

Direct Support Organizations (DSO) and Athletics Committee Minutes
Trustee Deveron Gibbons, Chair
Thursday, September 12, 2024

Trustee Deveron Gibbons called the meeting to order. Trustees Natlie Figgers, Kelvin Lawson, Loryn May, Belvin Perry, Jr., Kenward Stone, and Michael White were in attendance and established a quorum.

Approval of July 30, 2024, DSO and Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes

Trustee Lawson motioned for approval; Trustee Stone seconded the motion.

A roll call vote on the motion was administered, and the results were as follows:

Trustee Name	Vote
Trustee Gibbons	Yes
Trustee Figgers	Yes
Trustee Lawson	Yes
Trustee May	Yes
Trustee Perry	Yes
Trustee Stone	Yes
Trustee White	Yes

The motion passed, unanimously.

FY 2024-2025 Foundation Operating Budget Amendment

Dr. Donald Palm presented the FY 2024-2025 Foundation Operating Budget Amendment.

The amendment approves funding for the VP-Director of Athletics position. The Foundation Board approved funding for a total amount of \$132,063, of which \$115,445 is for the position's base salary and \$16,618 is for the position's fringe benefits.

This funding will support a base salary of \$230,000 with \$20,000 of supplemental support that will be specifically tied to performance metrics as identified by President Beard and the BOT for a permanent VP/AD for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Trustee Lawson motioned for approval of the FY 2024-2025 Foundation Operating Budget Amendment; Trustee Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed, unanimously.

DSO Bylaws Update

Trustee Gibbons provided the committee with an overview of this informational item. He stated that the bylaws for all the DSOs were not aligned and needed to be updated to ensure they all agree with guidelines outlined by University Regulations, SUS, and BOG guidelines. The Committee discussed this item, ensuring that the recommendations outlined in the Gift Report be included in the DSO Bylaws discussion as well as ensuring that the DSOs and their leadership are included in this review process.

Dr. Palm informed the Board that the Corrective Action Plan, reviewed at yesterday's Audit & Compliance Committee Meeting addresses the recommendations from the Gift Report and Trustee Gibbons ensured the Committee that he has already discussed this issue with the DSO Leadership.

The Committee agreed that Trustee Gibbons and Dr. Palm would work to provide a written request to the DSO leadership outlining what is needed for them to better align their bylaws and/or operating

policies with current regulations. Trustee Cliatt agreed to assist them with this request and the committee also requested to review the ask before it is presented to the DSO leadership. The Committee agreed to allow all Foundation Board members whose terms end on December 31, 2024, to continue to serve until the bylaw's alignment is completed. Trustee Gibbons and Dr. Palm assured the committee that each Foundation Board member up for renewal had been contacted and informed of the bylaw's alignment process.

The Committee discussed the timeline for the bylaw's alignment process, citing that it would need to be completed before their December meeting and the Foundation Board's November board officer elections. Trustee Gibbons and Dr. Palm will work to develop a timeline that works within the identified constraints and inform the BOT if a special meeting will need to be scheduled prior to the December meeting. The Committee recognized all DSOs for their time, talent and treasure and commended them for their efforts in self-governance that is beneficial to the University.

Update on Divisional Activities

A. FY 2024-2025 University Advancement Updates

1. FY 2024-2025 Fundraising Progress as of September 4, 2024:
 - i. Raised \$4,270,103.65 (21.35% of \$20M Goal)
2. New Cash - \$3,982,208.65 (93.26% of Total & 19.91% of \$20M Goal)
3. Pledges & Planned Gifts - \$287,895 (6.74% of Total & 1.44% of \$20M Goal)
4. Year-to-Year Constituent Comparison
 - i. Corporations and Foundations account for the majority of support.
5. Historical Fundraising Trend – 2012-13 to 2024-25
 - i. Last three fiscal years have been over \$20+ Million

The Committee discussed University Advancement's plan to diversify fundraising constituency support, citing that 70+% of support is from corporations. Dr. Palm emphasized that corporate giving is projected to continue at its current level or increase, but that the next VP for Advancement will review constituency giving and determine strategies to diversify sources of support.

