

University of South Florida  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
December 3, 2019  
Unofficial Minutes

Chair Jordan Zimmerman convened the regular meeting of the USF Board of Trustees at 9:30 am and thanked everyone for being in attendance.

Chair Zimmerman announced the upcoming winter commencement ceremonies and asked fellow Trustee members to plan to participate.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman read a perspective on Student Success in A Consolidated USF, authored by Dr's. Paul Dosal and Patty Helton. The Chair commented that Student Success is everyone's responsibility. He requested that Dr. Cynthia Visot forward the perspective links and would like to hear future perspectives from the Board of Trustee Members.

Chair Zimmerman proudly announced that nine USF faculty members including Deans Julianne Serovich, College of Behavioral Sciences and Robert Bishop, College of Engineering, have been named Fellows of the American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Chair Jordan Zimmerman reported on the recent USF Presidential Inauguration which was a flawless spectacular event. President Steven Currall did a marvelous job.

**Dr. Cynthia Visot called the roll with the following Trustees present:**

Trustee Michael Carrere  
Trustee Britney Deas  
Trustee Stephanie Goforth – By Phone  
Michael Griffin  
Trustee Oscar Horton  
Trustee Deanna Michael  
Trustee Harold Mullis  
Trustee Leslie Muma  
Trustee John Ramil  
Trustee Byron Shinn  
Trustee Charles Tokarz  
Trustee Nancy Watkins  
Trustee Jordan Zimmerman

## **President's Update**

On behalf of himself and Dr. Cheyenne Currall, President Steven Currall thanked the USF Community for the warm welcome during the Inauguration process. It was also an opportunity to reflect on their vision for the future. The President thanked Paige Geers and her team for her hard work organizing the event.

A power point presentation was provided which highlighted an update on recent activities as part of the effort for advancement for global reputation.

- Higher Education Advocacy
- APLU Award
- Council on Competitiveness
- Athletics Update – Athletic Director Michael Kelly announced that there will be a change in leadership of the football program and a national search for a new football coach.
- Congratulated the Women's Soccer Team for making it to the NCAA Sweet 16. This was a historic season for USF. Evelyn Viens earned the AAC Co- Offensive player of the year.
- Congratulations to the Men's Soccer Team for making it to the NCAA Tournament.
- Legislative Budget Request and BOG Pillars of Excellence
- Jabil Innovation Institute
- Foundation Update – Endowment Growth – Alumni Association Events
- USF Morsani College of Medicine and Heart Institute Ribbon Cutting: 8 January 2020.
- Principles of Community Task Force and Strategic Renewal Process - Will receive information from the Task Force by February 28, 2020.
- Listening Tour
- Celebrated 2019 Homecoming
- Meeting with other Community Groups

## **New Business**

### **FL 101 – Approval of Minutes**

1. September 10, 2019
2. October 28, 2019

Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any changes to the Minutes that needed to be reviewed. Trustee Nancy Watkins had an amendment to the September 10<sup>th</sup> Board Minutes.

Trustee Hal Mullis made a motion to approve the amended September 10<sup>th</sup> BOT Minutes with a second from Trustee John Ramil. The September 10<sup>th</sup> and the October 28<sup>th</sup> BOT Minutes were approved.

## **Consent Agenda (FL 102 –FL 115)**

FL 102 – Approval of “One USF” Mission and Goals as amended

Governance Committee Approved Items

FL 103 – Approval of Revisions to USF Board of Trustees Operating Procedures

FL 104 – Approval of Revisions of USF Health Professionals Conferencing Corporation Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

FL 105 – Approval of Direct Support Organization Board Members – USF Health Professions Conferencing Corporation Board of Directors

FL 106 – Approval of Direct Support Organization Board Members – USF Research Foundation Board of Trustees Regular Meeting - Meeting Agenda

FL 107 – Approval of Direct Support Organization Board Members – USF Institute of Applied Engineering

Finance Committee Approved Items

FL 108 – Approval of 2020-21 USF Parking System Budget

Academics and Campus Environment Committee Approved Items

FL 109 – Approval of Tenure as a Condition of Employment (USF Health)

FL 110 – Approval of Degree Program Productivity Report and Proposed Terminations

FL 111 – Approval of Proposed B.S. Cell and Molecular Biology

FL 112 – Approval of Proposed B.S. Information Science

FL 113 – Approval of Proposed B.S. Marine Biology

FL 114 – Approval of Proposed M.S. Marriage and Family Therapy

FL 115 – Approval of Proposed B.S. Personal Financial Planning

Trustee Hal Mullis commented on behalf of the Joint Strategic Initiatives and CAP Committees. During the last full board meeting scheduled on September 10, 2019 the focus of discussion was the USF Mission Statement Goals.

