# THE UNIVERSITY CORPORATION Board of Directors June 4, 2015

A meeting of The University Corporation Board of Directors was called to order by Chair, Dianne F. Harrison at 3:06 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2015, in the Sierra Center Colleagues Room, California State University, Northridge. A quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sevag Alexanian, Talar Alexanian, Harvey Bookstein, Cristina Cadavid,

Ronald Friedman, Dianne F. Harrison, Jennifer Matos, Dave Moon, Bob

Rawitch, Michael Spagna, Sonia Vaswani, Ben Yaspelkis

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

Ryan Lassen, Jeffrey Perez De Leon, Michael Phillips, Louis Rubino,

Tiffany Zaich

**STAFF PRESENT:** 

Heather Cairns, Elizabeth Corrigan, Susan Dickman, Rick Evans, John

Griffin, Georg Jahn, Tim Killops, Michael Lennon, Elizabeth Kioussis,

Linda Turner, Karina Ward

**OTHERS PRESENT:** 

James Flynn, Sharlene Katz

#### ITEM I

#### APPROVAL OF MARCH 4, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

MSP (Friedman/Vaswani): That the minutes of the March 4, 2015 Board of Directors meeting be approved as circulated.

#### ІТЕМ П

#### SPONSORED PROGRAMS PRESENTATION

Executive Director, Rick Evans introduced CSUN Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty members, Sharlene Katz and James Flynn, who gave a brief presentation on their NASA-supported project. Designed to serve as a pipeline into the space program, the project has involved sixty CSUN students over the last two years. They have participated in a series of tests conducted on batteries developed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to withstand the extremely low temperatures in space. The principal investigators have applied for a second grant to continue the project.

### ITEM III

#### APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The University President has made the following appointments to the Board.

#### Faculty:

Ana Cristina Cadavid

Three-year term (2015-2018)

(reappointed)

Michael Phillips

Three-year term (2015-2018)

(reappointed)

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#### Community:

Ron Friedman (reappointed) Three-year term (2015-2018)

Students: The terms of Talar Alexanian, Sonia Vaswani and Tiffany Zaich will expire on July 1, 2015. The University President will make appointments over the summer to fill these vacancies.

#### COMMITTEE REPORT ELECTION ITEM IV NOMINATING OF **OFFICERS**

The Chair thanked Ben Yaspelkis (committee chair), Michael Spagna and Sonia Vaswani for serving as the nominating committee. Dr. Yaspelkis presented the recommendations for 2015/2016 officers:

Chair:

Dianne F. Harrison

First Vice President:

Ben Yaspelkis

Second Vice President:

Sevag Alexanian Michael Spagna

Recording Secretary:

Treasurer:

Michael Phillips

MSP (Rawitch/Friedman): That The University Corporation Board of Directors approve the nominating committee recommendations for officers, with one year terms to begin July 1, 2015.

ITEM V

RECEIPT OF MAY 8, 2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ITEM

#### Discussion and Action Item:

2015/2016 Operating Budget (Executive Committee Agenda Item 5):

Rick Evans reviewed the executive summary. He noted that the 2014/15 'Net Cash Generated' of \$1,209,000 surpassed the budget of \$865,000, and was further adjusted to \$2,209,000 with the \$1.0 million additional payment from Follett that was part of the new contract extension. Mr. Evans reviewed the commitments made by the Board that were funded from 'Net Cash Generated:' 1) \$600,000 for the Reseda Blvd building acquisition/improvements; and 2) \$650,000 to augment the reserve for student housing-related projects. Taking these into account and adding in the prior year carry-forward, \$1,108,000 remains to replenish reserves.

The 2015/16 budget anticipates 'Net Cash Generated' of \$1,359,000 to replenish reserves. Significant items impacting the budget include: a 3.0% cost of living adjustment for staff; the minimum was increase to \$10 per hour effective January 1, 2016; the opening of three new food units in student housing; continued erosion in bookstore commissions; and a projected increase to \$31 million in sponsored programs.

CFO, John Griffin reviewed reserves. During 2014/15, the Corporation completed renovations of the Sierra Center third floor, restrooms and exterior (paint), leaving a balance of \$250,000 in the Sierra Center building reserve. Real estate acquisitions included a unit in the College Court Townhomes and the THE UNIVERSITY CORPORATION Board of Directors June 4, 2015 Page 3

Reseda Blvd building, depleting the real estate reserve. The Corporation proposes transferring Follett's \$1 million additional payment to the real estate reserve as partial replenishment. The Corporation's three food service projects at university housing will be completed by the end of the summer and the student housing-related projects reserve will close.

MSP (Vaswani/Friedman): That The University Corporation Board of Directors approve the 2015/2016 operating budget as presented.

#### ITEM VI ATHLETICS – PROGRAM AND MARKETING UPDATE

The Executive Director introduced Michael Lennon, Associate Director of Retail Operations. Mr. Lennon reviewed the Corporation's efforts in support of Matador Athletics, including Pub-hosted parties, partnering on red rally days, selling Matador apparel at select games, and improved athletics concessions. Mr. Lennon advised that the university will add power and data lines to allow additional concessions needed to accommodate the growing attendance at athletics events. As part of its new contract with the Corporation, Pepsi has included 'Rise of the Matadors' graphics to eleven delivery truck backs and has included five-second tags to their radio spots.

Marketing Manager, Susan Dickman reported on the Corporation's collaborations on events, including Explore CSUN, new student orientation, spirit parades and fan fairs. Mr. Evans commented that the Corporation is the only CSU commercial services auxiliary that has this level of engagement in campus events.

(Ben Yaspelkis left.)

#### ITEM VII PROJECTS UPDATE

The Executive Director introduced Karina Ward, Special Projects Manager, who provided an overview of the Corporation's Sustainability 2.0 program, including eco-friendly PUCCs (plates, utensils, cups and containers), participation in the earth fair and farmers market, food waste composting, and the Real Food challenge.

Tim Killops, Associate Director of Facilities and Projects overviewed the Sierra Center renovations and the three construction projects in University Housing – Freudian Sip @ Student Housing, Matador Mercado convenience store, and Bamboo Terrace @ Geronimo's.

(Jennifer Matos arrived.)

Betsy Corrigan, Associate Director of Dining Services, reported on the Pan-Asian menu that will be served at Bamboo Terrace and advised that a chef specialist in Pan-Asian cuisine had been hired. Ms. Corrigan announced that the grand opening event would take place on August 13, 2015.

Linda Turner, Associate Director of Real Estate, reported on the Meridian space that the Corporation leased on behalf of the university, and gave an update on the Reseda Blvd building.

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# ITEM VIII SUSTAINABILITY IN INVESTMENTS

Mr. Evans reported that there is a growing movement on university campuses, often led by students, to include sustainability considerations in investing. Sustainability is also one of the university's planning priorities. The Executive Director continued that he and CFO John Griffin recently met with Corporation Board member, Michael Phillips, who teaches the undergraduate class that manages part of the Corporation's long-term investment pool. Prof. Phillips has devised a creative approach to incorporating sustainability considerations in investment strategy. Mr. Griffin advised that Prof. Phillips suggested having students in the investment class test this component in investing by dedicating a portion of the student-managed fund to this purpose. The focus would be limited to environmental concerns; there would be no geo-political component.

## ITEM IX ANNOUNCEMENTS

Outgoing directors were presented with gifts.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Spagna, Recording Secretary