

**Board of Trustees Meeting
March 9, 2021
Microsoft Teams - 9:30 AM**

USF Board of Trustees Chair Jordan Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Chair Zimmerman's comments:

- A year of working during the pandemic.
- Chair Zimmerman reflected on the Board meeting held a year ago in the Research park and the groundbreaking for the new USF Research Building; the Partnership with TGH; the Institute for Applied Engineering signed an \$85 million dollar contract with SOCOM; and commended Dr. Charles Lockwood, Dr. John Couris and their teams for the exceptional work they continue to for our community.
- Congratulations to the USF women's basketball team and Coach Jose Fernandez on winning the regular season conference championship after 49 years and for creating a winning attitude.
- He mentioned that Trustee Charles Tokarz will report on the USF Admissions team.
- He acknowledged the President's announcement for a full return to campus this fall.

Dr. Cynthia Visot called the roll

Trustee Tim Boaz
Trustee Sandra Callahan
Trustee Mike Carrere
Trustee Mike Griffin
Trustee Mike Horton
Trustee Claire Mitchell
Trustee Les Muma
Trustee Shilen Patel
Trustee John Ramil
Trustee Melissa Seixas
Trustee Charles Tokarz
Trustee Will Weatherford
Trustee Jordan Zimmerman

President's Report

President Steve Currall provided an update. A power point was presented which highlighted the following:

- Welcome the new Board of Trustees members – Melissa Seixas, Will Weatherford and Shilen Patel.

- Building our safe path back
- Current situation on USF campuses
 - Random sampling on the Tampa campus, USF Athletics, St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee campuses
- Current situation in 5 counties of interest – Reproductive Rate
- Predictions from models – Information was prepared by Drs. Thomas Unnasch and Edwin Michaels from USF Health and College of Public Health.
- Vaccination Progress
- Caveats
- Looking Ahead

He shared that he was pleased to be in a position to announce plans to resume much greater in person instruction beginning in summer Session B.

Trustee Oscar Horton questioned the return procedure for students who are planning to leave for spring break. Provost Ralph Wilcox commented that students are required to complete their classes and exams online after spring break.

FL 101- Approval of Minutes

December 8, 2020
 December 11, 2020
 January 12, 2021
 February 23, 2021

Having no changes to the minutes Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Oscar Horton moved for approval with a second from Trustee Les Muma and FL 101 was approved by all trustees present.

Consent Agenda (FL 102-FL 107)

ACE Committee Approved Items

FL 102 – Approval of Tenure as a Condition of Employment
 FL 103 - Approval of the B.S. in Environmental Engineering
 FL 104 - Approval of 2015-2025 Master Plan Updates

Finance Committee Approved Item

FL 105 – Approval of the Revised 2020-21 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget

Governance Committee Approved Items

FL 106 – Approval of USF Research Foundation Board of Directors
 FL 107 - Approval of USF Institute of Applied Engineering (IAE) Board Member

Trustee Charles Tokarz, on behalf of the Academic and Campus Environment Committee recommended approval on all items.

Trustee Michael Griffin, on behalf of the Finance Committee recommended approval on item FL 105.

Trustee Will Weatherford, on behalf of the Governance Committee recommended approval on all items.

The United Faculty of Florida Representative Dr. Arthur Shapiro commented about the university's plans for return for fall, wanting to ensure faculty and students will be in a safe environment.

After having no changes to the consent agenda Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve which was given by Trustee Charles Tokarz and seconded by Trustee Will Weatherford. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

New Business – Action Items

FL 108 – Board Election

Board of Trustees Chair Jordan Zimmerman stated that it has been 2 years since his election and it was time to elect a new chair. He asked if there were any nominations for the position for Chair.

Trustee John Ramil recommended that the Board of Trustees vote at the end of Chair Jordan Zimmerman's term which will be April 1, 2021. This will be consistent with past practices of passing the gavel at the end of the meeting. Trustee Mike Carrere fully support Trustee Ramil's recommendation to vote at the end of April. Since there was no disagreement, a meeting will be set for April 1, 2021.

