of the Bylaws and vote to make the Chair and Vice Chair terms’ effective date as of today, January 9, 2018.

Trustee Priddy made a motion to suspend the Bylaws as described above with the effective date for the new Chair and Vice Chair to be effective January 9, 2018. Trustee Montgomery seconded the motion. There was no public comment, or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

Trustee Smith formally turned over the gavel to Chair Gable. Chair Gable thanked everyone and said he and Vice Chair Roepstorff had big shoes to fill following in the steps of Trustee Goodlette and Trustee Smith.

Chair Gable asked Vice Chair Roepstorff for comments. She thanked the Board for its confidence in selecting her as Vice Chair, and she committed to serving with hard work. She stated that she would be dedicated to making sure that FGCU obtains the needed permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to complete the Student Academic Health and Life Fitness Center. Chair Gable stated for the record that he fully supports this initiative.

**Item 6: President’s Report**

Chair Gable asked President Mike Martin to give the President’s Report.

President Martin began by welcoming his longtime colleague James Llorens to FGCU, who would help with some important changes to advance the institution. He also welcomed Trustee Eide, whom he added would be a strong Board member. He also thanked Trustee Smith for his assistance and support, both during the presidential search and after.

President Martin stated just after FGCU Day at the Capitol, he would be attending the Board of Governors (BOG) meeting to present FGCU’s Strategic Plan. He said the Plan had been approved by the FGCU Board of Trustees, and the BOG had responded positively as well. He provided copies of the principles by which the Task Force had been charged to re-energize the Strategic Plan. He said his objective was not to read the Strategic Plan to the BOG, but to indicate the parameters which had been set forward to update the Strategic Plan.

President Martin reported he had been working with Trustee Fogg on the issue of making sure all understood the ways in which the institution responded to external
concerns, complaints, grievances, whistleblower issues, and the Hotline. He said at the next Board meeting he was hopeful he could give a more precise idea of the corridors and ways in which various offices on campus would respond to these types of issues and concerns. He said at present, it was a bit confusing.

President Martin said he was continuing to work on structuring an approach to heighten commitment to student success and graduation rates. He said he was confident that at the next regular meeting of the Board, there would be a presentation of a set of recommendations from a task force led by Marieb College of Health & Human Services Dean Mitch Cordova, and the president also is being assisted by an outside consultant, Dr. Pam Shockley. He expressed that this task force had done a marvelous job of thinking through the best ways to continue to build student success and to improve the metrics for their own sake, but most assuredly for the performance funding formula.

President Martin said finally he wanted to emphasize FGCU Day at the Capitol, January 22 and 23. He said FGCU would be making a legislative budget request case on two levels. One level was $13.7 million of recurring funding to continue to build academic strength and to catch up in terms of funding per capita. He said the second level was $32.9 million aimed at completing the construction funding for an integrated water and coastal studies building “Academic Building 9 (AB9)”. He said FGCU had received support from the leadership of the Board of Governors (BOG) and pointed out a small card, which each Trustee had been given, that contained some talking points and which could be used in discussing the issues.

President Martin thanked Chair Gable for his help in forming the legislative budget requests information provided to the BOG.

Item 7: Standing Report from United Faculty of Florida (UFF)/FGCU Chapter
Chair Gable introduced Co-Presidents of United Faculty of Florida (UFF)/FGCU Chapter Win Everham and Morgan Paine, whose report was being made in conjunction with the collective bargaining agreement provision that provides an opportunity to speak to Board agenda items which affect the wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment of employees, defined as a member of the bargaining unit. He said FGCU was currently engaged in negotiations with UFF, and it would be inappropriate to enter into any kind of discussion.

Dr. Everham thanked Chair Gable and congratulated him on his new position as Chair. He said he would be giving the report solo as Mr. Paine was teaching.

Dr. Everham stated since their last report to the Board, a memorandum of agreement had been processed which had resulted in the faculty who had been promoted last June receiving promotion pay raises. He said thanks to the fast actions of Human Resources, back pay had been received before Christmas.
Dr. Everham said in October the budget had indicated a positive balance of $1.7 million, not including the costs of Hurricane Irma. He said the budget before them indicated a positive balance of $4.5 million, due in part to savings which happened during the time FGCU was closed for the hurricane.

