In Attendance: Trustees Karl Bryan, Sonia Diaz (by phone), Kevin Foley, Michael Grilli, Brian Herr (by phone), Anthony Hubbard, Richard Logan, Dana Neshe

1.0 Executive Session

2.0 Chair’s Report

Prior to commencing with the agenda, Chair Logan announced the Trustees Sonia Diaz and Brian Herr would be participating remotely by teleconference. He also asked for all votes to be done by roll call because they were participating remotely.

Chair Logan asked for a motion to approve the open meeting and executive session minutes of the November 29, 2017 board meeting, as amended with corrections.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted by roll call to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2017 Board open meeting, as amended.

Trustees Dana Neshe and Anthony Hubbard abstained from voting because they were not in attendance at the last meeting.

Chair Logan informed the members that two guests would be attending. Robert Ramrath, President of the FSU Foundation Board would be giving an update on the board; and Thomas Kelley, Athletics Director.

Chair Logan introduced Rob Ramrath to present the Foundation Board update.

The Foundation update included highlights from

- Metrics
  - Member engagement
    - Giving Guidelines; Foundation passion to support the University. Faculty presentations provided as deeper understanding of what the University does.
  - Key Financial Performance
    - Expected annualized return on total assets: 5%+CPI on a trailing 3 year basis.
    - Allocations in support of student financial aid: 5% of total assets on a trailing 3 year basis.
Target performance led to substantial increases in benefits to student scholarships, such as the Leonhard Scholarship.
- The Foundation is performing well, slightly above target at this time.

New Foundation Website
- Thanks to Bob Fields and Comm Creative team, The Foundation is more visible to our constituents. Links to Framingham State University webpage

Danforth
- The Foundation is working with the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office to develop a chapter to encompass what it means to be part of an art institution.

Chair Logan thanked Rob for his insightful presentation. He then introduced Matt Noyes, Director of Trustee and Government Relations at the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

Matt Noyes briefly explained his role at the MA Department of Higher Education and what he hoped to achieve by attending and hearing the concerns of the universities’ communities.

3.0 President’s Report

President Javier Cevallos’ remarks included the following:

- An offer has been extended to a candidate for the position of Chief of Staff & General Counsel. A reply should be forthcoming.
- The Strategic Plan is under the auspices of Vice President/Provost Linda Vaden-Goad. The plans are progressing well.
- Interim Chief Officer of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Millie Gonzalez updated the Board on the following:
  - Spring Highlights – Championing Racial Equity
    - Parent Night 1/30 – Q&A for parents who have questions related to last semester’s racial incidents.
    - Barbara Holland, consultant, leading focus groups on students, faculty and staff of color.
    - Open forums and smaller group “courageous conversations”.
    - Amazing speakers: Dr. Bernice King and author Angie Thomas
    - Film showing of “Cracking the Codes: the System of Racial Inequality” with facilitated discussion.
    - Climate survey in March; surveying students, faculty and staff.
  - Millie referred to Dan Magazu’s write up that was distributed to the media. She highlighted his point, “On January 12, 2018 we received notice from the FBI that they are unable to assist any further with the handwriting samples provided, due to resource prioritization.” FSU has reached out to Senator Elizabeth Warren’s office and Congresswoman Katherine Clark’s office for help.
• Beacon Award – Marcie Dineen, Area Director of Larned Hall has received her award. Tomorrow Professor Rebecca Sherman and Professor LaToya Tavernier will receive their award.
• Women Making History Now-2018 Honorees include Trustee Dana Neshe and Vice President Lorretta Holloway as well as four others. There will be a ceremony on campus on March 29, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the forum. Congratulations to all.
• Eric Gustafson, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations gave the fundraising update. Eric stated $769,389 has been raised toward the FY18 Goal of $1.5M. The year is progressing very well.
• The Athletics update was given by Thomas Kelley, Director.
• Student-in-the-Spotlight Diane Inman was introduced by Brian Bishop, Chair of Art & Music Department.
  o Ms. Inman talked about her background of service in the U.S. Army National Guard (Active Duty). Her joy volunteering in the Westborough schools led her to Framingham State University’s Education Program. She has preliminary licensure through the PBT Licensure program for Elementary 1-6 and Moderate Special Needs PreK-8. Elementary Education has brought her great joy. She is enjoying her experience at FSU immensely and plans to become a teacher of Art Education. She thanked Professor Bishop for helping her achieve this goal. Ms. Inman also plans to be an active alumni supporting the importance of education for children.

