

Florida Polytechnic University  
Board of Trustees

**Board of Trustees Workshop**

**WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**Florida Polytechnic University – Student Development Center  
4700 Research Way, Lakeland, FL 33805**

I. Call to Order

Chair Don Wilson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Kris Wharton called the roll: Chair Don Wilson, Vice Chair Cliff Otto, Trustee Mark Bostick, Trustee Ryan Perez, Trustee Henry McCance, Trustee Victoria Astley, Trustee Adrienne Perry, Trustee Earl Sasser, Trustee Philip Dur, Trustee Lou Saco, and Trustee Gary Wendt were present (Quorum).

Trustees not present: Trustee Bob Stork, Trustee Frank Martin

Staff present: President Randy Avent (via telephone from Tallahassee), Provost Terry Parker, Mr. Mark Mroczkowski, Ms. Gina Delulio, Ms. Kathy Bowman, Mr. Rick Maxey, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Mr. David Calhoun, Ms. Michele Rush, Mrs. Kim Abels, Mr. David Blanton and Kathy Mizereck (via telephone from Tallahassee) were present.

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Minutes

**Trustee Lou Saco made a motion to approve the Board Workshop meeting minutes of December 10, 2019. Trustee Earl Sasser seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Don Wilson made a special presentation to Dr. Richard Hallion, who retired from the Florida Poly Board of Trustees in summer 2019. **Chair Don Wilson made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-002 In Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Service: Trustee Richard P. Hallion, Ph.D. Trustee Earl Sasser seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.**

V. Legislative Update

Ms. Kathy Mizereck, AVP Government Relations, presented an update on Florida House Bill 7087 which, if it becomes law, would merge Florida Polytechnic University and New College into the University of Florida. She stated HB 7087 moved through the House Appropriations Committee with a vote of 17 yays versus 11 nays and will now go to the House floor. One Republican in the University's district voted no. No one spoke in favor of HB 7087 other than the legislator who proposed it. Currently, there is still no companion bill in the State Senate.

Ms. Mizereck stated the importance for University trustees to contact their legislators regarding HB 7087. Contact information will be sent to trustees via email. Trustees affirmed their desire to make those contacts as soon as possible.

The Trustees had an opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Mizereck and of President Randy Avent. Trustee Dur inquired as to the motivation of the bill, as well as who prepared the calculations used to form the bill. While the true motivation remains unclear, the calculations came from the Board of Governors at the request of Representative Fine. Additionally, Trustee Victoria Astley stated Florida Poly faculty will vote on their own resolution stating opposition to HB 7087.

Finally, Ms. Mizereck thanked Trustee Ryan Perez for his support through the Student Government Association (SGA) by sending five students to Tallahassee to speak against the bill. In addition, many parents have sent letters and emails to their legislators opposing the bill.

VI. 2019-2020 Operations Plan Update

President Avent shared his goal of creating one assessment document for both annual operations and SACSCOC; the dates for the performance appraisal will need to be changed to accomplish this..

President Avent reminded trustees that this interim assessment as presented in the meeting materials is being done solely to assist trustees in deciding the renewal of his contract for 2020-2021. The final assessment report for FY 2019-2020 will not be addressed until the December board meeting.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Trustee Dur stated his appreciation for the interaction with faculty at the Board/Faculty reception last night. He appreciated learning more about their work.

President Avent recognized and congratulated Trustee Bob Stork who is not in attendance today because he is being honored tonight by Indian River State College as the 2020 Entrepreneur of the Year.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.