

# University of Central Florida Board of Trustees

## Ninth Amended and Restated Bylaws

October 22, 2020

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## **ARTICLE I**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees is vested by law with all the powers and authority to administer the University of Central Florida in accordance with Article IX, Section 7 of the Florida Constitution, the laws of the State of Florida and with regulations and policies of the Florida Board of Governors. In order to more effectively discharge its responsibilities and duties in connection therewith, the University of Central Florida Board of Trustees hereby adopts these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **THE BOARD**

Section 2.1 CORPORATE NAME – The Board of Trustees is a public body corporate called the *University of Central Florida Board of Trustees*, with all the powers of a body corporate under the laws of the State of Florida. The Board of Trustees shall be hereinafter referred to as the *Board*.

Section 2.2 COMPOSITION – The Board is composed of thirteen (13) trustees, six (6) citizen members appointed by the governor, and five (5) citizen members appointed by the Board of Governors, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The president of the Student Body and chair of the Faculty Senate shall also serve as voting trustees during their terms of office.

Section 2.3 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD – The Board shall serve as the governing body of the University of Central Florida. It shall select the president of the University of Central Florida for ratification by the Board of Governors and shall hold the president responsible for the university's operation and management, performance, fiscal accountability, and compliance with federal and state laws and regulations of the Board of Governors. The Board shall have the authority to carry out all lawful functions permitted by the bylaws, its operating procedures, by regulations and policies of the Board of Governors, or by law.

The Board may adopt rules and policies consistent with the university mission, with law, and with the regulations and policies of the Board of Governors, in order to effectively fulfill its obligations under the law.

Section 2.4 CORPORATE SEAL – The corporate seal shall be used only in connection with the transaction of business of the Board and of the university. The secretary may affix the seal on any document signed on behalf of the corporation. Permission may be granted by the secretary for the use of the seal in the decoration of any university building or in other special circumstances. The corporate seal of the Board shall be consistent with the following form and design:

## **ARTICLE III**

### **THE TRUSTEES**

Section 3.1 TERM OF OFFICE – Trustees shall serve for staggered 5-year terms, as provided by law.

Section 3.2 VACANCIES – Vacancies shall be filled by appointing authority subject to confirmation by the Senate of the State of Florida.

Section 3.3 COMPENSATION – Trustees shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed upon request for travel and per diem expenses.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

Section 4.1 OFFICERS – The officers of the Board shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Corporate Secretary, and the Associate Corporate Secretary. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be trustees, but no other Board officers shall be members of the Board.

Section 4.2 SELECTION – The Board shall elect its chair and vice chair from the appointed members and upon recommendation of the Governance Committee, at its last regular meeting of the fiscal year ending June 30. The chair shall serve for two years beginning July 1 and may be reelected for one additional consecutive two-year term. Any exception to this term of office must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the board of trustees.

Section 4.3 CHAIR – The duties of the chair shall include presiding at all meetings of the Board, calling special meetings of the Board, appointing committee chairs, determining the composition of all Board committees, attesting to actions of the Board, serving as spokesperson for the Board, and fulfilling other duties as assigned by the Board. The Chair shall notify the Governor or the Board of Governors, as applicable, in writing, whenever a board member has three consecutive unexcused absences from regular board meetings in any fiscal year, which may be grounds for removal by the Governor or Board of Governors, as applicable. The chair shall perform such duties in consultation with the university president.

Section 4.4 VICE CHAIR – The duty of the vice chair is to act as chair during the absence or disability of the chair. While the vice chair shall be the presumptive successor to the chair when a vacancy occurs, the chair shall be selected by the full board upon nomination of the Governance Committee.

Section 4.5 CORPORATE SECRETARY – The university president shall serve as corporate secretary of the Board, and in the capacity of secretary, shall be responsible for giving notice of all meetings of the Board and its committees, setting the agenda and compiling the supporting documents for meetings of the Board in consultation with the chair, recording and maintaining detailed minutes of any Board meeting, including a record of all votes cast and history of attendance of each trustee, executing or attesting to all documents that have been executed by the Board, and shall be custodian of the corporate seal. Minutes of each meeting shall be

prominently posted on the university's website within two weeks after the meeting. All meetings will be held in accordance with section 286.011(2), Florida Statutes

