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STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

VOLUME I

IN RE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DATE: JUNE 10, 2016
TIME: COMMENCING AT: 9:00 a.m.
CONCLUDING AT: 4:30 p.m.
LOCATION: FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
GRAND BALLROOM
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
REPORTED BY: YVONNE LAFLAMME, FPR

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B O A R D M E M B E R S

- KELVIN LAWSON, ACTING CHAIR
- NICOLE T. WASHINGTON
- ROBERT WOODY
- CRAIG REED
- MATTHEW CARTER
- BETTYE GRABLE
- GARY McCOY
- JAYLEN SMITH
- THOMAS DORTCH
- KIMBERLY MOORE
- DAVE LAWRENCE
- HAROLD MILLS
- BELVIN PERRY

- BOARD LIASON: LINDA BARGE-MILES, ESQ.

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1 *****

2 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning. Good morning,
3 everyone, and welcome to our Board of Trustees meeting
4 this morning.

5 At this point, I would ask that we have a roll
6 call, please?

7 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Carter? Trustee
8 Carter?

9 Trustee Dortch?

10 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Here.

11 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Grable?
12 Trustee Lawrence?

13 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: Here.

14 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Lawson?

15 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Here.

16 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee McCoy?

17 TRUSTEE McCOY: Here.

18 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Mills?

19 TRUSTEE MILLS: Here.

20 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Moore?

21 TRUSTEE MOORE: Here.

22 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Perry?

23 TRUSTEE PERRY: Here.

24 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Reed?

25 TRUSTEE REED: Here.

ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Smith?

1 TRUSTEE SMITH: Here.

2 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Washington?

3 TRUSTEE WASHINGTON: Here.

4 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Woody?

5 TRUSTEE WOODY: Here.

6 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Grable?

7 TRUSTEE GRABLE: Here.

8 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Mr. Chair, you have a
9 quorum.

10 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Great, thank you.

11 Ladies and gentlemen, I would ask that we take a
12 moment of silence and pay respects to the late, great,
13 Muhammad Ali. Thank you.

14 At this time, the board needs to move in to a
15 closed session to discuss a few legal issues regarding
16 the Collective Bargaining agreement, so I would ask
17 Attorney Thomas to come to the podium to please give
18 us the groundrules for the closed session.

19 ATTORNEY THOMAS: Thank you, Chair, and good
20 morning, Trustees.

21 Pursuant to Section 447.605, subsection 1 of
22 Florida Statutes, all discussions relative to
23 collective bargaining agreements between the chief
24 executive officer of the public employer or her
25 representatives, and the public employer and shall be

1 closed and exempt from the Sunshine Law, section
2 286.011, Florida Statutes. This exemption applies in
3 both the actual and impending collective bargaining
4 negotiations.

5 Therefore, we will now move into the collective
6 bargaining session and reconvene an open meeting at
7 it's conclusion.

8 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you. Board, for your
9 information, the location for the closed session will
10 be straight across the hall in the President's Dining
11 Room so if we could, let's have us move over and try
12 and get back so that we stay on agenda.

13 Thank you.

14 (Closed session commences at 9:03 a.m.)

15 (Closed session concludes at 10:20 a.m.)

16 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. I would like everyone
17 around the table and if can I get all of the board
18 members to please be seated. I know that looks like
19 people are potentially filing in the back, which is
20 okay. We'll try to get the board members seated and
21 we'll get started being respectful of everybody's
22 time.

23 Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, I think we have all
24 of the board members back. Thank you, and again we're
25 going to be mindful of your time and ours and move

1 expeditiously, but at the same time handle the
2 business of the board that needs to be taken care of
3 today.

4 This is our time for public comment. We
5 historically have a few people sign up, but today is
6 not historical, so we have, I think, a grand total of
7 15 people that have signed up for public comment.

8 The policy of the board is we only allow 15
9 minutes for public comment, which would only mean only
10 five people speaking for three minutes; however, given
11 the fact that 15 of you want to speak before the
12 board, we are waiving the board's policy and we're
13 going to allow all 15 people to speak. But I'm go
14 going to ask you to limit your comments to two
15 minutes, please; that way we will get a chance for all
16 of your colleagues to get to share their points of
17 view. But I'm going to ask that you please limit your
18 comments to two minutes, and we're going to waive our
19 policy and allow all 15 people an opportunity to
20 address the board.

21 Obviously, you see it as important enough to be
22 here today and address us, and we want to be
23 respectful of that and take the time to hear your
24 comments.

25 So with that, I would ask Ms. Barge-Miles, I

1 would ask that you --

2 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: We have 26 people.

3 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen,
4 please bear with us. We now have 26 people. We're
5 going to limit it to 15. I mean, I think we will go
6 with the first 15 that signed up. So I know we're
7 leaving some people out, and we apologize in advanced.

8 TRUSTEE WOODY: Mr. Chair?

9 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Yes.

10 TRUSTEE WOODY: I would let them speak.

11 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. Well, let's do this,
12 guys.

13 What's the pleasure of the board?

14 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: I'd let them speak.

15 TRUSTEE GRABLE: Let them speak.

16 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay. You've heard from the
17 board. We will hear from all 26 people. I'd ask you
18 to keep your comments to two minutes each, and with
19 that being said, Board, thank you.

20 With that being said, Linda, will you call the
21 first individual?

22 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Dr. Carolyn Collins.

23 MS. CAROLYN COLLINS: Good morning. I'm going to
24 accept the challenge. Don't start that clock until I
25 get started, please.

1 It is indeed to God be the Glory.

2 To Chairman Lawson, to members of the FAMU Board
3 of Trustees, our new board members, welcome. To
4 President Mangum and her administration, and to
5 Lieutenant Colonel Clark of the National Alumni
6 Association; to all of our alumni members that are
7 here and those that are listening, I want to quote Ed
8 Finkel, District Administrator, who talked about black
9 children still left behind.

10 I am going to jump around because I want to make
11 sure I get to where I want to be in 10 minutes, so
12 from a familiar -- 10 minutes -- I'm just joking. I
13 know it's two.

14 "African-American citizens score lower on
15 standardized test, graduate higher -- graduation the
16 high school level is at a lower rate, and they're
17 considerably, considerably more likely to be suspended
18 or expelled than the general population."

19 Because of that, I need to say that sounds like
20 my beloved FAMU. The Number 1 HBCU in the United
21 States and we do not accept African-American students
22 because their K through 12 was substandard, they were
23 mismanaged, or they had ACT and SAT that was low and
24 didn't know to take the PERC. They were very
25 difficult in counseling appropriately, and we are

1 holding these young people accountable when our
2 mission in the past has to been to make sure they are
3 not.

4 My challenge to us, the alumni, and to you, the
5 Board, is to challenge the Board of Governors; to take
6 a look at Metrics 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 -- all five of
7 them -- and ask for modifications. University of West
8 Florida can bring people in from Alabama and it's
9 free, and they don't pay out-of-state fee. There are
10 things that we can do.

