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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES ■ BOARD MEETING ■ NOVEMBER 29, 2017 6:30 P.M.

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In Attendance: Trustees' Karl Bryan, Nancy Budwig, Sonia Diaz (by phone), Kevin Foley, Brendon Giblin, Michael Grilli, Brian Herr, Richard Logan, Fernando Quezada

### 1.0 Chair's Report

Prior to commencing with the agenda, Chair Logan announced that Trustee Sonia Diaz would be participating remotely by teleconference. He also asked for all votes to be done by roll call because Trustee Diaz was participating remotely.

Chair Logan asked for a motion to approve the open meeting and executive session minutes of the September 27, 2017 board meeting, as amended with corrections.

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*On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted by roll call to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2017 Board open meeting, as amended, and the executive session meeting.*

\* \* \*

Trustee Logan briefly discussed a change in the format of the Board meetings, where he asked committee chairs to report out on their committee meetings, rather than this being done by members of the President's executive committee.

### 2.0 Public Comment

Deborah Regan Cleveland, Executive Director for the Independent Association of Framingham State Alumni (IAFSA), offered remarks on behalf of IAFSA recognizing Chief of Staff and General Counsel Rita Colucci for her hard work and dedication at Framingham State University these past several years. Ms. Cleveland noted that Ms. Colucci has helped to foster a good relationship between IAFSA and the University.

Marc Cote, Professor of Art and Dean of Arts and Humanities, reported on the Showing (working x family) Exhibit in the Mazmanian Gallery, and invited Trustees to attend the follow up event taking place on December 6, 2017 where professors will present.

### 3.0 President's Report



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President Javier Cevallos' remarks included the following:

- Recognition of Rita Colucci, Chief of Staff and General Counsel, who will be leaving Framingham State University after 10 years of service and 6 years as Secretary to the Board;
- Football team rated 19th in the nation;
- Interim Chief Officer of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Millie Gonzalez updated the Board on the following:
  - Three (3) racist incidents occurred in Larned Residence Hall in October. University response was immediate, transparent, and visible. Two open forums were held. The first forum occurred one day after the second incident, and three days after the first incident, and allowed students the opportunity to share their thoughts. The second forum was called a Unity Workshop and enabled individuals to rally around topics to empower change.
  - Investigation of the racist incidents is still on-going and active.
  - Ms Gonzalez reported that there has been varying degrees of student response to the incidents. Most feel that the University is supportive, but that work still needs to be done.
  - Ms. Gonzalez turned to Student Trustee Karl Bryan for any remarks. Trustee Bryan reported that although the response from students has been positive, many students still feel that it is not enough.
  - Trustee Herr, who attended the first open forum, stated that he sensed that the students were frustrated, and that students felt that there was a lot of talk and wanted to see more action. His three (3) take-aways from the forum included:
    - Students would like to see more action-focused, action-oriented responses.
    - Students were concerned that faculty did not have good immediate response to the incidents; that many faculty went about the day as they would normally, not addressing the incidents until later or not at all - and that students wanted to discuss the incidents in class.
- President Cevallos asked Deputy Chief of Police John Santoro to (1) give an update of the racist incidents investigation on behalf of Chief of Police Bradford Medeiros. Mr Santoro explained that much of the details of the investigation cannot be shared publically without compromising the investigation, but shared the following:



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- FBI agreed to assist with handwriting analysis
- Four (4) additional cameras were installed in Larned Hall
- Guest sign-in logs into Larned Hall were reviewed
- Officers have gone door-to-door interviewing students in Larned Hall; interviews have been continuous
- Foot patrols have been increased in Larned Hall
- The administration offered a \$1,000 reward for information. University Police did receive some information from the community after the announcement of the reward
- Massachusetts State Police have deemed all three (3) incidents to be hate crimes
- University has engaged Rite Academy to conduct racial and social intelligence training on December 18 and 19, 2017.
- Deputy Chief of Police Santoro reported on the Framingham State University Emergency Preparedness Management. Mr. Santoro is the Emergency Management Director at the University and oversees the Emergency Operations Center Team (EOCT) and the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC).
  - The EPC meets twice each semester, with additional meetings as needed. Its duties include regular review of the administrative emergency protocols, tests of the Emergency Notification System, designing and facilitating exercises, and promotion of emergency preparedness and awareness on campus.
  - The EOCT oversees the administrative response to emergency events at the University. The EOCT is convened by the President when necessary.
  - Both teams are trained and active
  - Emergency information fliers are posted on the back of every residence hall door and in campus buildings.
- Student-in-the-Spotlight Olivia Marchioni, Food and Nutrition concentration in Dietetics major, was introduced by Dr. Brian Souza.
  - Ms. Marchioni talked about her experience at Framingham State including: small class sizes; her honors thesis on body image; the good relationship with her professors, particularly Dr. Souza who became her advisor and helped her with the research; her internship with W.I.C.; and the faculty-led slow eating trip to Italy led by Dr. Janet Schwartz.

