

**FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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IN RE: SPECIAL  
COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS:           KELVIN LAWSON, CHAIR  
                                  BETTY GRABLE  
                                  THOMAS DORTCH  
                                  DAVE LAWRENCE

DATE:                           THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

TIME:                           COMMENCED AT: 10:15 A.M.  
                                  CONCLUDED AT: 10:30 A.M.

LOCATION:                       PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM  
                                  LEE HALL  
                                  FAMU CAMPUS  
                                  TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY:                 NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR  
                                  COURT REPORTER

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**TRUSTEES ALSO PRESENT:**

Nicole Washington  
Robert Woody  
Matthew Carter

\* \* \* \*

## P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 TRUSTEE LAWSON: All right. This is Lawson.  
4 Currently as senior member on the line, we are due  
5 to take a break at 10:45 but we are clearly running  
6 well ahead.

7 Jenny, are you on the line?

8 MS. BURY: Yes, I'm here.

9 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. Jenny, let's do this,  
10 let's go until -- and maybe what we can do in  
11 between is give a quick call to Trustee Graham,  
12 Trustee Grable, Trustee Dortch for the Special  
13 Committee on Athletics that will also be a very  
14 short update. So let's take an official 15 --

15 TRUSTEE DORTCH: I'm on the line.

16 TRUSTEE LAWSON: I'm sorry, I hear a voice.

17 TRUSTEE DORTCH: This is Trustee Dortch. I've  
18 been listening in, so I'm online now.

19 TRUSTEE GRABLE: So am I, Trustee Lawson.  
20 This is Trustee Grable.

21 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Grable, it's good to hear  
22 from you again.

23 Okay. We're only missing Graham and Lawrence.  
24 So, Jenny, if maybe we could take 10 minutes, and  
25 if you could track those two individuals down, we

1 can get started; or if you can find one of those  
2 two individuals in the next 10 minutes, we will  
3 still have a quorum, but we don't technically  
4 need --

5 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: This is --

6 TRUSTEE LAWSON: I'm sorry?

7 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: This is Dave Lawrence. I'm  
8 on the call.

9 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. Great, great. All  
10 right. Well, with that being said, unless there is  
11 a proclivity for a break, we can keep moving  
12 because this Committee has a very, very short  
13 update that I can give without anyone from staff  
14 and we really don't have anything to vote on. So  
15 Jenny, if you could, please, if you could call the  
16 roll, we can convene this committee.

17 MS. BURY: Okay. Ms. Royster is on. And,  
18 also, AD Overton is in the room as well.

19 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Great. Okay. So roll call,  
20 please.

21 MS. ROYSTER: Trustee Grable.

22 TRUSTEE GRABLE: Present.

23 MS. ROYSTER: Trustee Graham.

24 (NO RESPONSE).

25 MS. ROYSTER: Trustee Lawrence.

1 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: Here.

2 MS. ROYSTER: Trustee Dortch.

3 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Here.

4 MS. ROYSTER: Chair, we have a quorum.

5 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you. Thank you.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, today I want to just  
7 give you a very brief update and share with you  
8 what the next steps regarding athletics.

9 The big I guess question around athletics, and  
10 I think AD Overton has done a great job of making  
11 an attempt to answer, was really: What is our  
12 current revenue projection for the coming year and  
13 how does that play into addressing the budget  
14 deficit that AD Overton walked into when he came on  
15 campus? There's also -- that's one question that's  
16 a question for this Committee and a question for  
17 the Board.

18 There's also a third question, and that is  
19 from the Board of Governors, and that question is:  
20 Has our Board seen, reviewed and approved, first,  
21 the revenue projections and then, second, the debt  
22 reduction plan?

23 So what we have asked AD Overton to do in  
24 conjunction with the Rattler Boosters, in  
25 conjunction with Mr. Cotton, in conjunction with

1 reviewing all of the above with the President is  
2 work on those two topics. Today, as opposed to  
3 presenting something to you that's not 100% ready,  
4 we are choosing to delay the presentation of those  
5 details and present those to you in the form of a  
6 Committee meeting at a later date; and then, in  
7 turn, have our Committee review and potentially  
8 approve that plan, for that plan to be reviewed  
9 with the full Board for approval at our March  
10 meeting. Because what we need to be in a position  
11 to do first, as a committee, is review and approve  
12 the plan; secondarily, as a board, to review and  
13 approve the plan such that when the Board of  
14 Governors reconvenes, assuming we're all in full  
15 alignment, the high-level details of our revenue  
16 projection and our debt reduction plan can be  
17 shared at the Board of Governors because, for those  
18 of you that were in attendance at the most recent  
19 Board of Governors meeting, that was clearly a  
20 callout.

21 So what Vice President Cassidy and I were able  
22 to do is go back through the Board of Governors  
23 meeting minutes to determine specifically what they  
24 need and what their requirements are so that we're  
25 on point with addressing their questions and

1 concerns. So long story short, there is not a  
2 formal update today, but I did want to share with  
3 you what the next steps are.

4 There will be a meeting of this Committee at a  
5 later date to work with Mr. Overton, AD Overton to  
6 review in detail those two components of the next  
7 steps, again, the revenue generation plan, as well  
8 as the overall debt reduction plan driven out of  
9 that, you know, one-year revenue generation plan.  
10 And you will see a subsequent plan over the next  
11 five years to address, you know, what we have been  
12 labeling as a deficit in the athletic department.

13 And, you know, there is probably a need to  
14 really clarify, you know, how we really look from  
15 an athletic funding and budget standpoint versus  
16 other universities in the SUS. So we want to come  
17 to you with a more comprehensive discussion versus  
18 bits and pieces today. So are there any  
19 questions -- so that was the update. Are there any  
20 specific questions or general questions on where we  
21 are?

22 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: I have none.

23 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. Great. And, again,  
24 we will reconvene and I will work with the  
25 appropriate staff to properly notice the meeting

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and have AD Overton share with you all of the specific details that, you know, we will need to align to as well as, again, taking them in front of the body of our peers, via the full Board, for alignment as well.

So if there are no other questions, that concludes business before this Committee, and I would call this meeting adjourned.

(WHEREUPON, THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS WAS ADJOURNED).

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CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF FLORIDA     )  
COUNTY OF LEON        )

I, NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

DATED this 21st day of February, 2016.

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NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, FPR  
Court Reporter

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