4.0 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Karl Bryan stated the SGA will be going into the legislature for the annual funding request. They plan not only to lobby for funding but also to advocate for two items specific to FSU.
• They will approach the legislature to advocate for a bill to change the procedure of Health Care reporting for students.
• They will advocate, in support of students feelings related to hate issues, for the renaming of one residence hall to the Mary Elizabeth Miles Residence Hall. She was the first African-American to graduate from the University in the 1840s. In a previous meeting, the president informed Trustee Bryan that the Department of Higher Education would have to be petitioned for the renaming of a residence hall. The Chair also asked assistance from Matt Noyes on this item.
• Trustee Bryan also related that there are still students, not all, who feel that not enough is being done to make them feel comfortable and wanted on campus.

5.0 Academic Affairs

Vice President & Provost Linda Vaden-Goad spoke for Trustee Nancy Budwig who was attending a conference in Washington D.C. Linda highlighted the following points.
• NASA downlink with the International Space Station was very successful. Students at FSU were able to speak with three astronauts live from space. Secretary of Education James Peyser, State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz and her father former astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz, Natick Labs personnel were also in attendance. The astronauts informed the audience that Christa McAuliffe’s lost lessons would be taught from space.

• A new major has been approved, Child and Family Studies; this will also help to address workforce eligibility and open up many job opportunities.

• The Strategic Plan is near completion. Operationalizing the plan is in effect. FSU is prioritizing initiatives within the nine goals.

6.0 Enrollment and Student Development

Vice President Lorretta Holloway spoke for Trustee Herr.

• Enrollment and Admissions update sheet was distributed at the meeting.
• Website Accessibility Work - OCR Agreement has been approved. The president has signed it and sent it in.
• Marketing efforts include updated commercials and updated website landing page.
• Financial Aid is working on best practices - how to get students and how to keep students.
• Counseling Center reported an increase in male and minority populations. A new Mental Health Kiosk is set up in Foster Hall, 1st floor Health Center Waiting room. FSU is the only university in the Commonwealth to have one.

7.0 Administration, Finance and Technology

Trustee Grilli presented the following information.

• Trustee Grilli called for a motion to approve the January 24, 2018 Personnel Action items.

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On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted by roll call vote to accept the personnel action items.

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• The Sightlines Facilities report shows the University is doing very well among its peers. The facilities on campus have been improved.
• The FY2019 Preliminary Budget is evolving at present. More conclusive information will be covered in March with the completed budget presentation in May.
• Trustee Grilli deferred questions about the just released Governor’s budget to Executive Vice President Dale Hamel.
• Dr. Hamel stated the Governor’s budget included level funding for all campuses but it was down $2820.00.
  o It did include funding for 1% increase in state universities formula.
  o Anticipate legislative funding a supplemental 2% for collective bargaining.
  o The budget covered three items.
    1. $7M in financial aid for all community college students
    2. Early college program for under-represented students.
    3. Funding increase for Commonwealth Commitment Program which allows students to begin post-secondary education in community college and then transfer to a state university to save on the cost of a bachelor’s degree.

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

8.0 New Business

The President stated this Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. there will be a men’s basketball game. At this game there will be a celebration honoring the establishment of a men’s varsity basketball team 50 years ago. Eight players from that team will be honored, Chair Richard Logan will be one of them. Congratulations Chair Logan.

9.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10.0 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 7:43 p.m.

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

Dr. F. Javier Cevallos
President
Framingham State University
EXECUTIVE SESSION

In Attendance: Trustees Karl Bryan, Sonia Diaz (by phone), Kevin Foley, Michael Grilli, Brian Herr (by phone), Anthony Hubbard, Richard Logan, Dana Neshe
Guest: President F. Javier Cevallos, Chief Bradford Medeiros

Chief Medeiros updated the Trustees on their on-going investigation regarding recent incidents on campus. Discussion ensued about the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect to the recent racial incidents that took place on campus.

The Board will resume open meeting after executive session.

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

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

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Dr. F. Javier Cevallos, President
Framingham State University