#### 4.0 Student Trustee Report

Trustee Karl Bryan reported on the following matters:



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- Student feedback about University response to the racist incidents, including call for more action
- Student desire to address racist incidents in class, particularly math and science classes
- Students are not forgetting about the incidents, although there is a segment of students who are asking what the big deal is.

### 5.0 Governance Committee Report

Trustee Foley presented the report from the Governance Committee, as follows:

- Governance Committee has recommended a retreat to talk about board effectiveness
- Doodle poll went out with several dates in January, May and June. Right now, looks like most availability is on May 5 and May 12.
- Rita Colucci, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, explained that a short survey will be sent electronically on December 1. There is a two (2) week window to complete the survey and then it will close. The hope is for 100% participation for the board retreat and survey
- Please send any agenda items for the retreat to Administrative Assistant Emmanuella Gibson.

### 6.0 Academic Affairs

Trustee Nancy Budwig noted highlights from the November Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board of Trustees meeting, including:

- Sabbatical information for AY2018-2019;
- 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Center for Learning, Teaching, Scholarship and Service (CELTSS).

### 7.0 Enrollment and Student Development

Vice President for Enrollment and Student Development Lorretta Holloway presented on the following matters:

- Successful *Best of Brazil* event held on campus, with 150 attendees
- WICHE report (handout of full report)
- Enrollment and admissions update in the packet



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- Dean of Enrollment Management Jeremy Spencer currently recruiting students in Bermuda
- Thirty-six (36+) Career services events held this semester
- 80+ Student-led club events
- 100+ new veteran students on campus
- Marketing billboard in Worcester
- Mall signs in Natick and Marlborough
- Floor and hall meetings in response to racist incidents, and other work done by Student Affairs personnel.

8.0 Administration, Finance and Technology

Trustee Michael Grilli presented the following matters:

- Audit on financial statements produced no management letter
- Framingham Town Meeting votes allowed the purchase of the Maynard Building by the University to go forward
- Trustee Grilli requested a motion to approve the acquisition of, and financing for the Maynard Building, located at 14 Vernon Street, Framingham, MA.

\* \* \* \*

*On a motion duly made and seconded, and by roll call vote, the Framingham State University Board of Trustees approved the acquisition of property identified as 14 Vernon Street, Framingham, Massachusetts at an acquisition cost of \$2,210,00. Further, the Trustees approved financing (maximum principal amount) up to \$2,810,000 through the Massachusetts State College Building Authority (MSCBA) consistent with the attached MCSBA board approval for acquisition and renovations costs. Further, Framingham State University agreed to forward-fund, as necessary, identified FSU contributions (Sources of Funds) until such time of various transactions completion.*

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Trustee Grilli 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 vote to accept the personnel actions list.*



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Chair Logan thanked the divisions for the materials they produced, and the committees for their hard work in preparation of the full board meeting

**9.0   New Business**

Vice Chair Foley provided highlights from the joint Compliance, Audit, and Risk (CAR), and Governance Committee meeting:

- CAR Committee will meet three (3) times a year
- New manager of financial controls, Tammy Till, will produce two (2) reports a year and meet with CAR committee
- Next CAR committee meeting will focus on IT audits.

**11.0   Adjourn Public Meeting**

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

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The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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# Framingham State University

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Dr. F. Javier Cevallos  
President  
Framingham State University