FL 109 – Approval of St. Petersburg Campus Advisory Board Member

The Board shall appoint members to the Campus Advisory Boards, from recommendations of the President. Consistent with the State Constitution, members shall hold no other State office. Members may be reappointed for additional terms not to exceed eight (8) years of service.

USF President Steve Currall nominated Lisa L. Brody to be appointed to the SP Campus Advisory Board.

Lisa L. Brody, Esquire, is the Assistant Deputy Director and Managing Attorney for the St. Petersburg Office of Bay Area Legal Services, Inc., the largest nonprofit public-interest law firm in the Tampa Bay Area. Ms. Brody joined Bay Area in 2002 and in her role, supervises the delivery of high quality legal services to income eligible clients in Pinellas, Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Bay Area Legal Services, is consistently recognized as one the Tampa Bay Area “Top Workplaces”.

Trustee Seixas shared that she supports the nomination and had a chance to talk with Ms. Brody about the role. Chair Zimmerman asked for a motion to approve which was given by Trustee Charles Tokarz and seconded by Trustee Les Muma and approved.

New Business Information Items

Update on College of Engineering Initiatives.

College of Engineering Dean Robert Bishop provided the update. A power point was presented which highlighted the following:

- USF Now A Spacefaring University
 - You can have great technology that is interesting, but irrelevant.
 - As designers, we have lost the art of simplicity
 - Vision of the future(s)...
 - Get back to experimenting relentlessly and boldly.
- Institute for Applied Engineering has a Small Satellite Program – Motto -Ad Veritatem Velociter
- Articulated Reconnaissance & Communication Expedition (ARCE)
 - In Greek Mythology ARCE was the messenger for the Titans.
- ARCE 1 - is Made Up of Three Identical Smallsats
 - Each Spacecraft is 5cm X 10cm X10 cm
 - Technology Development
 - Mission Goals
- Three Small Satellites, Many Collaborators!
- Educational Impacts
- Student Learning
- Student Opportunities: Conference Papers
- Regional and Statewide Impact
- USF Student Peter Jorgensen, a full time staff member at the Institute of Applied Engineering and working on his Ph.D. Peter has 10 years of experience working on start up Engineering projects. He provided a brief update on his experiences.
- Student Intern Katie Wood has a bachelor’s in physics and has been with the program since September 2020. Katie provided a brief update on her experience.
- Regional and State wide Impact

- Satellite Build/Test Capability Development – In House at IAE
- What's Next
- Look Up
- Signed an 85 million dollar IDIQ last year and have 9.9 million dollars in contracts.
- Academic Consortium
- Participating Institutions
- IAE Business Development
- Other College News
- NSF Engineering Research Centers
- Innovating Inclusive Infrastructure with/In Urban Black Communities
- One Wash (One water Sanitation and Health) with Underserved Communities
- Engineering the Future
- Department of Ocean & Coastal Engineering

Chair Jordan Zimmerman commended Dean Bishop and his team for an amazing presentation, incredible work and shared knowledge that will make a difference in our state and region.

Trustee Shilen Patel questioned if the programs in the Institute of Applied Engineering were broad based and or opportunistic. He wanted to know if there were key focus areas.

Trustee John Ramil made favorable comments on how far the College of Engineering program has expanded in 45 years.

Trustee Melissa Seixas invited College of Engineering Dean Robert Bishop and his team to speak with members of the USF St. Petersburg Advisory Campus Board about the Innovating Inclusive Infrastructures within urban areas and Ocean and Coastal Engineering.

Trustee Will Weatherford is interested in knowing the direction of the Institute for Applied Engineering and would like to be included in the discussion along with Trustee Shilen Patel. Trustee Weatherford commended the engineering students on their presentations.

