



**COMMITTEE ON ADVANCEMENT
PRE-MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

11:30 a.m. or at the conclusion

of the FCI Pre-Meeting beginning at 10:30am

Virtual Meeting: (646) 558-8656, ID#: 983 2971 7969

Committee Members:

Anita G. Zucker (Committee Chair), Richard P. Cole, Christopher T. Corr, James W. Heavener, Marsha D. Powers, Danaya C. Wright, Patrick O. Zalupski

- 1.0 Call to Order and Welcome Anita G. Zucker, Chair
- 2.0 Roll Call Board Staff
- 3.0 Review Draft Agenda for March Meeting Anita G. Zucker, Chair
 - 3.1 Review Draft Minutes
 - [December 7, 2023](#)
 - 3.2 Review Discussion Items
 - Fundraising Update Anita G. Zucker, Chair, and Maria Gutierrez Martin, Interim Vice President for Advancement
 - Fundraising Performance (July 1 – December 31, 2023)
 - New Gifts (December 2023 – February 2024)
 - New Worlds Reading Initiative Overview..... Anita G. Zucker, Chair, and Phil Poekert, Director, Laster Center for Learning
- 4.0 New Business..... Anita G. Zucker, Chair
- 5.0 Adjourn..... Anita G. Zucker, Chair



COMMITTEE ON ADVANCEMENT

Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2023

President's Room 215B, Emerson Alumni Hall

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Time Convened: 10:21 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:27 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Anita G. Zucker (Committee Chair), David L. Brandon, Richard P. Cole, Olivia E. Green, Morteza "Mori" Hosseini (Board Chair), Daniel T. O'Keefe, Rahul Patel (Board Vice Chair), Marsha D. Powers, Fred S. Ridley, Danaya C. Wright, and Patrick O. Zalupski.

Others present:

Ben Sasse, President; J. Scott Angle, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Melissa Curry, Vice President for Human Resources; Kurt Dudas; Vice President/Jacksonville Lead; Elias Eldayrie, Vice President and Chief Information Officer; Robert Gilbert, Interim Senior Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources; Amy Hass, Vice President and General Counsel; Taylor Jantz, Office of the Chief Financial Officer; Mark Kaplan, Vice President for Government and Community Relations and University Secretary; Jim Kelly, Interim CEO for UF Health Shands Hospital; David Kratzer, Senior Vice President for Construction, Facilities, and Auxiliary Operations; Maria Gutierrez Martin, Interim Vice President for Advancement; Marsha McGriff, Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Advisor to the President; David Nelson, Senior Vice President for Health Affairs and President of UF Health; David Norton, Vice President for Research; Mary Parker, Vice President and Chief Enrollment Strategist; Curtis Reynolds, Vice President for Business Affairs; Raymond Sass, Vice President for Innovation and Partnerships; Jim Staten, Senior Advisor to the President; Scott Stricklin, Director of Athletics; James Wegmann, Vice President for Communications; Heather White, Vice President for Student Life; members of the University of Florida community, and the public.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Committee Chair Anita G. Zucker welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:21 a.m.

2.0 Verification of Quorum

Interim Vice President Maria Gutierrez Martin verified a quorum with all members present except for Trustees Corr and Heavener, who had excused absences.

3.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Zucker asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2023 Committee Meeting, which was made by Trustee Cole, and a second, which was made by Trustee Powers. Committee Chair Zucker asked for further discussion, and then asked for all in favor of the motion and any opposed and the motion was approved unanimously.

4.0 Discussion Item

Committee Chair Zucker announced that gifts of private support received since the June meeting will be shared. Interim VP Martin added that all the highlighted gifts align with President Sasse's university priorities.

4.1 New Gifts (June – November)

Committee Chair Zucker and Interim VP Martin presented a high-level overview of several new gifts received over the past six months.

Schmidt Futures made a commitment for UF's Institute for Advanced Learning Technologies at the College of Education, which will utilize HiPerGator AI to double math learning progress with more than 420,000 students across the country. The gift is supporting College of Education faculty who are utilizing AI to promote enhanced math learning experiences for middle school students. UF is leading an interdisciplinary team that includes Vanderbilt, Duke, Stanford, and Accelerate Learning working together to develop this AI-powered program.

President Sasse remarked that the College of Education has been doing exciting and excellent work around math education for years. He noted that they did a great job in supporting Interim Vice President Martin and the Foundation in their pursuit of this relationship and underscored the value to us of the partnership with Schmidt Futures. This is the think tank of Eric Schmidt, the 17-year executive chairman of Google, who is still involved in Google. We are in conversations with several technology companies about what digital supports and tutors would look like for our students, so to have the philanthropic side of the organization via the Schmidt Foundation already engaged with UF is an exciting development.

Committee Chair Zucker added that she understands the importance and critical need for math and the increased great possibilities this presents for our students. Over the years when testing was necessary, math was one of the areas that students had the most trouble passing, especially algebra. The kind of work we have done at UF is amazing, and this adds a whole new and exciting dimension.

An Anonymous Donor made an investment in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Department of Astronomy, which will provide state-of-the-art facilities and support for faculty, post-doctoral students, and graduate students. The gift comes from a previous faculty member who is committed to offering activities that will connect faculty and students to applied research, especially partnerships with other UF departments.

The Glenn W. Bailey Foundation made a commitment to support STEM education fellowships and community programs at The Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical

Innovation & Technology. The gift is designed to create a robust STEM learning initiative that builds on The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute's previous K-12 programs to provide greater access to career pathways for high school students up to postdoctoral researchers.

The Coastal Blood Foundation funded a Center of Excellence for Blood Disorders at UF Health Jacksonville that includes a named professorship. The gift will increase the visibility of UF Health Jacksonville at national and international levels in hematological disease treatment and research, and recruit and retain high-caliber faculty who will drive critical innovations tied to blood disorders. This builds on the Coastal Blood Foundation's previous support for blood transfusion medicine programs, education, and research at UF Health Jacksonville.

UF Engineering alumnus Sachio Semmoto established an endowment fund to be known as the Sachio Semmoto Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering Endowment. The spendable income from the Fund will be used to support the Department Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering. Sachio Semmoto is the Chairman Emeritus of Renova, and he is considered a titan of the telecommunications industry in Japan.

5.0 New Business

Committee Chair Zucker noted that our fundraising teams continue to work hard on behalf of the University of Florida to identify new prospects, close gifts, and steward our donors. There will be more gifts to report at our next meeting.

6.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Committee Chair Zucker adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.