11 This clock is wrong, and so I need to jump very
12 quickly to say this to you. In the interest of your
13 time, let me close out with this. We need service
14 over success. We need to look at people over
15 possessions, and we need to have principles rather
16 than power.

17 As I solute the Great Muhammad Ali, and I leave
18 you, I say to you what he said, "Never want something
19 or love something so badly until you end up not loving
20 yourself, and then when they take it away from you,
21 you have nothing."

22 We have and have had Florida Agriculture and
23 Mechanical University for years. We need the board,
24 please, take care of this institution. It's not about
25 me. It's not about you. It's about baby Rattlers yet

1 unborn.

2 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

3 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: As a matter of fairness, I
4 think people have to be finished at two minutes, and
5 that's it, in order to be fair to everyone.

6 TRUSTEE LAWSON: All right, understood.

7 Thank you, Trustee Lawrence.

8 So next presenter?

9 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: William Youmans?

10 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Mr. Youmans, I would ask that
11 you be mindful of the two minutes. We will turn the
12 mic off at two minutes; that's probably the easiest
13 thing to do, gentlemen.

14 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: William Youmans.

15 After William Youmans is Dwayne Corker, and then
16 Mickey Clayton. And if you can come up and be ready
17 to present.

18 Corker and Clayton.

19 MR. DWAYNE CORKER: Good morning, Board,
20 respective administrators and in your position, the
21 President, thank you for allowing me this two minutes
22 to speak.

23 My concern would be rumors of the
24 de-certification of the Boosters. It is through my
25 research and through my own research that every major

1 university in the United States has a Booster
2 organization. Every athletic department in the
3 universities have one that is very strong. Everything
4 moves through their Boosters: Ticket sales, parking,
5 so with that being said, I think it would be a
6 disservice to Florida A&M University Boosters for the
7 people who diligently give money every year.

8 I, myself, give money on a consistent basis. I
9 put that money aside along with my church money and
10 everything else to give to this school. I don't
11 give -- I give because I want to, because I love this
12 school. I graduated from this school in the year
13 2002, and since then I have been a consistent
14 contributor to this school.

15 I would ask you to give it considerable thought
16 about the de-certification, because when you look at
17 it as a whole, every university who has a good
18 athletic program has a good strong foundational
19 Boosters.

20 So again, I would like to thank you, and I think
21 I'm finished within these two minutes so everyone else
22 can get on my 10 seconds.

23 Thank you.

24 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

25 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Mickey Clayton. Vanessa

1 Byers. Joseph Wright.

2 MR. MICKEY CLAYTON: Good morning, everybody.

3 With the current Booster Board that is here to travel
4 both near and far, if you would like to, would you
5 please stand. I need to honestly respond to some of
6 the questions that were asked by the board yesterday.

7 One was, was a list of parking submitted; yes, we
8 did submit that April 26th.

9 Were financials submitted? Yes, they were. Audit
10 and financial statements are completed every year as a
11 part of our fiduciary responsibility to the
12 University, and we always submit them on time. We
13 have additional requests from Audit and Compliance,
14 and we submitted that information from the Vice-
15 President Rick Givens.

16 Some of our concerns. Multimedia rights were
17 taken from the Boosters two years ago, and it would be
18 very easy to keep up with, because it's been two
19 seasons since you've heard the voice of the Rattler,
20 Keith Miles. He was a part of the managed media
21 package; the Boosters paid for that as requested by
22 the Athletic Department. After Athletics took it
23 back, along with the coach's show, the Athletic
24 Department marketing line item currently shows zero
25 for the last two years.

1 Out of the concern, general admission parking,
2 the last time it was in the hands of Athletics, the
3 Board of Trustees gave it to the Boosters because of
4 money mismanagement. Disability parking is a
5 campus-wide issue but the Boosters assisted with
6 providing services and a system to assist. Has anyone
7 looked at the agreement signed with the Department of
8 Education in keeping the University in compliance?
9 With the Athletic Department now doing parking, it's
10 no longer the Booster's responsibility.

11 Yesterday, we heard there would be no increasing
12 expenses for the athletic budget for next year.
13 Taking game day expenses, there's a lot of extra
14 costs. We pay for Highway Patrol, deputy sheriffs,
15 security, even paying to put grass down in the parking
16 stadium. If Athletics can increase Booster
17 memberships from 450,000 to 1.5 million for parking,
18 Boosters everywhere will stand and applaud that
19 effort.

20 My bow.

21 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

22 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Vanessa Byers. Joseph
23 Wright. Maurice Holder.

24 VANESSA BYERS: Good morning. I love Florida A&M
25 University. I drove from Miami, Florida, in the rain

1 to be here today.

2 For those of you who do not know me, some people
3 in the room do, I love Florida A&M. I don't play
4 games when it comes to Florida A&M; I don't use
5 excuses. When it comes to Florida A&M, I don't think
6 that the Republicans or Rick Scott or white people are
7 to blame for all of the problems at Florida A&M.

8 When Dr. Mangum was chosen to become President,
9 many FAMU'ns welcomed the change, because we wanted
10 the university to be better, and we recognized -- if
11 we're being honest -- that some of our wounds are
12 self-inflicted.

13 Right now, we're at a terrible, terrible stage.
14 There's so much confusion, so much misinformation and
15 I ask you to really try to work through all of that.
16 You don't know me; you don't know that I'm a second
17 generation FAMU'n; you don't know that my parents
18 raised me -- I didn't say "reared" the way I know I'm
19 supposed to. I said "raised me" -- to love Florida
20 A&M University, but I do. I accept it, I love it. I
21 will defend it till the end, but I know that we all
22 have work to do, and I ask you to make sure you try to
23 get all of the information you need before you make
24 decisions.

25 Thank you so much for listening. Have a great

1 day.

2 TRUSTEE MOORE: Thank you.

3 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

4 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Joseph Wright.

5 Maurice Holder.

6 Fred Gainous.

7 MR. JOSEPH WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, members of the
8 Board of Trustees, Madam President, good morning.

9 For the record, my name is Joseph Wright. My
10 concerns are short and simple. I would like to
11 encourage the administration of this very fine
12 historical institution, to put together a
13 well-defined, well-staffed, and well-financed
14 recruitment department. It is past time for us to up
15 our efforts in recruiting potential students to FAMU,
16 and I would like to take an opportunity -- not today,
17 rather -- to make some suggestions to help us hit the
18 ground running. Our enrollment has declined from
19 previous years and we are losing serious, serious
20 revenue.

21 Mr. Chairman, I would also like to recommend to
22 the administration to identify someone or someones to
23 pull together an aggressive, aggressive national or
24 international fundraising campaign for this
25 university. I want to commend the alumni in doing a

1 wonderful job in keeping things floating, and we need
2 to do our part and make this an annual drive.

3 And lastly, Mr. Chairman and members of the
4 Board, this campus is suffering from low morale, and
5 this low morale has spilled itself over into the
6 communities, and we as pastors are feeling the brunt
7 of an unstable institution, so I think it's time for
8 us to get that together.

