The Committee on Governance met on June 9, 2011. All Committee members were present. The Committee unanimously approved the Minutes from its meeting on March 17, 2011 on a motion by Trustee Roberts, seconded by Trustee Scott.

The first action item (GV1) was to recommend to the Board the election of a Board Chair and Vice Chair, each to serve for a two-year term beginning on July 1, 2011 or upon the end of Chair McGriff’s service if earlier. Trustee Roberts made a motion to nominate and recommend the Board’s current Vice Chair, Trustee Carlos Alfonso, for election as Chair. In making this nomination, Trustee Roberts emphasized Trustee Alfonso’s deep experience and knowledge of the University of Florida and the State of Florida, his dedication, service and accomplishments over many years, and his understanding of the complex issues facing the University and the State, as well as the great value of an education. She noted that his experience, understanding and dedication make him highly capable of assuming the responsibility of moving the University forward in these difficult economic times. Dr. Scott seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend that Carlos Alfonso be elected by the Board as Chair for a two-year term commencing on July 1st or upon the end of Chair McGriff’s service if earlier.

The Committee next considered its recommendation for the Board’s election of a Vice Chair. Trustee Scott made a motion to nominate and recommend Trustee David Brown for election as Vice Chair. Trustee Scott emphasized that Trustee Brown had previously served on the Board, is presently serving another term, and is a strong leader with broad experience and dedication who will well-serve the Board as its Vice Chair. Trustee Heekin seconded this motion. After calling for further discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that David Brown be elected by the Board as Vice Chair for a two-year term commencing on July 1st or upon the end of Chair McGriff’s service if earlier.

The Committee then met in closed session to discuss collective bargaining, noting that it would resume in open session shortly.

After the collective bargaining discussion, the Committee reconvened in open session to consider the Committee’s second action item (GV2) - the approval of the extension through June 2014 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board of Trustees and the Graduate Assistants United. It was noted that the contract is working well and is being amended to extend the term and allow for a few articles to be reopened annually. The union and the administration recommend approval of the contract. On a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Scott, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board ratify this contract.

The Committee’s last business was to unanimously approve a motion by Trustee Alfonso, seconded by Trustee Roberts, to commend and thank outgoing Board Chair, Mac McGriff, for his leadership over the last two years as Chair and over many years on the Board, as well as for his exceptional handling of many hard and complex issues for the University. The meeting was then adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m.