Trustee Mullis commented that the revised Mission Statement satisfies the SACS requirement with one amendment to Goal 1. The word graduate was changed to alumni. After A full discussion at the November 20<sup>th</sup> committee meeting, an enormous outreach developing the Mission Statement and the amended change, the Joint Strategic Initiatives and CAP Committees recommended approval.

Vice Chair Les Muma commented on behalf of the Governance Committee. The Committee reviewed and approved the proposed amendments to the USF Operating Procedures, Article 1 Section C3 –Address the scope and treatment of Campus Advisory Board materials by the President and by the Board. The Committee also recommended approval of the updated DSO Memberships and Bylaws as it appears in the consent agenda.

Trustee Charles Tokarz commented on behalf of the ACE Committee. After a thorough discussion of the items the Committee unanimously recommended approval.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked the United Faculty of Florida representative, Dr. Arthur Shapiro if he had any comments concerning the consent agenda.

Dr. Shapiro commented on:

- Salary negotiations were complete, contracts were settled and should be implemented soon.
- President Currall has settled the Consolidation issue.
- UFF hosted a welcome celebration for President Steve and Dr. Cheyenne Currall

Dr. Shapiro wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items FL102 – FL 115. Trustee Hal Mullis made a motion and seconded by Trustee Byron Shinn. The consent agenda was approved.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman made comments concerning the thorough discussions held during the Joint Strategic Initiatives and CAP Committee meeting as it relates to a step towards a SACS Accreditation of one University. One great university with three great campuses. The Chair suggested getting pennants made for faculty as well as for students.

### **New Business – Action Items**

FL 116 – Approval of Resolution indicating alignment of the SACSCOC Substantive Change Prospectus with the BOT-approved Guiding Principles.

USF President Steve Currall presented.

The Board’s oversight responsibilities include review of the SACSCOC Substantive Change Prospectus (“Prospectus”) for consistency with the Board’s Guiding Principles, as adopted on April 23, 2018. The implementation of the Prospectus, the underlying structure of the university, and the delivery of academic programs are delegated to the President.

The Prospectus was presented at the combined Strategic Initiatives and CAP committees (“Combined Committees) on November 20, 2019. Based on the Combined Committees’ feedback and discussion of the Prospectus, the full Board is now asked to consider the following resolution confirming that the Prospectus aligns with the Board guidance on Consolidation:

President Steve Currall thanked the Faculty Senate represented on all three USF campuses and the faculty for approving a new Faculty Constitution. President Currall thanked Trustee Deanna Michael and Campus Senate Presidents Ray Arsenault, Tim Boaz and Mike Gillespie.

President Currall also thanked the Student Government Presidents and students at large for approving a new constitution. A special thanks went out to Student Government President and Trustee member, Britney Deas and Regional Student Government Presidents Jazia Duarte and Isabelle Starner.

Trustee Deanna Michaels thanked several members of the Faculty Senate Subcommittees and the System Faculty Council for their commitment and time:

The Constitution Subcommittee: Tim Boaz and Drew Smith from USF Tampa also to Ray Arsenault and Patricia Pettijohn from USFSP.

Trustee Michael also gave special thanks to Mike Gillespie, Sandra Stone and Fawn Ngo from USFSM. Trustee Michael gave recognition to Steve Prevaux for his expertise as it relates to the Constitutional Subcommittee.

Trustee Michael thanked the Tenure and Promotion Subcommittee – Tim Boaz, Mike Gillespie, Ray Arsenault and Steve Lang. Instructor Guidelines Committee - Nichole Stovall, Katie Tecario and Phillip Wagner. A special thanks went out to Jim Gary and his team for keeping everyone organized during the process.

As it relates to the Intercampus Constitutional Committee Trustee Michael thanked Fawn Ngo, Jill Roberts, Kirby Russell; David Rosengrant; Mike Sinclair, Phil Wagner. For the administrative support a special thanks went out to Provost Ralph Wilcox, Terrie Chisolm, Cynthia Hernandez Brown, Jennifer Lister and their teams.

