

**Direct Support Organizations (DSO) Committee Minutes**  
**Trustee Thomas Dortch, Chair**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**

Chair Thomas Dortch called the meeting to order. Trustees Kristin Harper, Dave Lawrence, Kelvin Lawson, and Kenward Stone were present. A quorum was established. Two action items and several informational items were presented to the DSO Committee.

**Approval of September 2, 2020, DSO Committee Meeting Minutes**

Trustee Lawson motioned for approval; seconded by Trustee Harper. The motion passed, unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of New DSO Board Member**

In accordance with FAMU Board of Trustees (BOT) Policy Number 2018-01, Dr. Pia S. Woodley was recommended to serve on the FAMU Foundation Board of Directors as the Faculty representative. A motion was made to recommend this appointment to the FAMU BOT for approval. Trustee Harper motioned for approval; seconded by Trustee Lawson. The motion passed, unanimously.

**Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud provided updates on Divisional Activities**

**A. FY 2020-21 University Advancement**

- More than \$5.1M raised as of November 27, 2020; 66% of the \$7.7M goal.
  - December 1 Giving Tuesday total is currently at \$47,000 and counting. Trustee Dortch personally added \$3,000 to the total and encouraged other trustees to give to match the \$63,000 Giving Tuesday total for 2019.
  - Increase seen in gifts from Alumni, and Corporations and Foundations
  - Alumni giving rate, over 3% of the 9% goal
- Hosted, along with the FAMU Industry Cluster, a Virtual Symposium featuring John Thompson, Microsoft Chairman of the Board; over 600 registrants and participants
- Class of 2000 raised \$275K for their reunion year, the most ever raised for a class
- 2018-2020 University Advancement and Foundation Report will be available December 2020
- Dr. Friday-Stroud advised the Committee of several corporate engagements and initiatives currently in the pipeline.
  - She was asked to consider using LinkedIn to perform a data scrub to identify FAMU alumni in the corporate space.
  - Trustees were asked to send their corporate leads to Dr. Friday-Stroud.

**B. DSO Update**

**1. FAMU Foundation**

- The Fall 2020 FAMU Foundation Board of Directors Meeting was held virtually on November 18-19.
- The Investment Portfolio balance as of September 30, 2020, is over \$127M.
- The Endowment balance as of September 30, 2020, is over \$96M.

## 2. FAMU National Alumni Association (NAA)

- The Office of Alumni Affairs (OAA) and the FAMU NAA hosted and produced a 10-hour event on October 3 celebrating FAMU's 133<sup>rd</sup> birthday.
  - Leadership Workshops focused on legislative advocacy amid the pandemic and highlighted creative strategies with alumni ambassadors who assist the University with student recruitment in this COVID-19 environment.
- OAA and the FAMU NAA produced a salute to America's veterans which included honoring retired Rattler alumni.
  - Five members of the Rattlers In Arms were honored and presented the Brigadier General Leroy Bell Military Leadership Award for their outstanding generosity in raising scholarship dollars toward enhancing the academic success of FAMU's students.
    - The members were acknowledged last year for their check presentation on the football field at the military appreciation game. On the evening of the awards program on Veteran's Day, the group presented another check for \$30,000 in support of FAMU.

## 3. FAMU Rattler Boosters

- They completed their FY2019-2020 Audit with No Recommendations.
- Their FAMU Rattler Boosters website debut was last month: [www.famurattlerboosters.com](http://www.famurattlerboosters.com).
- The virtual Fall All Sports Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, December 13. The event will be live streamed from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. via Facebook, Instagram, Zoom, and Twitter.
- The Rattler Boosters have reached over 45 percent in donations and pledges for the Galimore-Powell Fieldhouse roof replacement project.
- The Rattler Boosters expressed their appreciation and thanks to their former Executive Director, Ms. Angelia Williams. Mr. Kevin Wilson will be assuming the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director position.

With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned.