



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES ■ BOARD MEETING ■ SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 6:30 P.M.

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The meeting of the full board of trustees was called to order at 6:30 PM.

In Attendance: Trustees Logan, Foley, Budwig, Ferguson, Grilli, Herr, Hubbard, Neshe, and Quezada

### 1.0 Chair's Report

Chair Kevin Foley asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda;

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On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2018 board of trustees meeting, as amended; FY2018 Independent Audit of Financial Statements; and the Personnel Actions

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Chair Foley took a few minutes on behalf of the board to welcome new Student Trustee Ayanna Ferguson to the Framingham State University Board of Trustees.

Chair Foley explained that there were two trustee vacancies due to the resignations of Trustees Sonia Diaz, and Brendon Giblin, and that there will be a need to present candidates for nominations.

Chair Foley noted the attachment of Committees and membership included in the board materials. He confirmed the memberships of each Committee, and requested that if Trustees wanted to serve on a new or different committee to please contact him and/or Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Ann S. McDonald, Esq.

Chair Foley will serve on the statewide Trustee Conference Committee this year.

### 2.0 President's Report

President Javier Cevallos' remarks included the following:

- President Cevallos reviewed the Framingham State University Student Profile and he distributed it to the Trustees.
- Highlights of past and upcoming Campus Events included: Rams Resources Center Ribbon Cutting - September 24, 2018; and the World Teacher's Day program that will



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feature Mayor Yvonne Spicer on October 3, 2018. He welcomed and encouraged Trustees to attend.

- The President discussed the US News & World Report Rankings and Framingham State University's position on them.
- President Cevallos took a few minutes on behalf of the University to welcome the new Executive Director of the Independent Association of Framingham State Alumni, Francesca Cerutti-Harris, '09.
- Eric P. Gustafson, Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations updated the board on the following:
  - Fiscal Year 2018 Recap
  - Fiscal Year 2019 Update

Vice Chair Richard Logan asked VP Gustafson if there had been any announcements of the new campaign. Eric replied that no public announcement is made during the silent phase until they reach their goal amount.

- Interim Chief Officer of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Millie Gonzalez presented the following items:
  - Framingham State University was awarded the 2018-2019 INSIGHT into Diversity Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award.
  - Courageous Conversations about Race, group discussions included 50 University staff members for the 2017-2018 academic year.
  - September Divisional events included: Salsa band concert on the Crocker Grove commons grounds; as well as a panel discussion on the First Amendment and Freedom of the Press.
  - On October 11th there will be a campus training offered by the Anti-Defamation League.
  - College Planning Center:
    - Summer programming was well attended and successful
    - Highlights of upcoming fall programming was described.
    - 100 Males to College, upcoming fall launch
  - Center for Inclusive Excellence updates were shared:
    - Alexandra Valdez is the newly hired Inclusive Excellence Program Coordinator for the Center for Inclusive Excellence

Trustee Fernando Quezada asked Interim Chief Officer of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Millie Gonzalez about services and support offered to our students with disabilities on campus. He requested information at subsequent meeting regarding students with disabilities. Trustee Quezada also requested a Title IX Update for next full board meeting; as well as an update to the Board from University Police and arming campus police update.



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- Student-in-the-Spotlight John Lines majoring in Commercial Photography, was introduced by Teach-Out Program/Integrated Visual Media Professor Brian Wilson.
  - Mr. Lines talked about his experience as a transfer student from Mount Ida College and thanked the Board and the University for the opportunity to complete his degree at Framingham State University. It has been a well-supported and well received transition.

Trustee Brian Herr asked Mr. Lines where the commercial arts program resides. Dean Marc Cote replied that the Teach Out resides in the Communication Arts program.

### **3.0 Student Trustee Report** (Trustee Ferguson)

Student Trustee Ayanna Ferguson introduced herself to the Board and thanked the University for the opportunity to serve on the Board. Trustee Nancy Budwig asked how the first semester of the new academic year was starting off. Trustee Ferguson replied that the Student Government Association is continuing its conversations around social justice and safety.

### **4.0 Administration, Finance and Technology** (Trustee Grilli)

Trustee Mike Grilli reported highlights from the September 2018 Finance Committee meeting:

- FY2019 Budget Update
- Capital Spending Plan Update

Trustee Herr asked how the University was fairing in regards to State Funding for capital planning on campus. EVP Dale Hamel described the current funding priorities and status of funding. Chair Foley commented that debt payments reflected in the budget were currently below the 5% of total budget for borrowing at this time.

### **5.0 Academic Affairs** (Trustee Budwig)

Trustee Nancy Budwig noted highlights from the September 2018 Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees meeting, including:

- Strategic goals for the year including student enrollment and retention initiatives.
- Completion of an external review of the General Education program. Other program reviews that stressed assessment and continuous improvements to programs.
- Addressing current and future budget reductions
  - Impact of budget on Academic Affairs



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- Mark Nicholas Executive Director of Institutional Assessment, presented on undergraduate and graduate assessment practices at the Framingham State University. He described the University's assessment plan that is considered a model by many in higher education.
- Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Linda Vaden-Goad commented that graduate-level assessment will be unique.

The Trustees commented on the following:

- Trustee Fernando Quezada commented on faculty research.
- Trustee Dana Neshe asked for an update on Danforth museum and school activities.

### **6.0 Enrollment and Student Development** (Trustee Herr)

Trustee Brian Herr noted highlights from the September 2018 Enrollment & Student Development Committee meeting including:

- The distribution of a new brand design for the Danforth Art Museum at FSU.
- Rachel L. Lucking Assistant Dean for Campus Engagement and Shayna Eddy Associate Dean of Admissions/Director of Undergraduate Admissions, presented to the Board of Trustees on the University's Operation Zero Melt.

The Trustees commented on the following:

- Chair Foley discussed the "melt" of currently enrolled students versus new students, and the President mentioned that the Starfish Initiative program under the leadership of Lauren Keville supports students' success and ongoing enrollment.
- Trustee Budwig praised the collaboration between Admission and Student Affairs, and noted the reduction of melt from 13% to 9%. Trustee Budwig asked where the students go who "melt"; can we look to the Student Clearing House for data?
- Chair Foley and Vice Chair Logan commended the University's efforts branding and marketing.



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- Trustee Quezada sought assurance that Framingham State University abides by all requirements for admission. Ms. Eddy reviewed the Board of Higher Education standards for high school or transfer GPA and SAT scores.
- The Trustees complimented the Admissions and Student Affairs staff for their collaboration on those efforts.

### **7.0 Chief of Staff & General Counsel, Secretary to the Board of Trustees (Ann McDonald, Esq.)**

Ann reviewed the following items with the Trustees:

- Reminding Trustees to utilize their trustee email accounts for all electronic correspondence due to the requirements of the MA Public Records Laws.
- Redistribution of proposed By-Laws changes for Trustee's reviewed comments.

### **8.0 Presidential Review Committee (Trustee Budwig)**

Trustee Nancy Budwig reviewed the process and the data that was used to produce the report for the presidential review. She reviewed the schedule that the group followed for the production of the evaluation and indicated that the document had been submitted in mid-September.

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**On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the recommendation of the Board of Trustees Presidential Review Committee for submission of the evaluation of President F. Javier Cevallos to Commissioner Carlos Santiago of the Department of Higher Education with the accompanying compensation recommendations.**

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### **9.0 New Business**

- There was no new business.

### **10.0 Public Comment**



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- There was no public comment.

**11.0 Adjourn Open Meeting**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kevin Foley  
Chair  
Framingham State University, Board of Trustees

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Dr. F. Javier Cevallos  
President  
Framingham State University