

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
Via Zoom

Board Meeting Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

J. Aguilar Director
K. Brandon Chair
L. Bridges Director
W. L. Brown, Jr. Director
D. Corvin Director
G. Cosko Director
D. Endo Director
N. Fudem Director
S. Gen Director
T. Griggs Director
J. Gumas Director
M. Huss Director
J. Jackanicz Foundation President,
VP/Univ. Advancement,
SF State
L. Mahoney Director/President, SF State
J. Marcus Director
H. Myers Director

D. Nasser Director
N. Nobari Vice Chair
D. O'Donnell Director
M. Rosenbaum Director
T. Safford Immediate Past Chair
D. Simmons Director
D. L. Simon Director
C. Smith Director
J. Summit Director/Provost, SF State
V. Thompson-Ramsay Secretary & Treasurer
J. Wilson Director/CFO and VP,
Admin & Fin., SF State

ABSENT AND EXCUSED

V. Anicetti Director
D. Serrano Sewell Director
R. Stanley Director

OTHERS PRESENT

A. Billa Associate Vice President for Development, SF State University
C. Domingo Dean, College of Science & Engineering, SF State University
T. Feldman Professor, SF State and Advisor, SF State Foundation
C. Johansson Senior Director, Advancement Services, SF State University and Director of Programs and Technology, SF State Foundation.
N. Lange Associate Vice President, University Engagement & Protocol and AVP (interim), Alumni Engagement, SF State University
V. Lee Sr. Director, Finance and Operations, SF State University and Director of Finance, SF State University Foundation
N. Lim-Tepper Interim Chief of Staff, Office of the President, SF State University
S. McLaughlin Foundation Legal Counsel and Associate Attorney, Adler & Colvin
G. Nunez Associate Vice President (interim), Strategic Marketing & Communications, SF State University
J. Oppenheim Director of Communications, Foundation and Alumni, SF State University
R. Sheng, FAIA Architect, SmithGroup
F. Smith Assistant Vice President, Division of Equity & Community Inclusion, SF State University

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Brandon called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 3:05 p.m. Brandon welcomed the deans, staff and faculty in attendance.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Chair Brandon asked the board to review the agenda for the December 15, 2020 board meeting, which was included in the board packet and distributed in advance of the meeting. She offered a minor change to the agenda (change in topic of presentation by Todd Feldman to “Environmental, Social and Governance Course Update”). On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the following Minute Action was taken:

MINUTE ACTION: that the board adopts the revised agenda for the December 15, 2020 board meeting.

Motioned by: Leona Bridges Seconded by: Don Nasser Motion: Passed

STUDENT APPOINTMENT

Mary Huss reported that the Committee on Directors met on October 30 and reviewed the appointment of James Aguilar to the board. She said, in keeping with the Foundation’s bylaws, President Mahoney approved Associated Students’ nomination of Aguilar and has appointed him to a one-year term, effective December 15, 2020. Huss shared Aguilar’s bio, including his role as director of government and community relations with Associated Students; student trustee for the San Lorenzo Unified School District and current member of the San Leandro Unified School District. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the following Minute Action was taken:

MINUTE ACTION: that the board ratifies the appointment of James Aguilar as the student representative to the San Francisco State University Foundation board.

Motioned by: C. Smith Seconded by: D. Nasser Motion: Passed

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The board reviewed the consent agenda, which included the September 16, 2020 meeting minutes and a revised Master Operating Agreement (MOA) between the SF State Foundation and the SF State University. Jackanicz said he had hoped to have a new 5-year operating agreement between the Foundation and the University ready for the board meeting, but based on the research and conversations he was having around best practices, it was taking much longer than expected. As such, the MOA in the consent agenda was extended for six months through the end of June 2021. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the following Minute Action was taken:

MINUTE ACTION: that the board approves the consent agenda that included the September 16, 2020 board meeting minutes and a revised MOA.