Trustee Michael also thanked the General Education Consolidation group: Kyna Betancourt, Morgan Grisham and Phillip Wagner for their hard work and dedication.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman thanked both President Steve Currall and Provost Ralph Wilcox for their vision and spectacular leadership as well as the faculty, students and all committee participants for their diligence and commitment while serving.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve, Vice Chair Les Muma moved for approval. Trustee John Ramil seconded and FL 116 was approved.

## FL 117 – Approval of USF St. Petersburg Campus Board Appointment

The Board shall appoint members to the Campus Boards, from recommendations of the President. Consistent with the State Constitution, members shall hold no other State office. Members may be reappointed for additional terms not to exceed eight (8) years of service.

President Steve Currall presented.

Melissa Seixas is Vice President, Government and Community relations for Duke Energy Florida. She directs the company's efforts to strengthen relationships with municipal, community and civic organizations and business leaders throughout the company's 35 county service area in order to best meet their needs. Ms. Seixas is the current chairwoman of the Board for the St. Pete Downtown Partnership. She holds a bachelor's degree from Eckerd College, a master's degree the University of South Florida and a professional certification in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) from Johns Hopkins University.

Trustee Michael Griffin commented on his experience while serving with Ms. Seixas on the consolidation task force and subcommittees. She's an incredible advocate, friend and leader for the University of South Florida.

Trustee Stephanie Goforth is in full support of Ms. Seixas becoming a USFSP Regional Campus Board member. She's a terrific advocate for USF and will have many great ideas to bring to the table.

Trustee Nancy Watkins moved to approve, it was seconded by Trustee Byron Shinn. Motion carried. FL 117 was approved.

Trustee Byron Shinn had questions pertaining to a technical matter with consolidation documentation, for the USF General Counsel Gerard Solis. Trustee Shinn also made comments concerning a local board reset July 1, 2020.

General Counsel Solis's recommendation is to proceed with the law as currently written and make technical updates and adjustments as needed when the time comes.

## FL 118 – Approval of Chair Emeritus Title

Chair Jordan Zimmerman made comments concerning Trustee Hal Mullis's tenure and extraordinary leadership as a Trustee member.

- USF has benefitted from his knowledge and service
- We learned patience and fortitude.
- Amazing desire and passion for USF
- Energy and leadership

Vice Chair Les Muma presented the Resolution. A powerpoint of Trustee Mullis's accomplishments were highlighted.

Today is Trustee Hal Mullis' last meeting as his term on the Board ends January 6, 2020. In an effort to honor Trustee Mullis for his service as Board Chair 2014-2016 and for his dedication to USF and our Board. A few of the accomplishments that occurred during his chairmanship included:

- *Celebrated breaking the \$900 million milestone, including over \$60 million in donations, including some of the largest gifts in USF history:*
  - *Les and Pam Muma's gift to USF College of Business of \$25 million;*
  - *Kate Tiedemann gift of \$10 million for Tiedemann College of Business;*
  - *Jordan Zimmerman gift of \$10 million for Zimmerman Advertising*
  - *Lynn Pippenger gift of \$10 million for Muma College of Business and \$5 million for USFSP Tiedemann College of Business*
  - *Dana and Barron Collier gift of \$10 million for Muma College of Business*
  - *Ellen Cotton gift of \$1 million for Tiedemann College of Business*
- *University's research funds increased to more than \$440 million*
- *USF System ranked 33 in total research expenditures for public institutions by the National Science Foundation*
- *USF System ranked 13<sup>th</sup> world-wide for granting U.S. patents among all universities; 1<sup>st</sup> in Florida*
- *USF consistently ranked among the top tier of colleges listed in the US News & World Report for Best Colleges, ranking in the top 100 of best public schools*
- *Qualified for Florida Emerging Preeminence status and top tier of performance based funding*
- *Morsani College of Medicine achieved history with its CORE class average MCAT score the highest among all medical schools in Florida*
- *USF Tampa received SACS re-accreditation without any follow up actions*
- *USF Sarasota-Manatee achieved BOG approval to accept freshman and sophomore level students.*

We are excited that Trustee Hal Mullis will not go too far as the Chair is going to appoint him to serve on University Medical Services Association. As a Board member for (UMSA) and USF Medical Services Support Corporation (MSSC) Trustee Mullis will be able to continue his work with the Sr. VP for USF Health and the University President on enhancing the partnership between the University and Tampa General Hospital.

