

**FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EMERGENCY CALLED MEETING  
CONFERENCE CALL  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 11, 2012  
1:00 P.M.**

Trustees present: Solomon Badger, Torey Alston, William Jennings, Charles Langston, Kelvin Lawson, Spurgeon McWilliams, Rufus Montgomery, Narayan Persaud, Belinda Reed Shannon, Cleve Warren, Marissa West and Karl White.

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

*Trustee Solomon Badger, Chairman*

Chairman called the meeting to order and Attorney Barge-Miles called the roll. A quorum was established.

**II. UPDATE ON SACS**

*Dr. Larry Robinson, Interim President*

Chairman Badger asked Interim President Dr. Larry Robinson to present an update regarding the University's accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges.

Dr. Robinson informed the Board that he had just received verbal notification that the University was being placed on a twelve-month probation, by the Southern Association of College and Schools, Commission on Colleges. He noted that the University is still accredited and that the academic processes are in order. He stated that the University should receive an official letter from SACS in about a week, followed by a detailed report in January 2013. SACS will also appoint a special committee that will conduct a site visit within the next six months. The University will prepare a report that addresses the issues raised by SACS and submit it to the site team. The site team will then submit a final report to SACS. That report will be considered by the Commission at the December 2013 annual meeting.

Dr. Robinson indicated that earlier in the year, the University had responded to SACS regarding issues related to on-going investigations and into the hazing incident. The response dealt with Standard 3.4.5 Academic Policies, 3.9.1 Student Rights, 3.10.3 Control of Finances, 3.11.2 Institutional Environment. He stated that based on preliminary information the following items led SACS to its decision:

- Core Requirement 1.1 - Principles of Integrity. (Dealing with the internal audits that were not performed appropriately.)
- Standard 3.2.8 - Qualified administrative and academic officers to lead the institution. (This is also associated with the internal audits that were not performed appropriately.)

- 3.10.3 - Control of Finances. (Associated with the activities with the band and travel.); and
- 3.11.2 - Institutional Environment. (Requires the University to offer a healthy, safe environment for all. This stems from the hazing death of Robert Champion.)

Dr. Robinson reported that the University has already addressed some of these issues. He also stated that the University needs to address how it will report this matter to its constituents and other accrediting bodies. He informed the Board that a town hall meeting has been scheduled for the following day at 11:00 a.m.

Trustee Shannon suggested that the University conduct a detailed root cause analysis, to ensure that the University has sustainable practices in place for the future. Dr. Robinson pointed out that the University has already prepared a lengthy response to the Ernst and Young report, based on input from the BOT and the BOG. That response was edited to include a timeline regarding when certain actions will be implemented. He stated that he will share that revised action plan with the Board.

Trustee Alston requested that the Board be given periodic updates concerning this matter. Dr. Robinson agreed. He stated that he would disseminate a document to the BOT later that day regarding how the University has addressed two of the standards. Trustee Badger indicated that he would get with President Robinson to establish the time-frame and mechanism to communicate with the Board on a regular basis. Trustee Warren asked if the information could be placed on a DashBoard with bullet points for easy reading. Trustee Lawson asked if this is a good starting point and if the University needs to delve deeper into some of the issues. Dr. Robinson stated that it would be a good idea to show where we were and what things are working now. Trustee Badger asked Dr. Robinson to take the suggestion/comments into consideration when addressing this matter.

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Badger asked if there was any additional business for the Board. With there being none, the meeting adjourned.