Dr. Everham stated it was important that the Board understood the work of faculty included teaching, service and scholarship. He said the ability to continue to be active scholars had been damaged by budget cuts related to travel. He asked the Board and administration to consider, as FGCU moved forward, restoring some funding to support faculty scholarship.

Dr. Everham continued by saying UFF would like to call attention to two bills filed in the Legislature this year. House Bill 25 raised the possibility of de-certifying the union. He said obviously the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) was not in favor of this bill, and he asked the Board to consider the time and energy which might be necessary to individually negotiate 462 faculty contracts. The second bill introduced was to allow firearms to be legally carried on campus by untrained citizens. He pointed out firearms were already allowed on campus, but were restricted to the trained professionals who protected them. He said he did not feel more guns on campus would make them safer, and this position was supported by the UFF Chapter, the FGCU Faculty Senate, and all of the Police Chiefs of the State University System, and he asked the Board to support this stance as well.

Dr. Everham stated faculty were concerned about the possible hurricane impacts on withdrawal and failure rates for students and how it would impact retention rate and progress toward the performance metrics in upcoming years.

Dr. Everham thanked College of Arts and Sciences Dean Bob Gregerson and Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Tony Barringer for helping to create a fundamentally more positive atmosphere for the University over the past 90 days. He said their work had set the stage for constructive, positive, productive conversations and actions that would energize and motivate the teaching and learning environment. He thanked everyone for their commitment to the University.

**Item 8: Standing Report from FGCU Foundation Board of Directors**

Chair Gable asked FGCU Foundation Board of Directors Chair David Holmes to give his report.

Mr. Holmes began his report by stating the Foundation was committed to supporting the University, and he welcomed Trustee Eide, and Dr. Llorens, and congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair in their new positions. He said the Foundation had been busy working with President Martin and introducing him to various constituencies throughout the region. He stated last month he had hosted a day where President Martin came to Charlotte County and met with over 100 business, government and cultural leaders from the community. On the following day, President Martin attended a similar event in
Hendry County. He said in the coming week, President Martin would be going to the Sanctuary Golf Club and getting to know the people of Sanibel and Captiva; and on February 1, President Martin would attend an event at the home of former FGCU Foundation Board Chair Fred Pezeshkan in Port Royal.

Mr. Holmes stated he had been involved in a number of events over the past several months to continue the introduction of President Martin to Southwest Florida, including the annual Founder’s Cup Golf Tournament at Quail Creek in Naples, which was a resounding success that raised over $120,000. He said another successful event was the President’s Scholarship Luncheon. He said these events further the mission of supporting and advancing the University by making new connections.

Mr. Holmes stated the Foundation’s primary mission was advancement, which included fundraising. He said in the past six months, the Foundation had experienced some headwinds, which were somewhat unexpected. He said the $100 million capital campaign had wrapped up with over $125 million successfully raised. He said following this, they had come to an expected pause in fundraising. His said a new President came onboard and an unexpected hurricane shortly thereafter, which had redirected some philanthropic dollars to social services and other areas. He said he now felt they were in a more typical environment.

Mr. Holmes stated the Foundation also was working on a Strategic Plan to support and align with the University’s Strategic Plan. He said in the coming months, the Foundation would present a comprehensive Strategic Plan to the FGCU Board of Trustees that would align the work of the Foundation with the larger work of the University.

**Item 9: Standing Report from FCGU Financing Corporation Board of Directors**

Chair Gable said Vice President for Administrative Services and Finance, and Executive Director of FCGU Financing Corporation Steve Magiera would be giving the report for the Financing Corporation on behalf of Mr. Joe Catti.

Mr. Magiera said the Financing Board had met on December 6, 2017. He said Larry Hart was unanimously elected as the Treasurer of the Financing Corporation. He said the financial statements and quarterly budgets showed no concerns. He reported the hurricane damage to the boardwalk at North Lake Village was about a half million dollars; the construction company had been hired and repairs should begin before the end of the month. He stated it was expected almost all of the damage would be covered by FEMA or state insurance.