9 Thank you very much for your time.

10 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

11 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Maurice Holder. Fred
12 Gainous and John Seay.

13 MR. MAURICE HOLDER: Members of the Board,
14 usually I am very diplomatic today, but in my comments
15 today I want to be very blunt, however.

16 Is this institution broken?

17 Are the commitment, the responsibilities to
18 promoted and continue to egg on this brokenness, is it
19 still there? You have to answer that.

20 Ask yourselves, whatever happened to a new season
21 at FAMU? The seeds of that new season have not
22 germinated; instead, we are fast approaching a
23 situation that resembles a street fight. Everybody is
24 involved now.

25 Bluntly, inexperienced leadership is lacking,

1 especially at the two highest positions on this
2 campus. To let it go on is a waste of time. You must
3 fix it. In fact, in my opinion, we are at the hyper-
4 polarized state; such to take more energy and effort
5 to raise it back to the thresholds of good performance
6 that we are accustomed to. We need to take heed of
7 that.

8 Clearly, we are not better off than we were two
9 years ago. You can ask yourselves that and check it.
10 We are not, and if we are not, we need to fix
11 Florida A&M University as the institution it is meant
12 to be.

13 Finally, if you believe that you supervise
14 someone with deep, committed, encompassing love for
15 FAMU and this institution, then it should be
16 self-evident in every progress report and every
17 self-evaluation. If not, it's just a cash cow.

18 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Fred Gainous. Elizabeth
19 Davenport.

20 MR. FRED GAINOUS: Madam President, members of
21 the Board, thank you for this opportunity.

22 I walked by Lee Hall this morning. I saw the
23 eternal flame. As I came through the set, I saw
24 familiar surroundings, buildings, and I thought, this
25 is FAMU. I walked in the foyer here and I seen the

1 pictures of presidents past and I thought, this is
2 FAMU.

3 The legacy of Florida A&M University is
4 important. It is significant. This university has
5 stood in the gap for all of the ills of this nation to
6 make a better America. It has sought to educate the
7 hands who grew the economy, who built this nation.

8 Board members, I can tell story after story of
9 students, but whenever you can walk across this campus
10 and not see the future in the face and the eyes of the
11 students that you've just passed, south is that way
12 and north is that way.

13 Somebody needs to do something about it. Board
14 members, as you labor over the mission statement of
15 this institution, it leaves you as the keeper of the
16 legacy. As you look at your budget and adjust the
17 position net against your mission statement, there
18 must be a reflection there that shows where you want
19 this institution to go.

20 "God ever keep us true to thee.

21 "Thy faith, thy truth, shall make men free.

22 "It shall guide thy aright

23 "And fend them through the skeptic night."

24 That's the prayer in the Alma Mater.

25 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: John Seay. Elizabeth

1 Davenport. Lekan Latinwo.

2 MR. JOHN SEAY: Good morning. Let me thank
3 Trustee Dortch for having the guts to stand up and say
4 we should stop airing our laundry in the public; for
5 press that is constantly looking for something, it
6 seems negative, regarding FAMU.

7 As a three-time graduate of FAMU, if it were not
8 to FAMU, when I graduated high school in the '60s, I
9 would not have graduated college at all. The
10 significance of that is that many black students that
11 graduated in the years that followed the '60s,
12 including just a few weeks ago, if it were not for
13 FAMU, they would not have a college degree either.

14 Some have become distracted by misconception that
15 our children have more college choices today. While
16 on the surface expanded choices seem true, but because
17 of the sorry state of our public schools and other
18 barriers, for the average child, black or other,
19 access is a looming problem; therefore, FAMU is as
20 important as ever.

21 The morning news stated President Elmira Mangum
22 is at the mercy of the board. I didn't hear how the
23 other university presidents were doing. As a matter
24 of fact, I never do. Our board and our president are
25 as intellectually inclined as any board in the United

1 States of America. We can solve our problems. We
2 will solve our problems. And never forget that FAMU
3 has never been created, and never been treated
4 equally. We've had to scrap and fight ever since
5 1887, but we always survive.

6 MS. ELIZABETH DAVENPORT: Good morning.

7 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning.

8 TRUSTEE MOORE: Good morning.

9 MS. ELIZABETH DAVENPORT: I'm Liz Davenport, and
10 I represent faculty.

11 Today's FAMU operates under the misguided
12 principle that the purpose of the University is to
13 bring and promote notoriety to the President, instead
14 of the President promoting and bringing notoriety to
15 the University.

16 There's some banter about administrative
17 stability. Well, what is the purpose, the value of
18 stability, at the very top, when it creates and
19 fosters instability at the bottom, and undermines the
20 core; the very familiar collegiality of FAMU by
21 disenfranchising faculty, to pressing the majority
22 will of students by litigating against a bonified
23 student elect; intimidating, promoting, dismantling or
24 dismissing competent staff; disrespecting
25 policymakers; impeding press and public scrutiny;

1 violating policies and protocols to protect friends
2 and loyalists.

3 Isn't providing stability at the top, which
4 destabilizes the middle and the bottom,
5 counter-productive to your principle objective and
6 fiduciary responsibilities?

7 I had a two-page statement to say, but I'm going
8 to say this and I'm going to quote from my favorite
9 fictional character from the Color People -- Color
10 Purple -- Celie. That's my second one. My first one
11 is Sofia: Until you do right by your faculty, you
12 will not prosper.

13 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Lekan Latinwo. Aurellia
14 Whitmore. Rashidra Walker.

15 MR. LEKAN LATINWO: Good afternoon -- good
16 morning, everyone.

17 My name Lekan Latinwo, and I've been here for
18 about 26 years. I'm a professor of biology and a
19 member of Faculty Senate.

20 I thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to
21 speak. What I would like to say is that we all need
22 to keep working together for a better, stronger FAMU.
23 Therefore, it is my belief that collaboration and
24 cooperation are better than conflict. Unity is better
25 than division. Empowerment is better than resentment.

1 And bridges are better than walls.

2 You probably heard this three nights ago from
3 Hillary Clinton. We all are talking about the same
4 thing and pointing fingers. It it's not about
5 pointing fingers. It's about looking for solutions.
6 We know what our problems are, and we don't want to
7 take responsibilities. This is not your problem.
8 It's not the President's problem. It's all of our
9 problems. Everybody must come to the table and come
10 with solution.

11 It is interesting all the time that people talk
12 about FAMU and we haven't said much about the
13 (unintelligible). We haven't talked about how many
14 students going to medical schools or grad schools, how
15 many are graduating and what they're doing, and what
16 we're doing and how we can recruit more students.
17 Let's think about that.

18 Thank you.

19 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

20 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Aurellia Whitmore.

21 Rashidra Walker. Candace Harris and Danielle Green.

22 MS. AURELLIA WHITMORE: Good morning. My name is
23 Aurellia Whitmore. I'm a third year doctorate
24 candidate in the College of Pharmacy and
25 Pharmaceutical Science, and President of Graduate

1 Assistance United.

2 Graduate students at FAMU have not been a
3 priority for such a substantial amount of time that
4 our existence as students and faculty is very much
5 neglected. Mechanisms must be put in place so we can
6 perform at our optimal ability as scholars in our
7 specific field of study; however, this cannot be done
8 when tuition is not paid, waivers not applied, and
9 stipends issued to scholars are below that of the
10 federal poverty level.

