



Board of Trustees

**Minutes
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting
University of Central Florida
December 2, 2021**

Chair Alex Martins called the Board of Trustees Special Meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

He reminded the board that the meeting was covered by the Florida Sunshine Law and that the public and press were invited to attend.

Karen Monteleone, Assistant Vice President for Board Relations, called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

The following board members attended the meeting: Chair Alex Martins, Vice Chair Harold Mills and Trustees Tiffany Altizer, Jeff Condello, Meg Hall, Joseph Harrington, Caryl McAlpin, John Miklos, Michael Okaty and Beverly Seay.

Trustees Joseph Conte, Bill Christy and Danny Gaekwad were not in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Cassanello, President of the United Faculty of Florida at UCF, commented on the university's budget priorities.

NEW BUSINESS

BOT-1 Approval to hire the University of Central Florida's next Vice President and General Counsel

Martins asked the Board Office if any disclosures of conflict of interest from the trustees were received. There were no disclosures.

Martins said that the Board would consider approving the hiring of Youndy Cook as the university's next Vice President and General Counsel.

Martins recognized President Alexander Cartwright for remarks.

Cartwright stated he appointed a search committee that included administrators, faculty, staff, and students, to conduct a national search for UCF's next Vice President and General Counsel in September.

Cartwright said following a robust national recruitment effort, the search committee interviewed semi-finalists for the position and recommended five finalists for consideration. He said two candidates completed on-campus interviews that included sessions with university leadership, the Office of the General Counsel, Trustee Okaty and Chair Martins.

Cartwright recommended Youndy Cook as the next Vice President and General Counsel.

Cartwright reiterated that this position is one noted in the Resolution on Presidential Authority with



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a reporting relationship to the Board of Trustees. For that reason and in consultation with Chair Martins, Trustee Michael Okaty was asked to serve on the search committee. Cartwright asked Okaty to share comments as a member of the search committee.

Okaty thanked Martins and Cartwright for the opportunity to serve on the committee. He said the committee worked well together and was well-led by the search firm. Okaty concluded his remarks by stating that he was pleased with the process and the result.

Martins thanked Okaty for his time and participation in the process. He commented that he had the opportunity to interview candidates and had the opportunity to work closely with Cook in her interim role. Martins stated his support for the recommendation based on this experience. He said the process was thorough, and through that process it was clear that Cook was the candidate for the role.

Mills moved to approve BOT-1 with Okaty with providing the second.

The trustees had the following comments:

- Condello asked the cost of the search firm and the reason for having a search process conducted. President Cartwright commented that the university will always ensure we have the best person in the position, which required a search to consider other individuals. It was through this process that Cook distinguished herself as the ideal candidate for the position.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Martins adjourned the board meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Reviewed by: 
Alex Martins, Chair UCF Board of Trustees

Date: 2.23.22

Respectfully submitted: 
Mike Kilbride, Associate Corporate Secretary

Date: 2/23/22