Mr. Magiera stated the Financing Corporation had heard a report on area competition and actions being taken to maintain the market share for student housing. He added the Financing Corporation Board of Directors unanimously approved spending up to $1 million for a full-sized bed program in North Lake Village, which would maintain a competitive edge in the market. He reported the North Lake Village dining hall had
opened; and he added that the Financing Corporation was thankful to Chartwells for
providing the funds to build the dining facility.

Mr. Magiera stated the final report on the bond refinancing had been received, and the
process had finished and closed at the end of November. He said there had been $54
million of housing bonds and $8 million of parking bonds which were callable in 2017,
and they had been refinanced. He said the net present value savings on the housing
bonds was $7.6 million, and about $800,000 on the parking bonds. He said the
Financing Corporation had received very satisfactory ratings from the various rating
agencies. He stated that Fitch gave “A+” ratings for both housing and parking bonds;
Moody’s gave “A2” ratings for both housing and parking bonds; and Standard & Poor’s
gave an “A-” rating to the housing bond and an “A” rating to the parking bond.

**Item 10: Presentation on FGCU Student Housing**

Chair Gable introduced Director of Housing Brian Fisher to present this information.

Dr. Fisher gave a brief history of housing at FGCU. He said housing has grown rapidly
in a short amount of time.

Dr. Fisher introduced each of the residential communities on campus. He began with
South Village, the newest residential community but the largest, and he noted the
majority of students living there were first-year students, which provided a unique
opportunity to provide programmatic elements to support the transition to University life.
He said unique to this community was every student had a private bedroom with a
shared living area, which was unattainable at other universities. He shared photos of
this facility and highlighted some of its features. He presented North Lake Village, the
first student housing facility on campus, which offered apartment style housing, and
mostly housed sophomores and student-athletes. He said this was the area where
FGCU needed to be competitive to encourage students to continue to live on campus.
He said FGCU had enhanced North Lake Village recently to make it more attractive to
students. He shared photos of North Lake Village. Dr. Fisher said the University also
offered an apartment complex, West Lake Village adjacent to the Gulf Coast Town
Center that was used by upper-class students who were required to sign a one-year
lease.

Dr. Fisher emphasized the University offered more to students than a place to live. He
shared the mission statement for the Office of Housing & Residence Life and
highlighted key elements, which included transitioning into a welcoming community,
specialized staff, and inclusive communities which fostered learning. He pointed out the
current data showed students who lived on campus were more successful and had
improved graduation rates.

Dr. Fisher stated the Housing Office had many dimensions including business
operations, a facilities team, and a residence life team. He said in addition to the on-
campus staff, there also were many off-campus partners, which included outsourced
services such as housekeeping. He said there was a five-year capital improvement plan. He said although much of the housing was new, FGCU also had some housing which was 20 years old, but his team was working hard to keep facilities “like new.”

Dr. Fisher said the business operations staff was lean and included eight or nine members. He briefly presented a budget overview and highlighted some of the figures.

Dr. Fisher said the residence life staff was the team which made on-campus housing different from off-campus housing. He said his office had worked very hard to recruit a team which was very dedicated to students. He said this team lived on campus and worked tirelessly for students, and it included Resident Assistants and Resident Directors.

Dr. Fisher presented the First Year Residential Experience (FYRE) program. He said this program existed in South Village and included many of the resources needed by first-year students. He said four advisors had their offices in Eagle Hall, and there were five classrooms where classes were taught. He said the faculty who taught classes in Eagle Hall were part of the First Year Residential Experience (FYRE) Fellows Program and held office hours there.

Dr. Fisher said outside of South Village, there were four living and learning communities, which included a Leadership through Service community; an Entrepreneurship community; Honors community; and a Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math community.