11 Mechanisms that must be implemented to improve
12 our existence as graduate students should include:

13 Number 1. Accountability. I have had three
14 Collective Bargaining sessions with the Dean of
15 Graduate Studies, Associate Provost, Assistant VP for
16 fiscal management and Director of Equal Opportunity,
17 within the past four months about GA's poor salary and
18 health insurance issues. Also in the Collective
19 Bargaining session, I presented to them a survey
20 completed by FAMU's GAs from every department with
21 results indicating that 90 percent of GA surveys are
22 struggling to make ends meet with the current salary
23 issued.

24 Despite this, the latest academic affairs issue
25 on May 11th, there was no report mentioned of GAU

1 meeting with the university officials about a raise,
2 the continuation of health insurance, or any other
3 issues addressed on behalf of graduate assistance in
4 the past three meetings.

5 Let me jump through.

6 Recognition and value is another issue. FAMU.
7 COPPS was recently recognized for being awarded the
8 most NIH funding within universities in the state of
9 Florida, receiving about \$5.7 million; in part, due to
10 the labor done in the labs by graduate assistants.

11 In addition, FAMU receives the most among all
12 Title III funding within the United States. FAMU is
13 Number 1 among HBCUs in the terms of the numbers of
14 patents we hold. Twelve of the patents are in the
15 College of Pharmacy, and yet, we're still paid below
16 the poverty level. Something must change.

17 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Rashidra Walker. Candace
18 Harris and Danielle Green.

19 MS. RASHIDRA WALKER: Good morning. Hello, my
20 name is Rashidra Walker and I am a first year PhD
21 student in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical
22 Sciences, as well as Vice President for GAU.

23 On March 10, 2015, I was notified by e-mail that
24 I was accepted into the college and program study. I
25 also received a letter stating I was awarded an

1 assistance fellowship and an out-of-state waiver to
2 cover the cost of tuition.

3 I was told that my contract would not begin until
4 October 1st, 2015, but I as well as other first year
5 graduate students did not sign our contracts until
6 March 1st, 2016. That is a difference of nine months.
7 This is blatantly unacceptable and unprofessional.

8 During this time of unemployment, I depleted my
9 savings, utilized federal loans and even relied on my
10 credit cards. Prior to starting graduate school here
11 at FAMU, I was in forensic sciences for the State of
12 Alabama. To go from making almost \$40,000 a year,
13 with benefits, to 16,000 was drastic, but then not
14 receiving any monies for my assistantship was
15 extensively more nerve-racking and stressful.

16 Not only did I not receive my contract on the
17 incorrect date, my tuition fees were not paid before
18 the due date. I was forced to write a letter to the
19 Assistant Dean of the COPPS program before funds were
20 sent off from the graduate school.

21 Fast forward from today, my contract was valid
22 for March 1st to June 8th. I informed the coordinator
23 of the COPPS program upon the expiration and was told
24 that new contracts were not ready.

25 According to the Collective Bargaining agreement,

1 all employees are in at least one semester appointment
2 during the academic year shall be provided with a
3 letter of intent regarding continuation or
4 non-continuation of the employment for the fall
5 semester, as soon as but no later than May 5th.

6 I have yet to receive a letter confirming my
7 appointment. This is beyond the expiration date of
8 the old contract which will result in a gap in pay.

9 I am standing here today simply to ask in the
10 future that someone in the graduate school is held
11 accountable for their transaction and payment to the
12 Financial Aid office, to cover tuition and fees and
13 for the --

14 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

15 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Candace Harris. Danielle
16 green. Narayan Persaud.

17 MS. CANDACE HARRIS: Good morning. My name is
18 Candace Harris. I'm a second year student in the
19 Department of Physics, PhD.

20 Upon the recent appointment of the new Associate
21 Provost, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, recent
22 OPS have been violated as a result of lack of funds
23 due to adverse financial conditions.

24 As a second year graduate student in the physics
25 department, my OPS contract as a teacher's assistant

1 was terminated as of October 21, 2015. In response to
2 this, I am challenging the dual roles that this
3 authority plays. I believe that it is unethical to
4 strengthen one graduate program while weakening
5 another.

6 Furthermore, in the pursuit of the path of
7 excellence, FAMU is the leading institution in
8 producing the highest number of African-American women
9 in doctoral degree in physics; wherein, the past also
10 proves that FAMU students leave here ready to compete
11 and excel anywhere.

12 This direct quote was given by a former Dean of
13 Graduate Studies who exercised its authority in
14 keeping FAMU's PhD program in physics a competitive
15 one.

16 "Moreover, the recent report given by the
17 Academics Affairs Committee and the Chair of the Board
18 of Trustees directs minimum attention to the needs of
19 the graduate students. Clearly, this meeting was
20 meant for the Board of Trustees to hear the proposals
21 of other schools and colleges that make up this
22 institution."

23 While the GAU has met with the Dean multiple
24 times over the course of the semester, not one single
25 proposal to arrange the PhD programs has been

1 mentioned. It is this complacency of the Dean of
2 Graduate Studies and Research that terrifies me. I am
3 requesting that the Board of Trustees directs more
4 attention to its graduate students, especially in STEM
5 disciplines, and carefully considers the value of
6 having a program that provides the best PhDs in the
7 country; HBCUs and predominantly white institutions
8 alike.

9 More specifically, can someone tell me who
10 authorized or declared a university of financial
11 extingency. That was it. Thank you.

12 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

13 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Danielle Green.

14 MS. DANIELLE GREEN: Good morning. My name is
15 Danielle Green, and this coming fall will be the start
16 of my second year as a FAMU physics graduate student.

17 This public comment is to be used as a platform
18 to reinstate the physics graduate teacher
19 assistantship.

20 As a FAMU alumni in the physics department, I know
21 firsthand the critical role teacher assistants play
22 in. Helping to encourage student to persevere and
23 their pursuing degree in STEM. A teacher insisted and
24 played an influential role in my decision to pursue a
25 PhD in physics.

1 Now, as a graduate student, I tutor STEM students
2 for the NAVY ROTC, and I noticed a decline in my
3 students, in the mental knowledge of physics, because
4 there are no teacher assistants in the classroom.
5 Physics, chemistry, biology, and the mathematics are
6 the fundamental building blocks for students in other
7 disciplines for STEM. The course work and academic
8 capability of each discipline is demanding; therefore,
9 teacher assistants are needed.

10 As we all know, the FAMU PhD program started in
11 2002 for physics from NSF funding called Crest. This
12 was implemented to build competitiveness of
13 minority-serving institutions, while increasing the
14 recruitment and retention of individuals from diverse
15 backgrounds in STEM, study, and STEM-based careers,
16 according to NSF.