Motioned by: C. Smith Seconded by: D. Corvin Motion: Passed

PURPLE & GOLD NUGGETS

Vice Chair Nobari provided some updates on the work and accomplishments of SF State community members. She reported on a couple of grant awards, including the following:

- A total of \$2 million in grants to the College of Science & Engineering to secure new, cutting-edge equipment for student research in the areas of cellular engineering, machine learning and artificial intelligence research.
- A total of \$1.2 million from Genentech to the Promoting Inclusivity in Computer Science (PINC) program at SF State to support efforts in building diversity in biotechnology,

providing scholarships for non-Computer Science students to learn coding and for designing a new Data Science and Artificial Intelligence program to be co-created with industry researchers.

Nobari shared that the University's Basic Needs Initiative and the Dean of Students office launched the Providing Assistance to Housing Solutions (PATHS) program to serve students who are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless. Nobari also shared news that Oscar Jerome Stewart, assistant professor of Management in the Lam Family College of Business received the Aspen Institute's "Ideas Worth Teaching Award" for his seminar in Business and Society that examines widening inequality and environmental degradation. Additionally, Nobari reported that the American Institute of Architects San Francisco (AIASF) had awarded the Mashouf Wellness Center the Honor Award for Architecture as part of its annual Design Awards. Finally, Nobari mentioned that President Lynn Mahoney and three alumnae - Patricia Siguenza (B.S., '87), Sheila Dukas Janakos (B.A., '87) and Emily Kirsch (B.A., '08) were honored at the San Francisco Business Times' 100 Influential Bay Area Women at a virtual ceremony in October.

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATE

President Mahoney said that despite being virtual, the campus was extremely busy. She said the California State University system announced that its goal was to return to face-to-face instruction by the middle of August 2021. Mahoney said that the state's tax revenues came in better than expected and, as such, was hopeful this would prevent additional budget cuts. Nonetheless, she said SF State still had to handle its structural deficit. Mahoney said that the campus had already launched its period of advocacy starting with a state legislative visit, which went well.

Mahoney announced that the CSU had agreed to fully fund the construction of the new science building to the tune of \$150 million. She said the campus would continue to fundraise for other needs associated with the building such as the STEM education. Mahoney shared that the Wall Street Journal had ranked SF State in the top five nationwide for the environment category, which measured the diversity of the university's community based on the racial, ethnic and economic diversity of its students. Additionally, Mahoney shared that the university was rated among the top universities in the country by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). SF State was awarded a silver stars rating and named as one of the top two universities for water conservation and reuse.

Mahoney talked about the resolution passed by Associated Students asking the university to divest in companies doing work in Israel, particularly in the West Bank and Gaza. Mahoney said students, including Jewish students, was in support of civil rights for Palestinians but the resolution did not reflect the complexities of Israeli- Palestinian conflict and could exacerbate already existing divisions on campus. Mahoney said she explained to Associated Students why she could not support the resolution, especially a resolution that did not reflect a widespread consensus on campus (only 27 students participated). She said she wanted to challenge the university to figure out how to create a climate in which Arab, Muslim, Palestinian and Jewish students felt welcomed and safe to express their identities. Mahoney said the campus was working with San Francisco Hillel on a comprehensive campus climate initiative and that she had also been meeting with Arab and Muslim faculty, students and community leaders to tie together an initiative similar to what had been done for Black Lives Matter at SF State.

SAN FRANCISCO STATE FOUNDATION REPORT

Foundation President Jackanicz introduced new personnel - Guisselle Nunez, associate vice president for Strategic Marketing and Communications and Anjali Billa, associate vice president for Development. Jackanicz said Nunez was most recently at the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District in Alameda County where she served as the head of marketing, communications and government relations for the past five years. Jackanicz said that Nunez also she served as director for external affairs for KQED

Public Media and national advisor of workforce partnerships for the University of Phoenix. Jackanicz said that Billa came to the university from the West Coast region of Jumpstart where she served as Director of Development and before that Development Director for the Presidio and Point Bonita YMCAs. Jackanicz thanked the board for the virtual welcome reception the prior month.

Jackanicz informed the board that the Committee on Directors had resumed their board recruitment efforts and that he had already started having conversations with two promising prospects. He said he hoped to bring them forward to the full board for consideration in the near future. He encouraged directors to propose possible candidates for the board. Jackanicz also shared that the Executive Committee approved the addition of Todd Feldman to the Foundation's Investment Committee as an advisor. Jackanicz said Feldman had deep expertise in environmental, social and governance issues.