Dr. Fisher shared that until the last two years, the residence halls had been at full occupancy. He said the fall occupancy was in correlation to off-campus growth. He said in the past 24 months, he and his staff had developed plans to be as ready as they could in an environment where enrollment growth was flat or very slow. He said to be prepared, they had filled a new position, Coordinator for Marketing, to become more assertive in marketing efforts. To become more competitive, he said on-campus housing would be offering full-sized beds as an option. He said efforts to boost summer occupancy also were being pursued.

Dr. Fisher concluded by stating 98 percent occupancy was not something to be disappointed about, but knowing housing offered students a critical piece of learning and could propel them into success, it was important to give students this opportunity. Trustee Priddy commented he supported Dr. Fisher and his staff, and said the Board should appreciate Dr. Fisher’s forward thinking in housing, which was number one in the State. He thanked him for his dedication.

Trustee Spilker asked how the rental rates compared to the private marketplace.

Dr. Fisher responded rental rates for on-campus housing had not been raised since 2012, and the price of on-campus housing was less than the comparable off-campus market.
Trustee Priddy asked if Dr. Fisher had considered cable, Wi-Fi, and other included amenities provided in on-campus housing in his comparison.

Dr. Fisher responded most of the off-campus housing included these also. He said at The Reef and University Village, students were given a utility allowance.

Trustee McDonald thanked Dr. Fisher for his presentation and asked what would be the crisis point for occupancy.

Dr. Fisher stated Housing would not start losing money until it reached 83 percent occupancy with all other things static. He added as revenues declined, it would make it more difficult to invest in the facility.

Trustee Eide complimented Dr. Fisher on his presentation and asked if the ratings from Fitch, Moody’s, and Standard & Poor’s were the same as prior ratings.

Mr. Magiera replied the ratings had not changed, and a stable outlook had been given from all of the agencies.

Trustee Eide asked if any of the ratings included a “watch.”

Mr. Magiera responded in the past this had happened, but it had all been resolved, and there was no longer any “watch.”

Trustee Fogg commented he would have thought proximity to campus and other students would be a massive advantage for on-campus housing.

Dr. Fisher responded “new and close” always beat “old and far.” He said University Village, a new competitive facility, was within walking distance to campus. He said as students mature, they want to move off campus. He said he was supportive of that.

Trustee Spilker mentioned a number of schools have a requirement for students to live on campus in freshman, and sometimes sophomore, year. He asked if this option was something FGCU would consider.

Dr. Fisher responded there were three universities in the State University System (SUS) that currently did this: University of North Florida, Florida Atlantic University, and University of South Florida. He said he was not in favor of this as it created a stigma among students that it was forced on them, and at this time, he was not to the point of considering this option. He added students may not want to come to FGCU if they would be forced to live on campus. He said it was not a simple decision.

President Martin stated if the Strategic Plan succeeded on enrollment management, FGCU would grow organically without adding freshmen.
Trustee Priddy commented one of the drivers for students to move off campus was they did not have to play by the rules of living on campus. Dr. Fisher agreed and said University Housing was supportive of older students living off campus as it is a natural course of development as students grow and mature.

Dr. Fisher invited the Board to visit the housing facilities.

Item 11: Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee (See Tab #6)
Chair Gable introduced Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Christian Spilker to present this information.

Trustee Spilker said there was one information item which was a presentation on the Soar in 4 results to date. He asked Director of Retention & First Year Experience Ney Arias and Soar in 4 Program Manager Christina Badali to present this information on behalf of Dean of Undergraduate Studies Dawn Kirby.

Mr. Arias said Soar in 4 was a program which made FGCU really special. He said it was an incentive based program which rewarded students for graduating in four years. He said this was done by tracking student contact with offices that enhanced the value of students’ degrees and by participation in programs such as internships and co-ops. He said after students graduate, stay in the State of Florida, and get a job within six months making at least $25,000 a year, they were rebated out-of-pocket tuition costs incurred in the first year for up to 30 credit hours. He said this program allowed FGCU to get in touch with students and require some things which would benefit them. He added it also improved the metrics through retention and reduced the cost of degree.

