



**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

May 13, 2024

Time Convened: 10:05 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:27 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

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

Others present:

Ben Sasse, President; Scott Angle, 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; Amy Hass, Vice President and General Counsel; Taylor Jantz, Interim 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; Maria Gutierrez Martin, Interim Vice President for Advancement; Stephen Motew, President and System Chief Executive Officer of UF Health; 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

Board and Committee Chair Mori Hosseini welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Vice President and University Secretary Mark Kaplan conducted a roll call, and all Committee members were present, except Trustee Zalupski.

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for June Meeting

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini 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

- **March 7, 2024**

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini reminded committee members to review the draft minutes prior to the board meeting in June.

3.2 Review Action Items

- **GGRIA1 Direct Support Organization Appointments**

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini noted the Direct Support Organization (DSO) appointments are still under review at this time. We will provide the appointment summaries for review at least a week in advance of the June committee meeting. Vice President and General Counsel Amy Hass confirmed once all the DSO appointments are received, they will be bundled together and provided to committee members for review.

- **GGRIA2 UF Regulations and Governance Standards**

VP Hass stated at the direction of the Florida Legislature, the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) recently adopted SUS-specific design and construction procurement regulations. For UF to comply with these new regulations, we need to approve the repeal of University Regulations 3.070 (Acquisition of Professional and Design/Build Services), 3.071 (Acquisition of Construction Management Services), 3.072 (Construction Contract Bidding and Award (Contractor)), 3.073 (Construction; Bid Protests (Contract Only)), 3.075 (Construction; Procedures for Payment under Unbonded Construction Projects), and 3.076 (Construction; Procedures to Contract for Construction Service) and approve the amendment of University Regulation 3.074 (Construction; Evaluations of Professional Services Providers, Design-Builders, Construction Managers and Contractors; Disqualification Procedure). She added Associate Vice President for Enterprise Projects and Senior Counsel Colt Little will provide an overview of the internal processes and policies during the FCI Committee.

VP Hass continued by sharing the proposed Governance Standards for the newly formed UF Health Corporation. She noted the proposed standards are very similar to our current hospital standards and thresholds for our Shands Teaching Hospital and Clinics. The proposed Governance Standards for the UF Health Corporation have been reviewed by herself, Board Vice Chair Rahul Patel, and Board Chairman Hosseini as part of our ongoing governance work and processes. She added Trustee Marsha Powers will provide an update on the UF Health Transition Committee in June, which has concluded its work and recommends the Board take a vote to name the inaugural board members for the UF Health Corporation, Inc.

- **GGRIA3 Facility Security Clearance/Government Contracting Entity**

VP Hass stated certain contracts between the university and federal government agencies and certain research at the university require a Facility Security Clearance. This process encompasses all 13 board members and alleviates the burden of each of them having to be screened and cleared individually by designating University President Ben Sasse as the senior managerial official who holds and manages the university's classified work and permits for us to contract with governmental entities in this controlled and classified space. She noted the university recently completed a security inspection and received a mark of commendable. Institutionally, we currently hold a Secret Clearance and are working towards enhancing that to

a Top-Secret Clearance to take advantage of opportunities with various Defense and Intelligence Agencies. These are areas where we have talent in our faculty, but we need a higher level of clearance to capitalize on that talent. She outlined the two options to attain Top-Secret Clearance: we have all 13 board members individually go through the rigorous Top-Secret Clearance process or we form a Government Contracting Entity to oversee and manage our classified and controlled portfolio of research. We have not developed the articles and bylaws to form that entity yet. However, we would like to raise this option to the Board now to see if we can move that process forward at our June meeting. Board Chairman Hosseini asked Board Vice Chair Patel and VP Hass to review the two options and present a recommendation of the most efficient option to the Board to discuss and vote on at the June meeting.

- **GGRIA4 Operational Legislative Budget Request FY2025-26**

Vice President and University Secretary Mark Kaplan stated the last legislative session bills and budgets are wrapping up and we are preparing for the next legislative session. The university is required to submit an Operational Legislative Budget Request (LBR) for FY2025-26 to the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) by July 31, 2024. We expect this LBR submission to include our typical request for operating support and preeminence funding, as well as the IFAS workload request that is based on the past year's activities. Due to meeting timeline constraints, it has been our practice in recent years to delegate authority to approve the LBR submissions to President Sasse and Board Chair Hosseini. We anticipate asking the Board to do the same at the upcoming June meeting, as the actual LBR submission will continue to evolve into late July. He added Trustee David Brandon and Senior Vice President David Kratzer will expand on the Fixed Capital Outlay LBR for PECO projects during the FCI Committee.

3.3 Review Discussion Item

- **Government Update**

VP Kaplan summarized key points of where the university is today and noted he will provide a timelier update at the June meeting. He noted although Governor DeSantis has not yet signed the budget for the next fiscal year, he has signed several bills that are significant for UF. House Bill 7073 includes meaningful new resources for our Brain Tumor Immunotherapy Program on a recurring basis, new recurring funds for the Fixel Institute, and authorizes the City of Jacksonville and Duval County to levy an Indigent Care and Trauma Center surtax like other large counties in Florida are permitted to do. House Bill 1361 includes meaningful new opportunities for the Lastinger Center for Learning in our College of Education. Although the legislative calendar is quiet, there is still a lot happening behind the scenes to enhance relationships in Tallahassee and Washington DC. This is the time of year we bring a lot of stakeholders to campus. We recently had a significant visit with a delegation of congressional staff and last week UF supported a press conference with Governor DeSantis, BOG Chancellor Rodrigues, and Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Director Dave Kerner. Soon, roughly 1/3 of the legislature will turn over due to term limits and other factors, which will create opportunities to meet and forge connections with new legislators. Lastly, he expressed his thanks to Interim Vice President for Advancement Maria Gutierrez Martin, Trustee Anita Zucker, UF Alumni Association Executive Director Heather Ashley, and their team for their support and hard work to support our engaged alumni.

Board Chairman Hosseini asked for confirmation if Governor DeSantis signed the “Live Healthy” bill into law and VP Kaplan confirmed he did. Board Chairman Hosseini asked VP Kaplan to provide a detailed overview of the bill and the significant benefits it will provide for healthcare at UF during the June meeting and VP Kaplan agreed.

4.0 New Business

There was no new business to come before the committee.

5.0 Adjourn

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