Section 4.6 ASSOCIATE CORPORATE SECRETARY – The secretary may designate an individual to serve as associate corporate secretary to the Board. This individual shall perform all duties delegated by the secretary and shall provide for review by the General Counsel documents to be presented to the board and committees.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **PRESIDENT**

Section 5.1 DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT – The university president shall serve as the chief executive officer of the university. The university president shall be responsible for the operation of the university, including efficient and effective budget and program administration, leading the university to accomplish its educational missions and goals, monitoring educational and financial performance, consulting with the Board in a timely manner on matters appropriate to its policy-making and fiduciary functions, appointing staff liaisons for each board committee, and serving as the university's key spokesperson. The president shall have the authority to execute all documents on behalf of the university and the Board consistent with law, applicable Board of Governors' and Board of Trustees' regulations and policies, and the best interests of the university.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **COMMITTEES**

Section 6.1 COMMITTEES – The Board shall establish standing and ad-hoc committees as it deems appropriate to discharge its responsibilities. The Board chair shall appoint members of committees, their chairs and vice chairs based upon their expertise in matters relating to that committee, and shall appoint a trustee representative to the board of directors of each direct support organization. The chair shall be an ex-officio member of each committee. Each committee shall consist of no fewer than three members. Members of committees shall hold office until the appointment of their successors. Any vacancies on the standing committees shall be filled by appointment of the Board chair. Unless specifically delegated or as otherwise provided in these bylaws, authority to act on all matters is reserved to the Board and the duty of each committee shall be to consider and to make recommendations to the Board upon matters referred to it. Each committee shall have a written statement of purpose and primary responsibilities, or charter, as approved by the Board. The chairs of all committees shall perform their duties and shall have the responsibility and authority to place matters on the Board's agenda, with approval of the Board chair.

Section 6.2 STANDING COMMITTEES – The following committees shall be standing committees of the Board until dissolved by the Board:

Advancement Committee  
Audit and Compliance Committee  
Compensation and Labor Committee

Educational Programs Committee  
Finance and Facilities Committee  
Governance Committee

Section 6.3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Board Chair and committee chairs. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to act on matters that, in the opinion of the board chair, must be timely approved between regularly scheduled Board meetings. Actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Board at the next Board meeting. The Executive Committee may not take any of the following actions, for which only the board has the exclusive authority: appointment and dismissal of the president; approval of the president’s employment agreement; sale or other disposition of assets; incurrence of debt; approval of new facilities; election of chair and vice chair; approval of the annual capital and operations budgets; use of the institution’s credit line; conferral of degrees; creation or termination of degree programs ; and amendment of the bylaws.

Section 6.4 AD-HOC COMMITTEES – Ad-hoc committees shall be appointed by the Board chair upon authority of the Board with such powers and duties and period of service as the Board chair may determine, provided that no ad-hoc committee shall be created to act upon any matter appropriate to be acted upon by a standing committee. The chairs of any ad-hoc committees shall be appointed by the Board chair and shall perform their duties in consultation with the university president. The chair of the Board shall serve as an ex-officio member of each ad hoc committee.

Section 6.5 AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS – Each Affiliated Organization, which includes Direct Support Organizations, Practice Plan Corporations, self-insurance trust funds, and other legal entities under the control of the Board of Trustees, shall provide regular reports to a standing committee as assigned by the Board chair.

Section 6.6 QUORUM – A majority of the regular (not ex-officio) committee members shall constitute a quorum for all committee meetings. A quorum having been established, no business shall be transacted without a majority vote of all committee members present.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **MEETINGS**

All meetings of the Board and its committees shall be open to the public at all times, and no resolution, rule, or formal action shall be considered binding except as taken or made at such meeting in accordance with section 286.011, Florida Statutes, unless the matter being discussed falls within the provisions of law allowing closed sessions.

Section 7.1 REGULAR MEETINGS – There shall be not less than five (5) regular meetings a year as the Board may determine. These meetings shall be held on such dates and at such times as the Board may determine. The time and date of a regular meeting may be changed by an affirmative vote of a quorum of the Board. At the discretion of the chair, meetings may be held virtually or by teleconference.

Section 7.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS – Special meetings of the Board may be held at the call of the Board chair, the secretary, or upon request of seven (7) trustees. The secretary shall send written

notice of such special meeting to all trustees, along with a statement of the purpose of the meeting, at least 48 hours in advance. No matter may be considered at any special meeting that was not included in the call of that meeting except by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the trustees at the meeting. At the discretion of the chair, special meetings of the Board may be held virtually or by teleconference.