Mr. Arias continued by saying that students were informed of the program during orientation in the advisement section. He stated plans were under way to change this to make a presentation at the beginning of the day to students and parents. He said students sign a form indicating they have received information about Soar in 4, and the form was scanned into Banner and would be signed over the four years. Mr. Arias said this procedure was no longer ideal for their needs. He introduced Ms. Badali to explain some changes which were being made to change this system.

Ms. Badali said the paper-based program had worked initially, but for long-term use, it would not be sustainable. She said their plan was to become more electronically based, and Soar in 4 had partnered with Business Technology Services (BTS) to accomplish this. She said BTS had helped to bring the vision to life by taking what was currently being used by faculty and staff and integrating it into FGCU’s online Gulfline system. She said her office would be utilizing Banner, Appointment Manager, and Simplicity, so students would be able to track their progress in the program on Gulfline. She said in addition to students being able to see their progress, faculty and staff could view this information as well and be proactive.
Ms. Badali added this new system would enable them to gather usable data regarding Soar in 4 and use it to inform policies and practices to increase the four-year graduation rate.

Mr. Arias said what the new system would allow them to do was monitor students during a semester and more effectively help them.

Mr. Arias explained the results of the first cohort of the Soar in 4 program, which began in 2015, most of whom have not yet graduated. He showed 9 percent of first-year students completed 30 credit hours in 2014, 20 percent in 2015, and in 2016, there was an increase to 33 percent. Nationwide the statistic was 31 percent, which meant FGCU was above the national average.

Trustee Fogg asked what the significance of completing 30 credit hours was. It was explained if students completed 30 credit hours a year, they would complete 120 hours and could graduate in four years.

Ms. Badali stated in an effort to be forward thinking, she had a series of meetings with other state institutions across the country which offer similar incentive programs that have been successful. She said these institutions offer various other incentives to students, and she said in the future FGCU could examine these programs. She continued by saying that the first cohort would graduate in the spring of 2019, and pointed out a few proactive students had already graduated.

Trustee Smith said he was happy to hear Soar in 4 was no longer using paper scanning, and he congratulated them on their good work. He asked if the 30 percent included all first-year students, and the response was affirmative. Trustee Smith asked if the program was being actively marketed to juniors in high school and their parents, so FGCU would have an advantage.

Ms. Badali responded the Office of Admissions did include information about Soar in 4, and at Eagle Expo, the information was presented to parents who were very favorably impressed.

Trustee Montgomery asked what was the highest rate for first-year students at any one university. Ms. Badali responded the data was not publicly available.

Trustee McDonald asked if the program was available to out-of-state students as well, and the response was affirmative.

Chair Gable thanked Ms. Badali and Mr. Arias for their presentation, and said the more parents who can hear about this program, the better.
Item 12: Finance, Facilities and Administration Committee (See Tabs #7-9)

Chair Gable stated there were two Information Items, and one Action Item. He asked Vice President for Administrative Services and Finance, and Executive Director of FGCU Financing Corporation Steve Magiera to present the first two items.

Finance/Budget Update (Tab #7)

Mr. Magiera said the first item was the Financial Budget update for the quarter. He said revenues were a positive variance of $1.7 million, and expenditures of $2.8 million were also positive, which meant less was spent than anticipated. He reported the actuals for revenue were about $1 million, and $2.3 million for expenditures.

Chair Gable asked for questions and there were none.

Block Tuition (Tab #8)

Mr. Magiera said President Martin had asked him to give information about Block Tuition. He said last year the Legislature talked about the possibility of universities looking at block tuition. He said the discussion at that time was about at what amount the tuition would be set. He said if block tuition was set at 12 credit hours, FGCU would lose $7 million; if it were set at 15 credit hours, FGCU would earn about $5 million.

Mr. Magiera stated the Chancellor’s office had asked the universities to come up with some possible plans. He said the Chancellor’s office had been informed that none of the plans, which the universities have put forth, had been endorsed by the Trustees, and these were only options.

Mr. Magiera explained one option was a block tuition set at 15 credit hours, where the student could take anywhere from 12 to 21 credit hours. He said in trying to keep in good faith with the students in cost, any hours which could not be taken in fall or spring semesters, the student could bank and use in summer. He gave an example of a student who could not take more than 12 hours in a semester, who could then take the extra six hours in summer at no charge.

