



COMMITTEE ON ADVANCEMENT

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

February 6, 2024

Time Convened: 10:18 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:30 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Anita G. Zucker (Committee Chair), David L. Brandon, Richard P. Cole, James W. Heavener, Morteza “Mori” Hosseini (Board Chair), Daniel T. O’Keefe, Rahul Patel (Board Vice Chair), Marsha D. Powers, Fred S. Ridley, and Danaya C. Wright.

Others present:

Melissa Curry, Vice President for Human Resources; Kurt Dudas, Vice President/Jacksonville Lead; Elias Eldayrie, Vice President and Chief Information Officer; 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; David Kratzer, Senior Vice President for Construction, Facilities, and Auxiliary Operations; David Nelson, Senior Vice President for Health Affairs and President of UF Health; Mary Parker, Vice President and Chief Enrollment Strategist; Raymond Sass, Vice President for Innovation and Partnerships; Jim Staten, Senior Advisor to the President; 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 Zucker welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Committee Chair Zucker conducted a roll call, and all Committee members were present, except Trustees Corr and Zalupski.

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for March Meeting

Committee Chair Zucker noted the pre-meeting is for discussion only and no action will come to the committee. The following items were addressed by the Committee:

3.1 Review Draft Minutes

- **December 7, 2023**

Committee Chair Zucker reminded the committee members to review the draft minutes prior to the board meeting in March.

3.2 Review Discussion Items

- **Fundraising Update (Performance and New Gifts)**

Committee Chair Zucker shared that she and Interim Vice President Maria Gutierrez Martin will report at the March board meeting on fundraising performance from July 1 – December 31, 2023, and new gifts received since the board meeting in December.

- **New Worlds Reading Initiative Overview**

Committee Chair Zucker noted that she and Director of the Lastinger Center for Learning Phil Poekert will provide an overview of the New Worlds Reading Initiative at the March board meeting. This is Florida's free at-home literacy program designed to help eligible VPK through 5th grade students bolster their literary skills, build reading confidence, and foster a lifelong love of reading.

Board Chair Hosseini commented this program was created by Former Speaker of the House Chris Sprowls. UF is delighted to manage this program and it is a life changer for young students to receive books monthly. It is an incredible and successful program with potential for expansion in the future. Committee Chair Zucker added this program was created from scratch. The Lastinger Center for Learning had to create how the program would work, who manages it, and how parents apply for books for their children. It was a major undertaking. This is an outstanding program that helps change the lives of children and helps parents play a role in what their children are reading. Board Chair Hosseini shared if Former Speaker Sprowls did not have confidence in UF's ability to execute, he would not have chosen us. The university leaders at the Lastinger Center have done an amazing job to make the program successful. Trustee Brandon agreed and indicated this program is one of Former Speaker Sprowl's most passionate not-for-profit projects. Committee Chair Zucker shared the program is funded by the state and UF Advancement fund raising. The state of Florida offered corporations tax credits if they donate to this program.

4.0 New Business

Committee Chair Zucker shared Stand Up & Holler Gator Nation Giving Day will be February 15, 2024.

Board Chair Hosseini stated he expects a report on how much fundraising has been raised from July 1-December 30, 2023 and how much has been expensed from Committee Chair Zucker and Interim VP Martin at the March board meeting. The Board wants to ensure we are raising more money than we are spending.

5.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Committee Chair Zucker adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.