With Board approval, Trustee Mullis will carry the title Chair Emeritus of the USF Board of Trustees for life.

Trustee John Ramil commented that Trustee Mullis's leadership as Chair influenced and helped him during his term as Chair.

Trustee Nancy Watkins has served as a Trustee member with Trustee Mullis since 2013. She thanked him for his display and example of leadership.

Trustee Oscar Horton commented on his appreciation for Trustee Mullis's coach and council over the years.

Trustee Deanna Michael thanked Trustee Mullis for listening and soliciting USF faculty opinions.

Trustee Byron Shinn thanked Trustee Hal Mullis for listening and having an open mind to the issues that were affecting the students.

Trustee Carrere credits Trustee Mullis for him becoming a Trustee member. He commended Trustee Mullis on his approach and work ethics.

Trustee Mike Griffin commended Trustee Hal Mullis on his mentorship and everything that he's done for USF.

Trustee Charles Tokarz thanked Trustee Mullis for welcoming him and for his hospitality.

President Steve Currall thanked Trustee Mullis for his wisdom and leadership.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman thanked Trustee Mullis for his honor and integrity as well as excellent service as a Board of Trustee member. Chair Zimmerman presented Trustee Mullis with a plaque.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve FL 118. Vice Chair Les Muma moved for approval with a second from Trustee John Ramil and FL 118 was approved.

Trustee Hal Mullis thanked the Board for the extraordinary honor in being selected as Chair Emeritus.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman thanked Trustee Byron Shinn for his 10 years of excellent service as a USF BOT member and as a Campus Board member for the USF Sarasota Manatee campus. He has opened the doors for Nursing, Engineering and other programs. The Chair also thanked



both Trustee Shinn and USFSM Regional Chancellor Karen Holbrook and their teams on their work during the consolidation process.

Trustee John Ramil commented on Trustee Shinn's passion and dedication to the USFSM campus.

Trustee Les Muma made comments that not only is Trustee Byron Shinn passionate about USFSM, he's that way for the Sarasota community.

Regional Chancellor Karen Holbrook made comments on the wonderful working relationship that she has with Trustee Byron Shinn as well as the care and concern that he has for USFSM. She commended him on his leadership.

Trustee Nancy Watkins thanked Trustee Byron Shinn for his service to the Board and for helping to make separately accredited campuses into one university.

Trustee Hal Mullis commented that Trustee Shinn's collegiality in times of tension has been appreciated and that it was an honor to serve on the USF Board of Trustees with him.

Trustee Charles Tokarz commented that he and Trustee Shinn travel together to the Board meetings from the USF Sarasota-Manatee campus and that his passion goes far and beyond the Board meetings. He will continue to welcome Trustee Shinn's input as it relate to the USF BOT issues.

Trustee Mike Carrere thanked Trustee Shinn for his well representation of USFSM and hope that the next appointed Trustee member can fill his shoes.

Trustee Deanna Michael thanked Trustee Shinn for listening to the USFSM faculty concerns and for the strength he brought to the Board and to the Campus Board.

Trustee Britney Deas thanked Trustee Mullis for his kindness and sense of humor. Trustee Deas commented that witnessing Trustee Byron Shinn's passion during her very first BOT meeting, gave her the confidence to speak up.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Jordan Zimmerman presented Trustee Byron Shinn with a plaque for his leadership and service to the USF Board of Trustees.

USF President Steve Currall thanked Trustee Shinn for his transparency, diligence and thoughtfulness as it relates to their professional relationship and to the Board.

Trustee Byron Shinn thanked everyone and reflected on his ten years as a Trustee member. He made comments concerning staying in alignment with the BOG and also the importance of Research.

#### BOT Roundtable Discussion & Recognition

Trustee Byron Shinn provided an update on the USF Sarasota Manatee campus.

Trustee Shinn made comments on the issue of housing property that the county would like to contribute. The attorneys are involved and are now in the final stages of competing the deal.

Trustee Shinn also commented on the local competition for education dollars.

Having no further business Trustee Jordan Zimmerman wished everyone a happy Holiday and adjourned the USF BOT meeting.