Chair Jordan Zimmerman asked Dean Bishop if he could provide information on High Water Mark in Florida.

Trustee Les Muma congratulated Dean Bishop and his team on the incredible presentation and on the progress and impact that the College of Engineering has had on the University of South Florida.

Trustee Mike Carrere commended Dean Bishop on his impressive presentation. Trustee Carrere acknowledged the well-designed oceanographic sciences in the institute of Applied Engineering and asked if the USF College of Engineering had ties to the fresh water issues surrounding Lake Okeechobee and the Florida Everglades.

USF Professor James Mihelcic made comments concerning the freshwater issues and how the USF Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is involved. Trustee Mike Carrere is interested in meeting to discuss more about the department and its affiliation with freshwater problems as well as academic opportunities.

President Steve Currall made favorable comments concerning the emphasis on ERC's and the existing collaborations.

USF Professor Maya Trotz talked briefly about digital, social built systems and infrastructure as well as community engagement and partnerships within the urban black communities.

BOT Roundtable Discussion

Trustee Charles Tokarz provided a brief update on admissions initiatives. At the February 23rd meeting the ACE committee had a vigorous discussion on Increasing undergraduate black student enrollment.

At the request of Chair Zimmerman, Trustee Tokarz has been meeting biweekly with Provost Ralph Wilcox, Associate Vice President and Dean, Glen Besterfield, Vice President for Student Success Paul Dosal and Assistant Corporate Secretary Visot to discuss the pathways planning initiatives to boost black student enrollment as well as to discuss Summer and Fall 2020-21 overall admissions. He gave an overview of the discussions.

The USF Black Leadership Network has been funded a \$60,000 grant from the Helios Education Foundation Regional Pathway Initiative. It's designed to boost black student enrollment from the Tampa Bay area high schools to any of the three USF campuses. A steering committee was established November 20, 2020 co -chaired by Dr. Paul Dosal and BLN co-founder Mr. Anddrikk Frazier. Consultant Dr. Lincoln Chandler was engaged on January 8th. The timeline for the initiative to develop action steps is June 2021.

As of March 8th for 1st time in college students only, admits are up by 23.5%. Black student admits are up 37.7%, Hispanic student admits are up 33.6%.

Trustee Tokarz also commented on the yield initiatives -virtual yield events are being held to increase the number of admits.

Trustee Melissa Seixas made a request to get the SP Campus Advisory Board involved in the Calling Campaign.

Chair Zimmerman commended Trustee Tokarz and the team for their quick strategic work reporting initiatives in order to increase diversity at the University of South Florida.

Trustee Jordan Zimmerman asked the Board members about the possibility of having an in-person BOT meeting on June 8th.

Trustees Oscar Horton, Les Muma, Melisa Seixas, Charles Tokarz, Sandra Callahan, John Ramil, Mike Griffin, Will Weatherford, Mike Carrere and Tim Boaz were all in support of having the in person meeting with appropriate protocols in place.

Trustee Tim Boaz welcomed the new Trustees and provided a brief update on faculty engagement. Trustee Boaz discussed the following topics:

- A Council on Racial Justice has been established.
- Senate Bill 264 – A provision to give students the right to record classes without the instructor's permission. The ACFS is planning to oppose the resolution.
- Weekly meetings with the administration on budget planning process.
- Issues in College of Arts and Sciences
- Progress on developing a new model for funding for summer school.
- Concerns surrounding the magnitude of budget cuts.

Trustee Claire Mitchell provided a brief update on student engagement. The following topics were discussed:

- Fall semester was rough. Students are becoming more engaged during the Spring semester.
- Residential Life – students are more active on campus as well as with student organizations.
- Received positive feed back surrounding the grab and go events on all campuses.
- Academically – students have become more comfortable with the online environment. Students are participating more.

Chair Zimmerman thanked everyone for their robust discussion and will look forward to the in-person meeting on June 8th.

Having no further business, Chair Zimmerman adjourned the BOT meeting.