



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

Pre-Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

February 5, 2024

Time Convened: 10:04 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 10:36 a.m.

Committee and Board members present:

Morteza “Mori” Hosseini (Board and Committee Chair), David L. Brandon, Richard P. Cole, Christopher T. Corr, Olivia E. Green, 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; 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; Scott Stricklin, Director of Athletics; 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 10:04 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call

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

3.0 Review Draft Agenda for March 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

- **December 7, 2023**

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

3.2 Review Discussion Item

- **Government Update**

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini noted the 2024 legislative session began early this year and will come to close on March 8. The legislators funded higher education at the highest level ever in the past year. They will likely be more conservative this legislative session. UF is working with the legislators, and we are pleased with where we are at this point in session.

Vice President and University Secretary Mark Kaplan noted we have reached the halfway point of our 60-day legislative session. This week both the House and Senate chambers are expected to pass their budgets on their respective floors. As Chairman Hosseini noted, these are smaller budgets than the previous year with a real focus on being prudent with the resources for recurring and non-recurring funds. UF is in a good position for this part of session. The next few weeks will begin the process of conference committees with negotiators from both sides discussing the ultimate budget that will be passed during the final week of session and sent to the Governor. He closed with a reminder about Gator Day in Tallahassee on February 13-14, 2024.

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini commented the major key project items on our agenda are in the budget at some level. He emphasized the importance of the conference committee negotiations to potentially increase the amount of funding actually appropriated. He is cautiously optimistic because legislators understand the value UF brings to the state of Florida, particularly through UF IFAS and UF Health. He provided examples of important project items like UF Health Jacksonville 8th Street, UF Scripps Institute, UF Health Stroke Unit, and cancer research. VP Kaplan added another UF project in the Governor's budget is \$80M for the statewide semiconductor initiative. Board and Committee Chair Hosseini added we need to stay on top of these agenda items over the remainder of the legislative session. It is vitally important when the Board meets with legislators next week during Gator Day to present a clear vision of the value of these projects.

4.0 New Business

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini requested all board members before the March meeting to submit their top 10 agenda items they believe are important for the President and the administration to execute in the next 18 months. He asked trustees to share their vision of what should happen at UF in those next 18 months. He will compile all items submitted and then meet with the President to compare the Board's vision with his vision. They will bring the visions together and produce a plan to outline what will be deliverable in 6 months, 12 months, and 18 months. Every 3 months, a report on progress should be provided by the President. In 18 months, board members will be able to say this Board and the administration have been successful and delivered on this combined vision of the Board and the President. At the March meeting, the President will outline the combined vision. President Sasse agreed and shared his support of the vision outline presentation at the March meeting. He added he will share updates on the 10x10x10 initiative at the June and December meetings.

Board and Committee Chair Hosseini asked if any of the UF administration had comments to share. Vice President Elias Eldayrie stated Workday is in good shape and he will share more details during the upcoming FSPPM committee pre-meeting. Vice President David Nelson stated UF Health is doing well. Provost Scott Angle shared we are in the final stages of the rollout for post-tenure review with continued discussions with the unions. Board and Committee Chair Hosseini emphasized the importance of implementing post-tenure review. President Sasse praised Provost Angle and his team for the work they have done to create a post-tenure review system that will alleviate the majority of potentially cumbersome administrative burden for faculty. Board and Committee Chair Hosseini reiterated that tenure is important to recruit and keep the best faculty. Tenure is about the prestige for faculty, not about the job itself. Post-tenure review is a vitally important process for the university to use for reporting data outcomes and our faculty performance to all stakeholders and our Board. President Sasse agreed and stated he is completely aligned with Chairman Hosseini's comments. He added post-tenure review creates an opportunity to marry up individual faculty assessments with a broader program review. Board and Committee Chair Hosseini agreed with President Sasse's comments. Trustee Wright agreed with President Sasse and thanked him for listening to the faculty's concerns regarding the administrative burdens of post-tenure review. She added her thanks to the President and Provost for all their hard work. Board and Committee Chair Hosseini stated the Board, President, and Provost, are committed to post-tenure review and are working with the Board of Governors on reducing the administrative burdens for faculty on all sides to assist faculty with focusing on research and teaching. In the next few years, we will see a vast improvement on processes across the university infrastructure with the investments being made by the Board. This Board is committed to fix past issues now to propel the university forward and setup the next Board for continued success. Trustee Cole congratulated Provost Angle for his recent transition from interim to permanent provost. Provost Angle thanked Trustee Cole and noted he is happy to be a part of the team.

5.0 Adjourn

There being no further discussion, Board and Committee Chair Hosseini adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.