



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Board of Trustees
University of Central Florida
College of Business, Business Administration I, Room 107
April 15, 2026**

MINUTES

Chair Alex Martins called the Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 3:11 p.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.

Carmen Jarquin, Director for Board Relations, called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

The following board members attended the meeting: Chair Alex Martins, Vice Chair Bill Christy, Trustee Luci Blanco, Trustee Rick Cardenas, Trustee Mark Filburn, Trustee Alan Florez, Trustee Stephen King, Trustee Tony Massey, Trustee Thomas McNamara, Trustee John Miklos, and Trustee Jeff Vahle.

Trustee Jeff Condello and Trustee Danny Gaekwad attended virtually.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment.

REMARKS

Chair Martins opened his remarks by thanking the trustees for their engagement and reflecting on the significance of the Board's earlier actions, noting they demonstrate both the strength of the institution and confidence in its trajectory. He recognized Vice Chair Christy to provide an update from the March Board of Governors meeting, which included discussion of campus safety, system strategic planning efforts, academic program review, presidential searches, and regulatory items. Martins also shared that he was appointed to the Board of Governors Task Force on Intercollegiate Athletics.

The Board recognized former Trustee Tiffany Altizer for her service and contributions to the university, highlighting her leadership in advancing academic priorities and strategic planning efforts, including her role in supporting the university's achievement of preeminence.

The Board also recognized Faculty Senate Chair Stephen King for his service and leadership, noting his contributions in representing faculty perspectives and strengthening Board discussions.

The Board further recognized Student Body President Luci Blanco for her service to the Board and the student body.

Martins then recognized President Cartwright to provide his update. President Cartwright highlighted continued institutional momentum, including strong philanthropic support, recent private investment, and ongoing legislative engagement. He also noted student success initiatives, national program recognitions, and continued progress in research, academic programs, and support for military-connected students.

President Cartwright concluded by emphasizing UCF's continued growth and focus on delivering outcomes for students, the state, and the broader community.

DISCUSSION

DISC-1 State University System Efficiency Study

Ben Watkins, Director of the State of Florida Division of Bond Finance, presented the results of the State University System's recent efficiency study.

Watkins provided an overview of the study's methodology and key findings, which examined financial efficiency, productivity, and student outcome metrics across the State University System over time. He noted that Florida's system ranks among the strongest nationally, driven in part by performance-based funding and a focus on measurable student outcomes.

Watkins highlighted the importance of utilizing business principles and data-driven metrics to evaluate institutional performance, improve transparency, and support strategic decision-making. He emphasized that governing boards play a critical role in requesting and using this information to guide resource allocation and institutional priorities.

Watkins also noted that UCF performs strongly across several efficiency and productivity measures and is well positioned relative to peer institutions.

Trustees engaged in discussion regarding the application of the study's framework, the role of performance-based funding, and strategies to further align state investment with institutional outcomes.

NEW BUSINESS

At Martins' request, Youndy Cook, Vice President and General Counsel, confirmed that there were no disclosures of conflict of interest from the Trustees.

BOT-2 Approval of the UCF Athletics Strategic Investment Fund and Allocation of Auxiliary Funds

Michael A. Kilbride, Vice President and Executive Chief of Staff, and Bert Francis, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer, presented a proposal to establish the UCF Athletic Strategic Investment Fund and allocate \$22.5 million in non-recurring auxiliary funds.

Kilbride and Francis noted the proposal aligns with Florida Board of Governors regulations and includes safeguards to ensure no adverse impact on auxiliary operations, the university's financial position, or its credit profile, with required oversight and reporting.

Trustees discussed the proposed allocation and governance structure. Trustee King proposed an amendment to reduce the allocation amount; the motion failed for lack of a second.

McNamara moved to approve BOT-2, with Christy providing the second. The motion passed with one dissent from Trustee King.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Martins opened the floor to Committee Chairs for additional comments and, hearing none, said the committee reports included in meeting materials stand as a historical reference of committee business.

CONSENT AGENDA

Gaekwad moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, with Filburn providing the second. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Martins adjourned the board meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____
Alex Martins, Chair, UCF Board of Trustees

Respectfully submitted: _____ Date: _____
Michael A. Kilbride, Associate Corporate Secretary