

**SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
SILVERADO RESORT & SPA
1600 ATLAS PEAK ROAD, LUNA ROOM
NAPA, CA**

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019 – 4:30 PM

Chair Taylor Safford started the Executive Committee meeting at 4:37 PM.

Committee Members Present

Venesia Thompson-Ramsay, President
Taylor Safford, Board Chair
Kimberly Brandon, Vice Chair
David Serrano-Sewell, Immediate Past Chair
Mary Huss, Committee on Directors Chair (via phone)
Don Nasser, Audit Committee Chair
Neda Nobari, Investment Committee Chair

Committee Members Absent and Excused

John Gumas, Campaign Cabinet Chair
Ted Griggs, Committee on Athletics Co-Chair
Dennis O'Donnell, Committee on Athletics Co-Chair
Wade Rose, Public Affairs Committee Chair
Camilla Smith, Development Committee Chair

Others Present

Caroline Johansson, Secretary and Treasurer
Carol Cartwright, Consultant, Association of Governing Boards (AGB)
Jennifer Summit, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

- I. **Review of Agenda:** The committee reviewed the agenda. No changes were proposed.
- II. **Opening Remarks:** Chair Safford welcomed everyone to another Board Advance and said he was looking to the Executive Committee to ensure that the Board Advance was positive and uplifting. He provided an update on the presidential search and his role on the advisory search committee and emphasized the Chancellor's commitment to finding the right candidate. Safford informed the Executive Committee that a presidential search open forum was held on campus on February 5th and video of the forum could be accessed on the SF State website. He encouraged directors to view the video and provide their feedback to him. Safford said the CSU had engaged the international search firm of Isaacson Miller to create 7-8 page professional leadership profile. Carol Cartwright mentioned that the creation of a leadership profile was one way the Board could be involved in the identifying the next president.
- III. **Board Advance:** In the interest of time, Thompson-Ramsay proposed foregoing the review of the Board Advance agenda and turning the meeting over to Cartwright to discuss her role the following day. Cartwright said she would be moderating the panel on "University in Transition and Lessons Learned for its Philanthropic Foundation" the next day. She said she was impressed with the panelists, Michele Lahti (CSU Stanislaus) and Fardin Sanai (University of Albany, SUNY) and planned to focus the conversation on transitions, challenges, surprises, hindsight, lessons learned, advice they would provide the Board, and how the Foundation Board can help onboard spouses and partners of the new president. Cartwright encouraged the Board to focus on the "Top 10" people who

should be called upon as soon as the announcement of the new president was made and reminded the group that higher education institutions were not good at using transitions as opportunities to address and set standards. As such, Cartwright said she planned to reflect upon her own personal experiences as president of Kent State University and Bowling Green State University. The group discussed other issues like cultivating a relationship with the new president and prioritizing face time with Board directors; helping the new president navigate their way through certain civic organizations and addressing pressing campus issues such as climate change and the 2020 Graduation Initiative. Finally, Provost Summit mentioned that Chancellor's Office recommended that the campus proceed with the Master Plan so it could be reviewed and signed off by the new president.


IV. Other Business

Foundation New Website: Thompson-Ramsay shared plans to redesign the Foundation's current website with a new look and feel - doing away with the 3- panel page display and replacing it with a more dynamic, modern design that would better integrate photos and videos.

Strategic Planning Update: Thompson-Ramsay provided an update of her call with Sutherland Edwards. She said if the Foundation decided to move forward with the stakeholder interviews, Sutherland Edwards would not charge a 10% "kill fee" but would charge an additional \$7,000 to complete that portion of the contract. This would result in a total charge of \$12,000. The Committee unanimously voted to pay the \$5,000 kill fee and cancel the contract due to all the transitions on campus.

V. **Adjournment**: Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Taylor Safford, Chair

6-20-19
Date