



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Virtual Meeting

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Time Convened: 5:30 p.m.

Time Adjourned: 5:41 p.m.

Board members present:

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

Others present:

Ben Sasse, President; Scott Angle, Provost; 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, 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, UF Health President and System Chief Executive Officer; David Nelson, Senior Vice President for Health Affairs; David Norton, Vice President for Research; 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; Kent Fuchs, President Emeritus; members of the University of Florida community, and the public.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

Board Chairman Mori Hosseini welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2.0 Verification of Quorum

Vice President and University Secretary Mark Kaplan verified a quorum with all members present, except Trustee Corr who had an excused absence.

3.0 Public Comment

Vice President and General Counsel Amy Hass informed the Board there was no public comment to come before the Board

4.0 Action Item

Board Chairman Hosseini welcomed and thanked everyone for being on the call. The action item for approval before the Board today is the appointment of Kent Fuchs as Interim President beginning

August 1, 2024 and approval of his contract. The Board's approval is subject to the Board of Governors' ratification at their next meeting.

He personally thanked Dr. Fuchs for agreeing to serve at this critical time to ensure a smooth transition as the search for a new president begins. Dr. Fuchs added his thanks for the honor and confidence in him to serve in this role. He stated how important it is that our university does not lose momentum in this transition. He committed to the Board, faculty, staff, students, and alumni that we are going to keep putting fuel in the fire and accelerate our growth, stature, and excellence. He added amid the hard work he plans to lean into the job and enjoy it, and he believes that energy can become contagious for all of us. He thanked President Sasse for his leadership and expressed best wishes to him and his family. President Sasse extended his thanks to Dr. Fuchs and offered his help during the transition.

Board Chairman Hosseini stated at our June board meeting, our Finance Committee approved our fiscal 2024-25 operating budget, subject to review and approval by the Board Chair. He has reviewed the proposed budget with Chief Financial Officer Taylor Jantz and instructed him take the \$25 million in savings from overhead operations and direct it to support our esteemed faculty who work so hard to serve our students and do great research. While we will also be very vigilant and rigorous in holding our faculty accountable through our post tenure review process, we also want to make sure hardworking faculty get paid in line with the top universities in the country. In addition to faculty support, he asked Trustees Zalupski and Lynne to work closely with Vice President for Human Resources Melissa Curry to expedite our Baby Gator projects.

Next, he stated this Board has made it clear for years, the safety of our students at UF is our top priority. We will continue to invest to ensure our students are safe. The state of Florida has been very generous in providing dollars to make our campuses safe. He thanked President Sasse for carrying out this priority exceptionally well with respect to the protection of our Jewish students. After October 7th, the President responded immediately to ensure our Jewish students were safe and everyone's First Amendment rights were protected. We continue to welcome students from across the country who do not have the same protections and security. He emphasized UF and the Board will continue to place student safety at the utmost of importance.

Finally, he thanked the Board members for all their work over the last few years to bring the Jacksonville campus to reality. He thanked Trustee Zalupski and others for their hard work raising money for UF, as well as leaders in Tallahassee. We now have a commitment of \$300M and are moving full speed ahead to select a site for UF in Jacksonville.

Board Chairman Hosseini asked for any questions. Hearing none, he then asked for a motion to approve, which was made by Trustee Zucker and seconded by Trustee O'Keefe. Board Chairman Hosseini asked for further discussion, after which he asked for all in favor of the motion and any opposed, and the motion was approved unanimously.

5.0 New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

6.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Board Chairman Hosseini adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.