Jackanicz mentioned that the annual Board Retreat was set for March 20, 2021 and that the strategic planning process would comprise a significant amount of the agenda. He said he was aware that the 2020 retreat was canceled but he was eager to reconvene virtually and begin the strategic planning process. Jackanicz said the Foundation had engaged AGB to facilitate the workshop.

Jackanicz shared an update on fundraising. He said since the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, the development team had had nearly 1,500 contacts with donors (zoom calls, email and phone interactions); 60 solicitations that had resulted in about \$4.4 million dollars and another 120 pending or planned solicitations for the remainder of the fiscal year, totaling just under \$20 million. Jackanicz closed his report with a few highlights of top coverage of San Francisco State in the media.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Brandon reminded directors that committee reports were included in their packets. She asked them to review the information and forward questions to staff.

BLACK LIVES MATTER @ SF STATE

President Mahoney introduced the presentation. She said that while SF State had a long history of commitment to social justice, the death of George Floyd last summer and numerous stories of violence against unarmed black men, in particular, had pushed university leadership to do more. Mahoney said that every unit on campus had made some explicit commitments to the university to not just talk, but to take specific actions and welcomed her chief of staff, Noriko Lim-Tepper and the campus diversity officer, Dr. Frederick Smith to provide an overview of Black Lives Matter activities at SF State. Lim-Tepper said the collaborative campus initiative began in the summer and was designed to address access and equity issues that impacted black student success. She said the actions aimed to create change within the university to better serve black students in the region, including anti-bias trainings and workshops, increase support for the black community center, campus safety and curricular development. Smith added that his office had also provided training workshops for employees, including the Leadership for Social Justice series for faculty and staff that included sessions on anti-blackness and microaggressions. Smith said he was also doing work around hiring practices and facilitating a number of anti-bias workshops for search committees to explore (un)conscious biases to ensure we have the most diverse pools to consider. Lim-Tepper said the Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development was the recipient of a grant from the Chancellor's Office to focus on the retention of faculty of color. Finally, Smith said the enrollment management team had also developed strategic enrollment plans to recruit and retain black students on campus.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE (ESG) COURSE UPDATE

Todd Feldman provided an update on the ESG course he had been teaching over the past semester. He said students who completed the course were eligible to begin managing the Student Sustainability Investment Fund (SSIF). Feldman said he and a couple of professors were developing a rubric to help identify the students who would be part of the portfolio management team. Gen, chair of the Foundation’s investment committee added that the course had close to 30 students enrolled. Gen said this was the first semester the course was offered at the university and was able to attract students from a number of disciplines, including finance, economics and environmental studies. Feldman said the goal was to award the portfolio management scholarships in the new year.

NEW SCIENCE BUILDING

Dean Domingo introduced the presentation. She said the current science building was constructed in the 1950s and was not keeping up with the modern-day training needs of students. She said the building had no sprinklers and was not conducive to gatherings because of fire codes. Domingo said the facility served over 7,000 majors, many of which were growing rapidly in enrollment. She said the new building would provide updated teaching and research facilities as well as create innovative and creative spaces to have science on display and create a strong sense of belonging for all students. Domingo said the University was partnering with SmithGroup, a leader in Higher Education studio design, and introduced Rosa Sheng, SmithGroup’s director of Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Sheng walked through the building designs and said that the 10-month design process included a large stakeholder group, including faculty, staff and students from the College of Science and Engineering (COSE) as well campus leadership. Sheng said the building would not only be high-performing but also a radically welcoming, inclusive place that was safe, accessible and sustainable (i.e. carbon neutrality, solar, storm water management, drought tolerant plants, etc). Domingo said construction would begin in the coming summer and was scheduled to end around January 2024.

DIRECTOR’S OPEN FORUM

There was no discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon reminded everyone that the next board meeting was tentatively scheduled for March 20, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Brandon asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Herb Myers made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Don Endo seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Dated: December 15, 2020

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DocuSigned by:
Venesia Thompson
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Venesia Thompson-Ramsay, Secretary

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