Mr. Magiera added Bright Futures, and Florida Prepaid both indicated they will not participate in a block tuition program. He said right now approximately one-third of FGCU’s students were Bright Futures or Florida Prepaid recipients, so these students would not participate.

Mr. Magiera continued by saying that one of the other plans put forth was a rebate program which stipulated if a student completed 30 credit hours as a freshman, 3 free credit hours would be given in their sophomore year, and this would continue through their junior and senior years, which added up to 9 free credit hours.

Mr. Magiera said he was not sure if the Legislature was trying to get the costs down or if they were trying to get students graduated. He said the rebate program estimate would be about $1.8 million in cost to FGCU. He said the Soar in 4 program would cost about $1.5 million.
Mr. Magiera said eventually he would be back before the Board to ask for its endorsement for a particular program, but he was far from that point now. He said at this time the Legislature was considering giving the universities a choice of options.

Trustee Smith said he wondered if a student from another university within the State University System (SUS) wished to take a course at FGCU, how that would work. Mr. Magiera said that was one of the details being considered.

Trustee Smith asked if online courses could be taken, and the response was affirmative.

Mr. Magiera said the Legislature was expecting this change to take effect in the fall 2018 semester, which presented many complications.

Trustee Roepstorff said she was concerned about Bright Futures not participating, and how this was being handled.

Mr. Magiera responded Bright Futures’ argument was it did not believe it could legally participate as it paid for courses that had actually been taken.

Trustee Roepstorff said she would think the Legislature would work that out before this was put into place.

Trustee Gable said this issue could be a key component of the upcoming Board meeting on February 20, depending on how much information is available then.

Transcript of the Executive Session of January 12, 2016 (Tab #9)

Chair Gable called on Vice President and General Counsel Vee Leonard to present this item.

Ms. Leonard said this was an item to cure an Executive Session transcript for January 12, 2016, which inadvertently was not submitted to the Board, and this was to cure a Sunshine issue.

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the transcript of the Executive Session of January 12, 2016. Trustee Cors seconded the motion. There was no public comment, or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

Item 13: Audit and Compliance Committee (See Tabs #10-14)

Chair Gable called on Audit and Compliance Committee Chair Joe Fogg.

Trustee Fogg asked President Martin to make some preliminary remarks. President Martin said after some conversations, it had been decided it would be in the best interest to delay three of the five action items until the faculty and the Faculty Senate had time to consider any input. The three items were: (1) Regulation on Code of Ethics
Trustee Fogg stated that it would be good to take these items up at the February 20 meeting.

Trustee Fogg asked Director of Internal Audit Bill Foster to handle the next agenda items.

**Florida Gulf Coast University Financing Corporation Independent Auditor’s Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2017 (Tab #10)**

Mr. Foster said the first item was the FGCU Financing Corporation Independent Auditor’s Report. He said the auditors had determined the financial statements fairly presented the financial position of the Financing Corporation, which was a clean opinion. He said there were no deficiencies in internal controls noted, which was excellent. He said also no new debt was incurred.

Mr. Fogg commented there continued to be some confusion on the part of the Audit and Compliance Committee as to what extent the Committee, and the FGCU Board of Trustees, had responsibility for the University’s Direct Support Organizations (DSOs). He asked President Martin for some clarification from the administration on this in the future.

Trustee Smith made a motion to accept the Auditor’s Report for the Financing Corporation for the Year Ending June 30, 2017. Trustee Montgomery seconded the motion. There was no public comment, or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

**Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation Independent Auditor’s Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2017 (Tab #11)**

Trustee Fogg called for a motion to approve this Report.

Trustee Smith made a motion to accept the FGCU Foundation Independent Auditor’s Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2017. Trustee Montgomery seconded the motion. There was no public comment, or Board discussion. The vote was 11-0 in favor of the motion.

Trustee Smith said Trustee Fogg’s comment concerning the role of the FGCU Board of Trustees’ oversight to the Direct Support Organizations (DSOs) was important and should be clarified.