17 A background in teaching is a skill PhD students
18 from any institution across the nation should be
19 required to have to be competitive, especially if the
20 students wish to go on to higher education.

21 Our Dean of Graduate Students, in my opinion --
22 weakens the only PhD program that arose from Crest by
23 stripping funding from the teachers assistants and
24 also weakens my progress as a scholar and strips me
25 from much-needed experience, which leaves me to not be

1 a well-rounded and competitive grad student.

2 As a black woman in physics, I know that I am
3 being held to a higher standard than the majority of
4 other graduates from my major from other schools.
5 When I graduate with my PhD with physics, I will
6 already be seen as inferior: 1. Because I am black;
7 2. Because I am a woman; 3. Because I chose to educate
8 myself in an HBCU. Not having the experience of being
9 a teachers assistant does not give me the same
10 competitive edge.

11 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Narayan Persaud. Reverend
12 R.B. Holmes. Clyde Ashley.

13 MR. NARAYAN PERSAUD: Good morning, all.

14 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning.

15 MR. NARAYAN PERSAUD: I am former chair of the
16 Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice of FAMU,
17 former president of the Faculty Senate, and former
18 trustee.

19 At the offset, let me state emphatically that my
20 two sons work for FAMU; both well-qualified for the
21 positions they occupy. Many have warned that my
22 speaking will jeopardize their employment and that the
23 sins of the father will fall on the children. You,
24 Honorable Trustees, are now aware of my dilemma. The
25 alumns are not.

1 FAMU should be required to have such a remarkable
2 and distinguished board. Your achievements and
3 experiences speak volumes. As a collective body, you
4 should not -- you not only have the authority and
5 responsibility for fiscal solvency of FAMU; you also
6 have the authority and responsibility to hold the
7 administration accountable in fulfilling the
8 institution's mission while adhering to all rules and
9 regulations of university governance.

10 As the governing and oversight body, as you
11 deliberate in your decisions, I ask that you focus not
12 only on what is written in reports that are presented
13 orally, but be attentive to what is not written and
14 what is left on the unsaid. I ask you that you assess
15 the facts while being mindful of the fiction. I ask
16 that you pay attention to the growing flames but not
17 to lose sight of the billowing smoke. I ask to search
18 your hearts and minds for answers; that you are guided
19 by the words of Martin Luther King when he said that,
20 "There comes a time when one must take a position that
21 is neither safe nor popular, but because conscience
22 tells us it is right."

23 FAMU is in challenging times and because of your
24 responsibilities, I know you will do what's right.

25 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Reverend R.B. Holmes.

1 Clyde Ashley. Deidre Powell.

2 MR. R.B. HOLMES: Madam President, Mr. Chairman,
3 members of the Board of Trustees, I come here this
4 morning in the spirit of peace and harmony. My
5 authority is to not fight for individuals or select
6 few but to stand up for students and to commend you
7 for your public service. You are being blamed, the
8 Governor, the Board of Governors, that you're out to
9 destroy FAMU. That is wrong.

10 I come to tell you I served on this board for 10
11 years. I appreciate what you do. I've come to stand
12 up for the faculty. This great faculty is under
13 attack. I come to stand up for folks like Justin
14 Bruno who was denied due justice on this campus. I
15 come to stand up for truth.

16 I'm not against anyone. We are a family. My
17 mother went here. My brothers and sisters and cousins
18 and nieces and nephews graduated from here. It's not
19 personal. It's about the future of this university.
20 It's about the future of this state. It's about the
21 future of this country.

22 I pray to God that you will search your heart and
23 do what is in the best interest of faculty, staff,
24 students, and the future of FAMU and Historical Black
25 Colleges and Universities.

1 God bless you.

2 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Dr. Clyde Ashley.

3 Deidre Powell. Masekela Mandela.

4 MR. CLYDE ASHLEY: Trustee Lawson, chairman,
5 members of the Board of Trustees, Madam President, I
6 am Dr. Clyde Ashley, Associate Professor in the
7 College of Business and Industry.

8 Board of Trustees, your fiduciary responsibility,
9 financial excellence, high quality institution,
10 ethical integrity, sustainable growth and department.
11 You hire and evaluate the President. You help create
12 a culture of success.

13 President Mangum, your job is to be a visionary
14 leader; inspire and motivate others, shared
15 governance, increase enrollment, be "best in class" in
16 terms of programs, successful processing or
17 progression of students, graduation of students.

18 FAMU is great. Period. The college of the year
19 in 1997. Led the nation in national scholars. Best
20 in class program, such as pharmacy, engineering,
21 nursing, law, environment, agriculture, allied health,
22 journalism and not but less SBI.

23 Graduates, Dr. Shawnta Friday-Stroud, Oscar
24 Joyner, Jon Thompson, Shaundran Thomas, Michael
25 Robinson. Donations given by Jon Thompson, five

1 million dollars. Donation given by Hershey, in honor
2 of Dr. Mobley, one million dollars.

3 As FAMU, we cannot target our Deans. As I
4 understand it, some of our Deans are being targeted.
5 SBI Dean -- one of the best Dean in the world;
6 pharmacy Dean, architecture dean, journalism dean,
7 that is asinine. We have flashy programs all over
8 this campus.

9 Board of Trustees, you hire and evaluate the
10 President. If the President is doing a great job, you
11 maintain her and renew her. If she's not doing a
12 great job, then don't renew her and replace her with
13 someone who can do the job.

14 In the name of Spike Lee, do the right thing.

15 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Deidre Powell. Masekela
16 Mandela. William Tucker.

17 MS. DEIDRA POWELL: Good morning, honored
18 trustees.

19 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning.

20 MS. DEIDRA POWELL: I am Deidra Powell, and I
21 stand before you as a graduate of this great
22 institution and as a professor.

23 I am also the primary organizer and co-chair of
24 FAMU's Benevolence Committee. This committee was
25 established on February 17, 2009, with a five-part

1 plan approved by the Faculty Senate on April 21, 2009.
2 The purpose of this five-part plan is to acknowledge
3 the University's sick Rattlers with extended illnesses
4 and to remember and pay homage and honor its fallen
5 Rattlers, administrators, faculty, staff, students
6 pursuing degree, alumni and retirees who have passed
7 away.

8 For the last seven years, I have worked with
9 Dr. Ammons, Robinson and Mangum administration to
10 initiate this five-part plan to include creating a
11 more suitable means of alerting the Rattler family of
12 a fallen Rattler through the University's website;
13 communicating better with Department of
14 Representatives in addressing the sick and fallen
15 Rattlers; establishing an annual one hour service
16 during Homecoming week honoring fallen Rattlers;
17 building a memorial wall in the shape of Rattler with
18 monies obtained through donations of through selling
19 of bricks, monies to be used for scholarships for
20 needy students, and to create a team of ambassadors
21 for good will; responsible for representing University
22 as of the homes of Rattlers with visit cards, et
23 cetera, and at the funerals reading resolutions if in
24 accordance with the wishes of the family.