The Committee requested that future fundraising presentations include the pledges collected as compared to the projected amount of pledges receivable. Dr. Palm commended Chair Harper for her planned giving commitment.

B. DSO Updates

1. **FAMU Foundation, Inc.**
2. **FAMU National Alumni Association**
3. **FAMU Rattler Boosters**

Dr. Palm introduced a short video of greetings from Foundation Board Chair Lisa LaBoo.

FAMU Foundation, Inc.

- FAMU Foundation Fall 2024 Board of Directors Meeting will be held on November 21-23, 2024, in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with the Florida Blue Florida Classic.
- Investment Value - \$162,934,473.87 as of June 30, 2024, compared to \$161,041,113.25 as of May 31, 2024.

- Endowment Value - \$124,140,598.81 as of June 30, 2024, compared to \$122,550,814.39 as of May 31, 2024.

FAMU National Alumni Association

- President Beard and University leadership have been on the move over the past three weeks from the MEAC Challenge in Atlanta, Georgia across the miles to Fort Lauderdale and Miami engaging with alumni, donors, and community stakeholders.
- The President also shared his academic vision with prospective Rattlers and parents at recruitment events with hundreds of students eager to come to FAMU.
- We were pleased to have Chair Harper, Trustee Figgers, and Trustee Washington join the President along the way. Our team received a warm FAMULY welcome on each stop.
 - Special thanks to the National Alumni Association for assisting our team in coordinating these endeavors.

FAMU Rattler Boosters

- The Bordeaux Cooling station paid dividends in our first game in terms of the condition of our football players.
- On August 10, the Rattler Boosters Golf Tournament had a very successful event at Jake Gaither Park. The Kick-Off luncheon was held at 2:00pm and Fan Day at 4:00pm.
- Rattler Boosters Memberships are: Regular - \$100, Venom - \$300, and Life Members is \$750.

Athletic Directors Report

a. Athletics Department Update

Acting AD Michael Smith provided the Athletic Directors Report.

- Operating Budget Review
 - Revenue: EOY 23-24 Projections - \$11,501,889
 - Revenue: EOY 24-25 Projections - \$11,354,474

 - Total Expenses: EOY 23-24 Projections - \$11,500,869
 - Revenue vs. Expenses: \$1,020
 - Total Expenses: EOY 24-25 Projections - \$11,363,454
 - Revenue vs. Expenses: \$1,020
- Athletics Compliance Office
 - \$87,000 – NCAA AASP (Accelerating Academic Success Program) Grant Funding
 - Professional Development Highlight – Tia Huie was accepted to Black Sports Business Academy
 - End of NCAA Probation – Last probationary report (Year 9) will be submitted to the NCAA on September 15
 - Certification – ACO continues to capitalize on collaboration with other university units to complete fall certification

- Academic Update
 - Spring 2024
 - Dept. Semester GPA: 3.15
 - Dept. Cumulative GPA: 3.19
 - Summer 2024
 - Dept. Semester GPA: 3.26
 - Graduates
 - Spring 2024: 35
 - Summer 2024: 26
 - 3 Master's Candidates
 - 12 return for second degree

- Student-Athlete Advisor Committee
 - Kiauna Watson – Softball - President
 - Nay'Ron Jenkins – Football – 1st Vice President
 - Lacie Deboskie – Track & Field/Cross Country – 2nd Vice President
 - Eva Holmes – Bowling – Parliamentarian
 - Alyssa Summers – Track & Field – Secretary

- Fall Sports Highlights
 - Football
 - Volleyball

The Trustees thanked Acting AD Smith for stepping into the leadership role for Athletics. They also observed a moment silence for the Fallen Rattler and former football athlete, Darryl Drew. Mr. Drew was a 1998 Inductee into the FAMU Athletics Hall of Fame. Chair Harper informed the Trustees that Pres. Beard would be working to schedule another meeting within the next few weeks to review and approve the employment contract for the next VP/AD.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.