

USF Board of Trustees

Tuesday, August 19, 2020
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jordan Zimmerman at 9:00 a.m. He welcomed the Trustees and thanked them for joining the meeting.

He then asked Dr. Cindy Visot to call roll.

The following Trustees present:

Trustee Tim Boaz
Trustee Sandra Callahan
Trustee Michael Carrere
Trustee Stephanie Goforth
Trustee Michael Griffin
Trustee Oscar Horton
Trustee Claire Mitchell
Trustee Leslie Muma
Trustee John Ramil
Trustee Charles Tokarz
Trustee Nancy Watkins
Trustee Jordan Zimmerman

New Business – Action Items (FL 101-102)

FL 101 – Approval of USF Operating Budget

Chair Zimmerman called on President Currall to present the first item.

President Currall thanked Chair Zimmerman and introduced Nick Trivunovich to go over the operating budget with the Trustees.

Mr. Trivunovich reviewed the proposed operating budget. He then reviewed the required FY2020-21 8.5% Budget Reduction Analysis Report. He noted that the amount of this reduction is \$37,705,974. He stated that the document includes possible reduction strategies

based on initial discussion as well as descriptions of the anticipated impacts. Reductions will be finalized through the strategic renewal process, which is currently taking place.

He noted five broad categories where reductions could take place:

- Instruction (\$16,321,865) – 44%
- University Support Services (\$7,694,354) -21%
- Academic Support Services (\$6,069,426) – 17%
- Research (\$4,259,194) – 12%
- Student Services (\$2,361,134) 6%

Trustee Stephanie Goforth expressed concern about some of the items in the document that were suggested, such as reducing travel and freezes, that she stated should have been done months prior. Mr. Trivunovich clarified that some of the items had already been done, but others needed decisions from the strategic renewal to officially take place. He acknowledged that her point was well-taken.

Chair Zimmerman asked that the Trustees be updated every week on the situation, as there is a lot to do and wants to move forward quickly.

Trustee Michael Griffin recommended removing editorial comments from the bullets to have it remain strictly factual.

There was concern from multiple Trustees that USF is behind on saving funds and with cutting the budget and needs to move forward as quickly as possible.

Mr. Trivunovich stated that they have been working on reductions for several months and have asked for recommendations from deans regarding cutting their budgets by 5%, 10%, 12.5%, and 15% and have received their first set of recommendations and expect the second set by the end of the month and will then have discussions around those reports.

Trustee Mike Carrere asked when will the university hear from the BOG and legislature about what the actual budget cuts will be. Mark Walsh estimated around December the legislature will make decisions and they may make a significant cut to the budget. Another unknown Mr. Walsh mentioned was federal budget cuts.

Trustee Ramil suggested instead of the bullet points that were used for the document, instead noting which performance-based metrics are put at risk and strategic goals and objectives that are put at risk to show where USF is likely to suffer from these budget cuts. Trustee Zimmerman stated that this is all being taken into consideration and agrees.

Chair Zimmerman recommended approval of the USF Operating Budget as presented with the expectation that in the next few weeks, there be a look at reductions of 8.5%, 10% and 12-15%, what those are, and how they will affect performance-based funding and preeminence metrics. Trustee Goforth moved for approval with a second from Trustee Carrere. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

FL 102 – Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with GAU and UFF

Trustee Zimmerman called on Liz Gierbolini, Senior Associate General Council to present the item. Ms. Gierbolini stated that there are two MOUs, one from Graduate Assistants United and one from United Faculty of Florida. She noted that they were prepared when USF was transitioning to remote learning and working and both unions asked that USF's implementations for this transition be put into writing and they are shown in the MOU's presented.

With no questions from the Trustees, Chair Zimmerman asked for a motion for approval, which was given by Trustee Muma with a second from Trustee Carrere. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Zimmerman noted that once these are ratified by their members, the Board will approve the contracts.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.