25 Dr. Ammons and Robinson were quite receptive to

1 the ideas, but their tenures were cut short. I have
2 had a great difficulty with this administration.
3 Often prearranged meetings were cancelled and so
4 forth --

5 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Ma'am, ma'am, thank you.

6 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Mandela. And then Tucker.
7 Mandela first.

8 MR. MASEKELA MANDELA: Friends of FAMU, good
9 morning.

10 Besides FAMU and our president, can someone name
11 an HBCU or an HBCU president that is caught between a
12 rock and a hard place, or in some sort of hot water?

13 Let us use the analogy of a sick patient. There
14 may be some attending physicians that really care
15 about the patient. There may also be other attending
16 physicians that couldn't care less about the patient.
17 In spite of this, the surgery is a success. However,
18 the patient dies due to lack of blood and oxygen while
19 they are in the recovery room.

20 FAMU is that patient, just as all HBCUs. Powers
21 that be have decided that HBCUs are not longer
22 relevant and must change missions or die.

23 President Mangum is not the problem. She is
24 merely carrying out the mandates of the Board of
25 Governors and the Governor.

1 To ask a question that I started with, all HBCUs
2 and all presidents of HBCUs are caught between a rock
3 and a hard place, or in some sort of hot water.

4 Thank you.

5 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: William Tucker. Kenneth
6 Webster. Johanna Hawkins.

7 MR. WILLIAM TUCKER: Good morning, Trustees.
8 Good morning, Madam President, colleagues.

9 My name is Bill Tucker. I am a Professor
10 Emeritus in physics and a member of the National
11 Alumni Association, and a member of a lot of other
12 organizations that support and give money to FAMU.

13 It's hard to know where to begin. Yesterday
14 afternoon, Trustee Dortch admonished us about
15 publicly airing grievances in public, but yet less
16 than 24 hours later, four ex-presidents and other
17 former Rattler leaders are publicly airing their
18 grievances.

19 Trustee Dortch, did your admonishment --
20 admonition, rather -- include the individuals who sent
21 you a very public letter urging you not to extend
22 President Mangum's contract beyond its termination
23 date?

24 Eight of you are new to the Board of Trustees and
25 have not had the opportunity to conduct an evaluation

1 of President Mangum. It's strange to contemplate the
2 facts that you would not renew her contract before you
3 have had a chance to review her performance during
4 your watch.

5 An evaluation by you is required, and so far,
6 it's been scheduled for late September as I believe,
7 and not earlier than that, so you would not want to do
8 that without that information.

9 Give yourselves time. Don't rush to judgment.
10 Base solely on the opinions of others. A Board of
11 Governors' member stated that the new Board of
12 Trustees members were placed here with the hope that
13 the split in the BOT could be rectified, but it was
14 due to the action that the previous BOT members tried
15 to fire the president as a worry absentia, based on
16 charges that were later found to be baseless. Do not
17 repeat that mistake.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. KENNETH WEBSTER: Good morning, Board of
20 Trustees.

21 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning.

22 MR. KENNETH WEBSTER: Mr. Chairman, my classmate.

23 I've heard a lot of things, so President Mangum
24 I'm going to say this to you this morning, publicly.
25 I haven't heard anybody come up here and say they love

1 you, so I want you to know I love you.

2 I am Kenneth Webster and I am a 1980 graduate. I
3 do disaster recovery, so I understand a little bit
4 about FEMA and what have you. In what I do, most of
5 it is called an act of God. I look around this
6 morning, but I didn't see FEMA. I do see a disaster.

7 I'm having a problem with that, because my
8 personal creed is that greater love has no man than
9 this; that a man will lay down his life for his
10 friends and I haven't seen all of the folks that say
11 they love FAMU actually put their money where their
12 mouth is.

13 On November 15th of last year, the Provost, and
14 Jimmie Miller, myself, and another group, invited some
15 donors who were worth three-quarters-of-a-billion
16 dollars. They came up on a Sunday and they met with
17 the University as a result of House Bill 307.

18 House Bill 307 is probably foreign to a lot of
19 folks, but when you get a chance, look at House Bill
20 307. We have a unique opportunity. We have billions
21 on the line, and yet still, we're fighting about
22 personalities. We're talking about funds that we
23 need, but we're wanting to get rid of the President.

24 In my last 30 seconds, let me make sure I'm clear
25 on this. I don't know how many of you voted for

1 President Obama, but he had eight years after George
2 Bush. He inherited a problem. All of our presidents
3 for the last 15 years have inherited a problem one way
4 or another, but they didn't blame the next one that
5 comes in. The issue that we had when she came in,
6 they would be difficult for anyone to manage. Stop
7 the fighting.

8 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Johanna Hawkins. Bill
9 Proctor. Joe Houston.

10 MS. JOHANNA HAWKINS: Good morning.

11 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Good morning.

12 MS. JOHANNA HAWKINS: I came to support, and to
13 say that I was present; I had no idea that I would be
14 speaking.

15 However, I will just say this: Lord, let the
16 words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
17 accepted in your sight.

18 I am in a very odd place only, because I feel as
19 though -- and I pick it back off with what the
20 gentleman before me said -- our president came and she
21 had many issues that were already in place before she
22 started. So what she has done -- and I believe she's
23 done an excellent job, and I believe if we continue
24 and we bring her back on board and she will continue
25 to do an excellent job. But it's our job as Trustees,

1 it's our job as alumni, it's our job as students, it's
2 our job as future Rattlers, to support our President,
3 our University, our Trustees, and work together
4 collectively.

5 We have to work together in order for our, our
6 legacy, in order for our legend, for everything to
7 continue pressing forward. And so, instead of
8 fighting and bickering and doing all of the other
9 things that don't make sense to me or many others, I
10 think we should work together, put our big girl, big
11 boy pants on, buckle down and get the job done
12 together.

13 God bless you all. Thank you.

14 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Bill Proctor. Joe
15 Houston. Kyle Washington.

16 MR. BILL PROCTOR: Good morning. My name is Bill
17 Proctor, and I'm an instructor here at FAMU.

18 To this honorable body of Trustees, President
19 Mangum, I come from a product of an environment. I am
20 the son of a mother who graduated from FAMU, twice,
21 and a father who graduated from FAMU, twice. I went
22 to FAMU from 1st through 12th grade. I began here
23 under George Gore and graduated under BL Perry.

24 I am a product of this environment. For many
25 years I was assistant teacher of young adults and

1 young people's class at Bethel AME Church with Dr. BL
2 Perry, and oftentimes after class we had breakfast
3 together. I'm just a product of an environment.

4 I began working here under Walter Smith and
5 served under each successive president, and I have
6 some knowledge of standards of excellence.

7 It's because I am the product of this environment
8 and understand its skills of excellence that I believe
9 we need a change in leadership. We need a new
10 administration; a president and new administration.

11 I know what excellency is and I arise today to
12 say to you that standard is not being met. The
13 authority of those who bring letters; I was one who
14 signed a letter in which you received and which is
15 went public today. The authority of the messenger is
16 not the focus, but please stay focused on the message,
17 the content, and the substance of it.

