



Minutes
University of Florida
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 8, 2003

Chairman Marshall Criser called to order a special meeting of the University of Florida Board of Trustees. After verifying a quorum, Mr. Criser confirmed that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss finalists for the position of President of the University of Florida and, if the Board is prepared to do so, to select a President to succeed current President Charles E. Young.

Chairman Criser thanked President Young for his continuing leadership during the search process. Mr. Criser and other Trustees commended Trustee Manny Fernandez and the Presidential Search Committee for its diligence and commitment to finding an outstanding next president for the University. Mr. Criser summarized the on-campus interview process that had been conducted, including the candidates' participation in forums with deans and administrators, students and community leaders, and faculty.

In response to Mr. Criser's request for summaries of the forums, Trustee Roland Daniels, Trustee Carlos Alfonso and Trustee Dianna Morgan, each having chaired a forum, reported respectively on the discussion during the forums for deans and administrators, students and community leaders, and faculty.

Mr. Criser next called for a candid in-depth discussion of the candidates among the Trustees. All Trustees participated in the discussion by individually commenting on the superior quality of the candidates, including the internal candidates, and expressing their views on the relative qualifications and strengths of the three finalists. All Trustees noted the difficulty in making a decision among the three highly qualified finalists given the strengths each brought to campus.

After a lengthy discussion of each of the three finalists, the Board determined it was ready to make a decision about the next leader of the University of Florida. Chairman Criser noted the endorsement of Dr. Bernard Machen from the University's Faculty Senate, and from the three internal candidates.

Trustee Fernandez moved to select Bernard Machen as the University of Florida's 11th President. Trustee Alfonso offered a second to the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously and enthusiastically.

Mr. Criser made positive comments about the selection and again thanked the members of the Search Committee, the Board and all who participated in the process. Mr. Criser emphasized the extraordinary presentations by the three internal candidates. Mr. Criser also recognized the Honorable Carolyn Roberts, Chair of the Board of Governors, who was in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Criser noted that a report would be prepared and presented to the Board of Governors demonstrating the University's best interests would be served by selecting Dr. Machen as its next President.

Upon a motion to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Alfonso, the meeting was adjourned.

Charles E. Young
Secretary

Pamela J. Bernard
Assistant Secretary