



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES ■ BOARD MEETING ■ NOVEMBER 30, 2016 6:30 P.M.

In Attendance: Trustees’ Karl Bryan, Nancy Budwig, Paul Combe (by phone), Sonia Diaz, Kevin Foley, Michael Grilli, Brian Herr, Anthony Hubbard, Richard Logan, Fernando Quezada, Robert Richards (Emeritus)

1.0 Chair’s Report

Chair Logan began the meeting at 6:30 pm, explaining that the meeting format would change and would include more power point presentations by employees other than the executive staff. He welcomed new Trustee Anthony Hubbard. Chair Logan informed the Board that Trustee Combe was participating remotely, as well as Vice President Holloway, and that all votes would be done by roll call.

Chair Logan called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2016 meeting, with one change to include Trustee Neshe’s name in the list of attendees.

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On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted by roll call to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2016 Board meeting with Trustee Hubbard abstaining from the vote.

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2.0 President’s Report:

President Cevallos reported on the following matters:

- *Hope in Action* – Following the presidential election, students convened to form *Hope in Action*, a grass roots movement to promote unity on campus. Several events around this theme are currently planned and in the planning stages;
- Danforth/Framingham Letter of Intent – The University, Framingham State University Foundation, Inc., Framingham State University Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc., and the Danforth Art Museum have drafted a letter of intent (LOI) detailing plans for their future affiliation. The LOI has been approved by the Foundation, the Supporting Organization and the Danforth Board. The Town of Framingham has indicated that it will work cooperatively with the University and the Foundation to



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resolve any issues regarding the transfer of the Maynard Building. Once a final agreement is reached, the Board will be asked to give its approval.

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On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted by roll call to approve the signing of the letter of intent detailing the proposed affiliation among Framingham State University, Framingham State University Foundation, Inc., Framingham State University Foundation Supporting Organization, Inc., and the Danforth Art Museum.

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- Student-in-the-Spotlight - Professor Steven Dinkelacker, Biology Department, introduced student Ryan Hanscom, a biology major and senior. Both spoke about Mr. Hanscom's experiences in conducting field research with the Nature Conservancy.
- Strategic Planning - The University is currently in a strategic planning year for a new five year plan. Actions taken to-date include:
 - Formed strategic planning advisory committee and hired a consultant;
 - Open forum information sessions being held to educate the University about its fiscal health, academic offerings, student services, diversity and inclusion and fundraising efforts. Next information session will focus on student services on December 12, 2016 followed by a presentation about Diversity and Inclusion and Fundraising on January 25, 2017 and Academic Affairs on January 30, 2017;
 - A gathering is being planned for elected officials and community leaders to share their insights with strategic planning committee and executive staff
 - The strategic planning committee is currently in a data gathering phase; the University will move into the next phase of strategic planning, visioning and goal setting, after the winter break.
- Framingham State University Alumni Association - Claire Ramsbottom, past President of the University's Alumni Association, reported to the Board the Alumni Association's mission, goals for FY2016-17, and its current activities. To note, the Association seeks to increase its emergency grant fund and scholarship fund, further diversify its membership, create new affinity groups, implement a new subcommittee structure and better inform itself about the University by hearing reports from University leaders.

3.0 Chief of Staff, General Counsel and Secretary's Report

Chief of Staff & General Counsel Rita Colucci reminded the Board of their obligation to complete an on-line ethics training and to submit their completion certificates to her.



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4.0 Student Trustee Report

Trustee Bryan reported on the following matters:

- Following the presidential election, students sought a vehicle to express their feelings. The fall administrator's forum gave rise to *Hope in Action*, giving students from all points of view a forum to talk openly;
- Registration - Students continue to feel anxious over registering for classes and some students would like to take 5 classes per semester but are stymied by policies governing the number of courses a student may take in one semester.

5.0 Academic Affairs

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs' Linda Vaden-Goad spoke on the following matters:

- Sabbatical requests total 16 for Academic Year 2017-18. Academic Deans' Dargan, Carroll and Cote each highlighted the experiences of one faculty member who had recently completed a sabbatical;
- Continued review of policies, procedures and practices;
- Reimagining the First Year - Data Day being held on February 15, 2016; new logo designed with goal of encouraging students to feel they belong at FSU.

6.0 Enrollment and Student Development

Dean of Enrollment Management Jeremy Spencer presented on the following matters:

- WICHE data including number of anticipated high school graduates over next 20 years, and demographic profile of those students;
- Enrollment assumptions for FSU and the current enrollment model;
- New CRM system which allows the Admissions Office to communicate more rapidly and effectively with prospective students;
- Seek to increase Financial Aid filings and to align financial aid more closely with Admissions Office;



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- Increase in “yield” events to encourage students who have been accepted to choose Framingham State.

Director of Marketing Averil Capers gave a presentation on the University’s marketing efforts:

- Displayed several slides of marketing materials, including the new “My Way” campaign;
- Detailed the advertising strategy including mall and bus advertising;
- Presented the website homepage redesign;
- Introduced “Campus Bird,” an interactive map and virtual tour platform that will be available on the website.

7.0 Inclusive Excellence and Community Engagement

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer Sean Huddleston reported on the following matters in his division:

- Increase from 26% to 30% of students of color of total student population from AY 2015-16 to AY2016-17;
- Minority male population higher than minority female population;
- Framingham has largest percentage of minority students as compared to our sister “F & W” schools.

8.0 Administration, Finance and Technology

Executive Vice President Dale Hamel updated the Board with his “Fiscal Realities” presentation, which included the following:

- Framingham State University is in a strong financial position having experienced significant enhancement in its financial position over the past decade;
- Net position tripled over the past decade
- University was in a growth mode for the last strategic planning process, but that is not the case during this planning year;
- Aggregate debt has increased by \$28.1 million over ten years, while net capital investment increased by \$74.5 million;



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- Current fiscal year budget is projected to be in deficit due to enrollments below target and state appropriations coverage below level service costs, and reluctance to increase student fees;
- Long range pro forma budget (5 years out) does not anticipate significant increases in university revenues (and significantly below prior decade levels);
- Significant progress was made over the past decade in terms of addressing priority projects from the 2008 and 2012 capital master plans;
- Current capital plan identifies four remaining priority projects for revenue financing: Library, Crocker Hall, Athletic Fields, Mayhew Building;
- Limited state support is anticipated for capital projects in the near term;
- Debt burden ratio is capped at 5% and the University is below that at 4.7%
- Over the past ten years:
 - State appropriations have increased 3.7% annually on average
 - Student revenues have increased 7.3% annually (a combination of enrollment growth and rate increases), with a portion going to financial aid;
 - Instruction expenditures have increased 7.4% annually on average;
 - Student support services expenditures have increased 9.6% annually;
 - Operations and Maintenance expenditures (from Operations) have increased 2.7% annually on average;
 - FSU compares very well to its sister institutions with most ratios at or near the top of their peer group. However, current projections anticipate deficits in FY2017 and FY2018;
 - Limited state support is anticipated for capital projects in the near term although FSU is positioning projects for potential deferred maintenance and targeted new initiatives funding.

Executive Vice President Dale Hamel asked for a motion to approve the personnel actions list:

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*On a motion duly made and seconded, it was
unanimously voted by roll call to accept the personnel actions list.*

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9.0 New Business



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There was no new business.

10.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11.0 Adjourn Public Meeting

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*On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to
adjourn the open meeting.*

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The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard C. Logan
Chair
Framingham State University, Board of Trustees

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos
President
Framingham State University