18 I have been negligent over the years in lending a
19 voice to this body. This merely is my second time,
20 but I will assure you, Trustee members, that in the
21 coming days I will offer to you more support of my
22 thoughts.

23 Let me say, as a member of the County Commission,
24 we have to improve relationships with our local
25 constituencies. We need to do better. We need a

1 change.

2 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Joe Houston. Kyle
3 Washington. Justin Bruno.

4 MS. JOE HOUSTON: We've heard a plethora of
5 speakers this morning; some whose motives were good
6 and who want the success of Florida A&M University;
7 some who are merely contentious and who want nothing
8 but a public fight to embarrass and to sully the good
9 name of Florida A&M. They have turned what should be
10 a routine board meeting into a media frenzy. Look
11 around.

12 You have seen and heard from failed former
13 trustees who themselves were embroiled in controversy,
14 yeah, when they were on this board. You've heard from
15 failed former presidents who themselves are
16 responsible for plummeting this university into
17 deficits that we're still working to correct. You've
18 heard from some of which you have read and some of
19 what you've heard and seen is fiction, some of it is
20 quasi facts, some of it is distorted, and some of it
21 that you can ferret out could be considered true.

22 My appeal to you this morning as rationale men
23 and women, is that you be guided not by the peroquial
24 interests of a few loud and flamboyant people but by
25 those of us who are entrusted to do what this school

1 is intended to do. I say it to those of us because
2 I'm a faculty member. I'm not representing nor does
3 Mr. Holmes represent me when he says he's standing up
4 for faculty. He does not, okay?

5 I say what I say because I am in the Collective
6 Bargaining Unit, because a a faculty member, but I'm
7 not a member of the union. I am, however, the elected
8 Vice-President of the Faculty Senate, and I represent
9 one of the larger colleges in this University.

10 I would say to the young woman who talked to you
11 before me, Ms. Hawkins and to Mr. Webster, that their
12 sentiments expressed are probably the greatest
13 sentiments of the larger community. We have got a
14 president who is working to make some changes; we need
15 to keep that president.

16 Thank you.

17 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Kyle Washington.

18 MR. KYLE WASHINGTON: I haven't done this in some
19 time so just bear with me, folks.

20 Kyle Washington, current student at the
21 university and long-time advocate. My message is
22 simple. Let's do something different. Let's step out
23 of typical. Let's step out of what the world expects.
24 Let's do something different. The world has turned
25 FAMU into the World's Greatest live television show.

1 Shanda Rhymes couldn't write a better episode of
2 drama. It's filled with cliffhangers and "stay tuned
3 for next week," but the drama has become a runaway
4 train; a train that we no longer control.

5 But how can the train maintain control when all
6 of the conductors are consistent and consistently
7 being thrown off?

8 We've heard about enrollment. Well, enrollment
9 is down because the brand is bad. It's hard to sell
10 something that is constantly beat up and stepped on.
11 A wise man once told me that this place houses the
12 Louis Vuitton of education and social experience.

13 We've heard from a lot of different Rattlers
14 today, but the most important stakeholder, the
15 students, are silently protesting, because their
16 voices are no longer being heard. The adults aren't
17 listening.

18 Let's stop contributing to the problem. In fact,
19 let's turn the television off. Let's beat the streets
20 with good news, so much good news that the good old
21 news folks have nothing but good to report. And if
22 that doesn't work, then I suggest we get with Angela
23 Poole and legal counsel to figure out how we can get
24 our cut of all of the papers while helping the news
25 people sell. We can use that revenue to recruit

1 students or help build champions.

2 So, to the board, my message is simple. Let's do
3 something different. Let's step out of typical.
4 Let's step out of what the world expects. I truly
5 believe that we -- in the words of Spike Lee -- let's
6 do the right thing. Let's continue to move FAMU
7 forward with this amazing leadership who is assembling
8 an All Star cast Shelby Chipman, the magician behind
9 the music; Milton Overton, whose idea of building
10 champions is great, and Angela Poole who is
11 forecasting our financial future. Let's do something
12 different.

13 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Justin Bruno.

14 MR. JUSTIN BRUNO: Good morning.

15 TRUSTEE MOORE: Good morning.

16 MR. JUSTIN BRUNO: Good morning. My name is
17 Justin Bruno. I am a third year now -- fourth year
18 now -- engineering student at FAMU.

19 First off, I would like to be very clear. I'm
20 not interested in any of the politics that are playing
21 out here today. I'm here because I'm concerned about
22 the priorities and the direction of this institution
23 and the tendency of the people who sit at the head of
24 this institution to associate that with the people
25 that it serves.

1 I don't have a political agenda. All I have
2 right now is my faith in the truth. Four months ago,
3 I was elected alongside Devin Harris, my running mate,
4 as a student body president. We won an election by a
5 margin of about five percent or more. In anywhere
6 else in the nation at any time before that,
7 constitutes a victory, but the next day, after we
8 spent money, made sacrifices, and asked people to help
9 us and campaign, an appeal was filed and that was
10 taken away.

11 So, to put that into perspective. Students
12 showed up to a ballot, cast their ballots and said
13 what they wanted, and for a second they got it, and
14 then a few seconds later it was taken away.

15 I'm not concerned -- again, those actions and
16 occurrences aren't what I'm here to discuss, and I'm
17 not aiming with anybody who had anything to do with
18 that. I'm just more concerned about what takes place
19 as a result of those things.

20 I think we have to be very careful, or you-all
21 have to be very careful, as leaders, about what you
22 determine is your priority at this university. Your
23 priority, because you are on this board, is to serve a
24 constituency and that is the students at this
25 university, and I just want to urge you to make sure

1 that you take that into account when you make your
2 decisions.

3 That is all I want to say. I have two seconds
4 left, so I appreciate you all, love you all, and hope
5 you make the best decision for this university.

6 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Okay, thank you.

7 We've come to the end of our public comments,
8 significantly more than we normally do. I think on
9 behalf of the board, we would like to thank every
10 individual that felt it important enough and pressing
11 enough to take the time out of their busy schedules to
12 come and present their point of views to us;
13 irrespective of what that point of view is, we're very
14 respectfully of your point of view and welcome your
15 input.

16 At this point, I would like to ask Lieutenant
17 Colonel Greg Clark to come to the podium on behalf of
18 the National Alumni Association.

19 LIEUTENANT COLONEL CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
20 I would like to ask AD Milton to come forward, and
21 also VP Cotton. If you would, please come up with me.

22 And I like the members of the National Alumni
23 Association to please stand.

24 Certainly, after public comments, we, the
25 National Alumni Association, come with good news.

1 We've got checks.

2 So since 1901 we have been a vehicle for
3 advocacy, and one of the good things that we do is we
4 fundraise. So today we want to recognize a few
5 people, but we want to most of all show the University
6 that we love them with some cash.

7 The board voted to support our football team by
8 helping it keep the students up here this summer, so
9 on behalf of the board and entire National Alumni
10 Association, I want to present AD Overton a check for
11 \$25,000 to keep the football team up here through the
12 summer.