Section 7.3 EMERGENCY MEETINGS – An emergency meeting of the Board may be called by the chair upon no less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice whenever an issue requires immediate Board action. No other business will be transacted at the meeting unless additional emergency matters are agreed to by a majority of those Board members present.

Section 7.4 AGENDA – The President, in consultation with the chair, shall set the agenda for the meetings with the review of the General Counsel. Recommendations to the Board included in the agenda are presented by the chair or committee chair designated by the chair, and include all matters of business or concern to the Board that have not been specifically delegated to the chair or the university president. The chair will provide a copy of the agenda to each member of the Board at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. If additional items or supporting documentation become available, notice will be sent to all trustees acknowledging the update(s). A revised agenda will be issued if a new agenda item is added or if an agenda item is removed. The Board may also consider items not included in the published agenda.

Section 7.5 CONSENT AGENDA – The Board chair may approve items to be placed on a consent agenda that may be approved by the Board without discussion. Committee items not recommended by the unanimous vote of the committee may not be placed on the consent agenda. Items may be removed from the consent agenda by any trustee, preferably at least two days prior to the Board meeting.

Section 7.6 APPEARANCE BEFORE THE BOARD – Individuals, groups or factions who wish to appear before the Board to discuss a subject pending before the Board shall complete a public comment form specifying the matter upon which they desire to be heard. Public comment forms will be available at each meeting and must be submitted prior to commencement of the meeting. For meetings held virtually or by teleconference, public comment forms can be obtained from the Board web site and emailed to the Office of Board Relations prior to the meeting. Organizations, groups, or factions wishing to address the Board shall designate a single representative to speak on its behalf to ensure an orderly presentation to the Board. The Board will reserve no more than fifteen minutes for public comments. Each speaker shall be allotted three minutes to present information unless modified by the Board chair.

Section 7.7 QUORUM – A quorum for the conduct of business by the full Board shall consist of seven (7) trustees. A quorum having been established, no business shall be transacted without a majority vote of all trustees present except as otherwise provided in these bylaws.

Section 7.8 RULES OF PROCEDURE – Except as modified by these bylaws or specific procedures and policies enacted by the Board, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall constitute the rules of parliamentary procedure applicable to all meetings of the Board and its committees.

## ARTICLE VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS

Section 8.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY – Trustees stand in a fiduciary relationship to the university. Therefore, Trustees shall act in good faith, with due regard to the interests of the university, and shall comply with the fiduciary principles and law set forth in the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, Section 112.311-112.326, Florida Statutes. The Board shall adopt a written conflict of interest policy, to be included in the Board operating procedures or other policies, which shall be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary.

Section 8.2 INDEMNIFICATION – Whenever any civil or criminal action has been brought against a trustee for any act or omission arising out of and in the course of the performance of his or her duties and responsibilities, the Board may defray all costs of defending such action, including reasonable attorney’s fees and expenses together with costs of appeal, and may save harmless and protect such person from any financial loss resulting from the lawful performance of his or her duties and responsibilities. Claims based on such actions or omissions may, in the discretion of the Board, be settled prior to or after the filing of suit thereon. The Board may arrange for and pay the premium for appropriate insurance to cover all such losses and expenses.

Section 8.3 LIMITATION OF LIABILITY – The Board shall be a corporation primarily acting as an instrumentality or agency of the state pursuant to section 768.28(2), Florida Statutes, for purposes of sovereign immunity.

Section 8.4 AMENDMENTS – These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board, provided that notice of any proposed amendment including a draft thereof shall have been filed in writing with the secretary and a copy of the draft has been delivered electronically or by mail to each trustee at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

Section 8.5 SUSPENSION OF OPERATING PROCEDURES – Any provision of these bylaws may be suspended in connection with the consideration of a matter before the Board by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board.

Section 8.6 PROXIES – The use of proxies for purposes of determining a quorum, for voting, or for any other purposes is prohibited.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing Ninth Amended and Restated Bylaws of the University of Central Florida Board of Trustees were approved by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Trustees at a regular meeting of the Board held on October 22, 2020.

*Janet D. Owen*

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Associate Corporate Secretary

History: New 1-23-03. Amended 11-20-04, 1-17-08, 9-17-09, 1-27-11, 9-26-13, 5-31-16, 9-15-16, 9-19-19.