

## Board of Trustees

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

### MINUTES

USF BOT Chair Will Weatherford thanked everyone for attending and called the full Board of Trustees meeting to order.

The Chair's comments:

Chair Weatherford announced the upcoming commencement ceremonies.

The upcoming Inauguration Investiture Ceremony by USF President Rhea Lawton is January 19, 2023 at the Yuengling Center.

The investiture ceremony is open to the public. Chair Weatherford encouraged all students, faculty, and staff to participate.

Mr. Alex Goleshis the new JSF Bulls head football coach. Coach Golesh was born in Moscow Russia, but grew up in Brooklyn New York, and in Dublin Ohio, where he was a three year letter winner in football at Dublin Scioto High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio State in 2006. A nationally

Trustee Melissa Seixas  
Trustee Will Weatherford

## Student Presentation

USF senior Xiomara Montes Gil provided a video presentation and shared her experience at USF. She's pursuing a double major in Business Analytics and Information Systems at the Muma College of Business. This past summer Xiomara interned with the JP Morgan Chase Finance Department.

Xiomara wanted to stay near her family in Orlando and enjoy USF's diverse student community. Born in Lima, Peru, Montes Gil is focused on becoming the first in her family to graduate college and work in finance. Since high school, Montes Gil has worked hard to pave her way for herself – earning high grades and taking advantage of new opportunities, such as joining the Florida Business Leaders of America, the Hispanic Student Association, the school band and soccer team.

Chair Weatherford congratulated Xiomara on a great presentation as well as all of her success and opportunities with JP Morgan Chase and Fintech.

## President's Report

USF President Rhea Law commented that we should all be proud of the USF students and faculty and the inspiring things that they are doing with research. President Law provided an

- An Update on the Search for Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The first round of interviews ha

- USF Sarasota/Manatee This year The Brunch on the Bay raised \$537,000 to go towards the Nursing and STEM Buildings and student scholarships. This was the highest amount ever raised. A special thanks to Chancellor Karen Holbrook for hosting a fantastic event and Trustee Donnelly for acquiring a table filled with enthusiastic bidders.
- Early next year a groundbreaking will take place at the USF Sarasota/Manatee campus, for the residence halls.
- St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership and the City Council There is excitement surrounding the new RFP and the positive responses received for the Tropicana site. USF will be an important asset in these projects.
- Commencements – The President proudly acknowledged the 4500 graduates that will be awarded at the upcoming commencement ceremonies.
- The Indoor Practice Facility is almost complete. It will be an integral part of the President's Inauguration. The President is happy to show case facilities at USF. She encouraged all to attend.
- The New USF Stadium We are close to contract with the design and build firm. The President has requested a special meeting in the near future to approve.
- There will be a Grand Opening for the Student Health and Wellness Center. This facility is 4 times larger than the original.
- Legislative Initiatives– USF Day at the Capitol will be February 8, 2023. The President is looking forward to working with the USF community.
- Cookies from the Holiday Open House were included in the Trustees packets. There were 600 faculty, staff and students in attendance this year. Cookies were included in the packets as a gift from President Law and her husband Wayne from a family owned and operated business. The matriarch of the family was in the inaugural graduating class at the University of South Florida.

Chair Weatherford thanked President Law for her report and made comments that we're doing great things and increasing the center of excellence at the University of South Florida.





Approve a resolution excluding trustees from the personal security clearance requirements

The Chair requested a motion to approve. It was given by Trustee Piccolo and seconded by Trustee Patel. FL 114 was approved.

## New Business- Informational Items

- a. The Florida High Tech Corridor: The next 25 Years of Impact

Paul Sohl, CEO – Florida High Tech Corridor provided an update on the next 25 years of impact. There was a power point presentation which highlighted the following information.

- The Florida High Tech Corridor is a nonprofit Initiative of three research universities established in 1996 to expand the capacity for high-innovation in 23



Ms. Skenk presented power point that highlighted the following topics

- Higher Ed Job Challenge
- Retain Retrain Recast
-

Trustee Jasinski Schneider commented on the faculty's concerns with academic freedom and where the BOT stands with that issue. She thanked Chair Weatherford on the supportive comments relating to it today.

Trustee Seixas announced that this past November we lost a great advocate and supporter of USF Dr. Bill Hogarth. There was a celebration of his life this week. Dr. Hogarth served as the Dean for the USF College of Marine Science and as Interim Chancellor of USF St. Petersburg. Dr. Hogarth is on a research vessel. The W.T. Hogarth. Dr. Hogarth continued to support USF long after retirement.

President Law announced the loss of another tremendous USF supporter, Mr. Stavros Stavros. Mr. Stavros supported the university and the Stavros Center at USF. This is a loss for the entire Tampa Bay area.

Chair Weatherford announced that there may be an upcoming Special meeting to discuss the contract with the design build firm and the USF stadium area.