

**San Francisco State University Foundation  
Committee on Directors Meeting**

**October 30, 2020  
Minutes**

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Members Present: Mary Huss (Chair), Kimberly Brandon, Taylor Safford, David Simon, Jeff Jackanicz

Staff: Venesia Thompson-Ramsay

Members Absent: David Serrano-Sewell

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Huss called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 19, 2019 meeting. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, the following Minute Action was taken:

MINUTE ACTION: that the committee approves the minutes for the May 19, 2019 meeting, as prepared.

Motioned by: David Simon      Seconded by: Taylor Safford      Motion: Passed

**III. Advancement personnel update**

J. Jackanicz shared two recent hires in Advancement, Guisselle Nunez, associate vice president of Strategic Marketing and Communications, and Anjali Billa, associate vice president of University Development. Committee members reviewed Billa and Nunez's bios and found their backgrounds and experiences impressive and well-aligned with their positions within University Advancement. J. Jackanicz acknowledged and thanked Chair Brandon, Neda Nobari, and Venesia Thompson-Ramsay for assisting with the AVP of Strategic Marketing and Communications search.

**IV. Board membership**

Citing recent departures of two Foundation Board members, J. Jackanicz shared intentions to restart Board membership expansion and referenced specific race, gender, age, and industry demographic/identity gaps in the current Board make-up. He directed the Committee members to the gap analysis document and identified gaps in both STEM and Latinx representation. Further to that point, he stressed that the University is a Latinx-serving institution and that it is critical that the Board reflect that feature of the University. To that end, he directed Committee members to Patty Siguenza, Jonas Rivera and Lisa White as short-list candidates for the Board. D. Simon was impressed with the list and added that there is also a gap in the Asian demographic category. All agreed that the list of candidates was strong and approved moving forward on inviting the short-list candidates to join the Board. M. Huss outlined this process for the Committee members.

K. Brandon inquired as to how many new Board members would be ideal and anticipated. Five new members over the next couple of years was suggested. Chair Huss proposed maintaining a minimum number of new candidates in the pipeline and also preemptively determining which category of demographics needs to be filled. D. Simon suggested inviting all Board members to propose candidates (after they've done their homework). He noted that representation in Southern California is light.

**V. Ad-Hoc Committee Member Appointment**

V. Thompson-Ramsay informed the Board that the by-laws allow for non-voting ad-hoc or advisory members to serve on Board committees for one year terms. In light of this, Associate Professor of Finance, Todd Feldman has been invited to serve as such on the Investment Committee. His work in socially responsible investment is valuable vis-à-vis the approved student investment fund that the Board approved in 2019. K. Brandon is enthusiastic about this appointment and acknowledged a need of more expertise in this area of the Committee makeup.

**VI. Student Rep update**

V. Thompson-Ramsay shared that the Board has been without a student rep for some time and that Associated Students and President Mahoney have put forth, approved, and appointed (respectively), James Aguilar as the student representative to the Board. James currently serves as Associated Students' director of government and community relations, and brings a wealth of education advocacy, political, and board experience. Aguilar's appointment will be brought to the Executive Committee and then ratified at the December, 2020 Board meeting.

**VII. Strategic Planning Update**

V. Thompson-Ramsay shared that the Board is ready to resume the strategic planning process and that approval of three consultant contenders is in the works. They are: Blue Point Planning; Vogel Consulting; and, AGB Consulting. All have provided strong proposals, and the Executive Committee members are expected to make their decision soon.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted:

DocuSigned by:  
*Mary Huss*  
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02/09/2021 | 12:05 PM PST

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Mary Huss  
Chair

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Date

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