Trustee Fogg said the Board of Governors (BOG) had promulgated some recent thoughts on the matter, and he said it was not clear to him what was expected.

President Martin added he was inquiring of other universities within the State University System (SUS) on their interpretation of this matter. He said it had been an ongoing
conversation about what really was the relationship between the BOG, the FGCU BOT, and the Boards of these two DSO corporations. He said he hoped there would be some SUS-wide resolution that was clear enough to show the responsibilities and liabilities.

Chair Gable asked for this item be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting on February 20.

**Item 14: Standing Report from FGCU Faculty Senate**

Chair Gable called on Faculty Senate President Mike McDonald for his report.

Trustee McDonald said over the past few months there had been a few significant actions taken. He said the Faculty Senate developed and approved a resolution to sunset the moratorium on supplies and material fees for laboratory and other experience-based courses. He said the Faculty Senate had recently completed the fall semester funding cycle for the Professional Development Grant Program, and reported the Faculty Senate had received 53 applications and awarded 49 grants with an average award of $908. He said with these funds, faculty would pursue scholarly activities. He said Director of Facilities Planning Tom Mayo would attend the Senate’s next meeting to provide an overview of the plans for Academic Building 9 (AB9).

**Item 15: Standing Report from FGCU Student Government**

Chair Gable called on Student Government President Jalisa White to give her report.

Trustee White reported Student Government would be taking 18 students to FGCU Day at the Capitol. She said the allocation of the Activity and Service (A&S) fees from student tuition, which is $4.2 million, was being completed. She said coming up was the Student Government Welcome Back event, Open Forums, Wings Up Wednesdays, Deans Meetings, as well as Homecoming. She stated Student Government had secured funding for permanent speakers on the lawn, which would eliminate the need to move speakers for events. She invited the trustees to speak at Senate, and to let Vice President Evans know if they were attending so she could notice the public meeting.

**Item 16: Standing Report from FGCU Staff Advisory Council**

Chair Gable called on Staff Advisory Council (SAC) President Teri Bigos to give her report.

Ms. Bigos reported the Staff Advisory Council (SAC) was planning to provide some professional development program monies to staff via a revised application that would reward the money in fall and spring. She said SAC was planning for Soar Into Spring, which would be during spring break week. She thanked Dr. Llorens for meeting with the SAC officers and discussing student success. She also thanked President Martin for continuing to create a culture of shared governance at FGCU.
Item 17: Old Business
There was no old business for discussion.

Item 18: New Business
Chair Gable stated he would make a few appointments in accordance with the Board’s Bylaws. He asked the following Trustees to serve in the following capacities, and they agreed to do so:

- Trustee Christian Spilker to remain in his current role as Chair of the Academic/Student/Faculty Affairs Committee.
- Trustee Ken Smith to Chair the Finance, Facilities and Administration Committee.
- Trustee Joe Fogg to remain in his current role as Chair of the Audit and Compliance Committee.
- Trustee Leo Montgomery to be the liaison to the FGCU Foundation Board of Directors.
- Trustee Russell Priddy to remain in his current role as the liaison to the FGCU Financing Corporation.

Chair Gable thanked everyone for their assistance.

Item 19: Chair’s Closing Remarks & Meeting Adjournment
Chair Gable stated as the Board moved forward, he had asked President Martin to start each meeting by focusing on the things which have to be done better at the University. He said it was important to acknowledge the areas where there has not been success. He said whatever the President chose to highlight, the Board needed to be focused on that issue. He said ultimately, the Board’s focus needed to be on student success. He stated he had asked for the standing reports from Faculty Senate, Student Government, and Staff Advisory Council (SAC) to be put on hold so the Board can focus on the things it can do to support the President and the administration.

Chair Gable adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.
Minutes prepared by Transcription Experts, and reviewed by Tiffany Reynolds, Director of Operations.

Agenda Items:

A. See Tabs #1 – 14

B. Handouts

Attachment:

A. Record of Votes
Record of Votes  
FGCU Board of Trustees  
DATE: 1/9/2018

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