13 In February, the National Alumni Association
14 kicked off a campaign called Save Our Students. The
15 job of this is to help the University -- help students
16 get out of the University. So we took a hard look at
17 those metrics area that we can influence immediately.

18 From that, Save Our Students, raised a lot of
19 money. We started this campaign in February and it
20 culminated a couple of weeks ago at our National
21 Alumni Convention in Tampa, Florida. So before I give
22 you the bigger check, our board decided that as a
23 first part of this giving, that we try support the
24 Governor's Ready, Set, Work challenge.

25 I asked Dr. Hudson to find students that we could

1 either retain or help graduate this summer in the
2 fields of business and criminal justice and he's done
3 that. So I've asked VP Cotton to come up and accept
4 this on behalf of the University, as the President
5 stands as well.

6 So as a first, we want to present to FAMU SBI and
7 the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, respectively, a
8 check in the amount of \$20,000 to help these students
9 graduate and retain them at the University.

10 Now, I'm going to present the bigger check and
11 then I want you to hear from somebody. At our
12 breakfast two weeks ago, fundraising breakfast
13 convention, the ask was made that alumns come, bring
14 checks, bring cash, bring pledges, and they showed up
15 and they showed out. So after all of the giving, on
16 behalf of the National Alumni Association, we want to
17 present a check to the University in the amount of
18 \$674,719, and money is still coming in.

19 Trustees, we need checks. You can give them
20 today or you can go to famu.edu and famu.org and make
21 your contribution to Save Our Students.

22 And finally, I want to bring forth a student, and
23 this is kind will summarize in really what we're all
24 about in taking care of our babies.

25 This young lady is Radiance. I've been watching

1 her for a couple of years. She's here as a student
2 that came from California, an out-of-state student.
3 She ran out of money, and she's 30 hours from
4 graduation. And she's been working with our food
5 provider, and I've always ask her, "Are you okay? Are
6 you okay?" And last night, I asked her again, and she
7 said, you know, "I just want some help; if you can
8 help me get out of here." So I submitted to this
9 young lady that the National Alumni Association will
10 pay her debt off so that she can register for the fall
11 semester so that she can finish those 30 hours and
12 graduate from this University.

13 So I want to bring Radiance forward.

14 MS. RADIANCE: I just want to say thank you so
15 much for giving me the opportunity provide for myself,
16 provide for myself in a better way, by being able to
17 provide for myself in a better way, by having an
18 opportunity again to attend classes.

19 I know I may not be the most deserving student,
20 or have the highest GPA, but I know that with this
21 opportunity, I will graduate and I will provide a
22 better life for me and my family.

23 LIEUTENANT COLONEL CLARK: And finally, come up,
24 Dr. Walker. In light of this, Dr. Walker has been
25 moved to give a little bit of extra money to Save Our

1 Students. So on behalf of Dr. Walker, we have a
2 contribution for \$2,575 to Save Our Students.

3 Thank you for your time.

4 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you. Thank you,
5 Lieutenant Clark. I think you've done a tremendous
6 job from taking over from Mr. Mitchell, and
7 Mr. Mitchell has done a great job before you, so you
8 have big shoulders to stand on.

9 I would like to take one executive privilege, if
10 I may. Greg Clark invited me to a breakfast in Tampa
11 with the National Alumni Association, and it was the
12 most expensive breakfast I've ever had -- after he
13 shut me down but I'm going to return that. Greg, to
14 you and ask the Board to commit, based on whatever
15 your ability is -- small, medium, high -- does not
16 matter the dollar amount, but I'm going to ask that
17 the Board become 100 percent compliant in giving. I'm
18 not going to set a dollar amount, because if you're
19 like me your wife has the checkbook anyways, so I'm
20 not going to set a dollar amount, but whatever your
21 personal ability is to give, I'm going to ask we be
22 100 percent compliant.

23 Guys, we are running way behind, so if it pleases
24 the board, I'm going to continue forward without a
25 break. Well, maybe not. Let's take five minutes

1 then.

2 (Recess taken.)

3 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Board members, can I please have
4 you back at the table. Board members, if I can have
5 you back at the table.

6 Okay. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. We
7 are officially back in session, and the next order of
8 business is electing a permanent chair.

9 As you all are aware, I'm currently the Acting
10 Chair of the Board. At this point, we will follow our
11 normal processes around conducting elections.

12 At this point, I would actually like to turn the
13 gavel over to Trustee Carter to orchestrate the
14 election.

15 TRUSTEE CARTER: Thank you, Trustee Lawson.
16 Members, are there nominations for the FAMU Board of
17 Trustees?

18 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Trustee Carter, I would like to
19 make sure as we enter in this process, to make sure we
20 are compliant with whatever existing promise from our
21 bylaws. And also, if we can at least get an overview
22 of the process and what we're doing now to ensure that
23 we are in compliance, I think that would allow us to
24 move us from where we are so we can just move through
25 the process.

1 TRUSTEE CARTER: Let me ask acting general
2 counsel, because I think in one of the meetings we
3 went through that.

4 While she's coming up, let me take a personal
5 moment to say how much I sincerely appreciate the
6 medical staff here at Florida A&M University. Thank
7 you all for patching me up and putting me back in the
8 game.

9 ATTORNEY THOMAS: In accordance with our bylaws,
10 the Chair and Vice Chair are elected normally in odd
11 numbered years, but of course we had a vacancy due to
12 one of our former trustees leaving, so it's now in
13 order for the board to go ahead and elect a new chair.

14 Are there specific questions regarding the
15 process?

16 TRUSTEE DORTCH: I just wanted to make sure that
17 while we're talking about getting our "house in
18 order," I just wanted to make sure that the process
19 we're using is compliant, and this is the procedure
20 that we should follow. That's all. It's just simply
21 a housekeeping rule, and if that's in compliance, is
22 it -- are we electing for a, quote, full term to
23 fulfill?

24 ATTORNEY THOMAS: No, it is not.

25 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Okay. I just wanted all of us

1 to be clear as we go into this process.

2 ATTORNEY THOMAS: Right. It is for the
3 fulfillment of the two-year term that was vacated by
4 Trustee Warren, so it's not an entire two years. You
5 would have to reelect in the odd-numbered year in
6 accordance with the operating procedures.

7 TRUSTEE DORTCH: And the same hopefully with the
8 Vice Chair?

9 ATTORNEY THOMAS: Yes.

10 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Well, I guess the Vice Chair
11 position is technically vacant as well?

12 TRUSTEE CARTER: No, it's not.

13 ATTORNEY THOMAS: Well, it depends. Right, not
14 at this time.

15 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Okay. I just wanted us to be
16 clear. I think it's important as we move and maintain
17 forward in understand our responsibilities, so we
18 understand exactly what we're doing.

19 ATTORNEY THOMAS: You are.

20 TRUSTEE WASHINGTON: I have a quick question.

21 TRUSTEE CARTER: You're recognized.

22 TRUSTEE WASHINGTON: So you're saying we would
23 have to reelect a chair in the odd year, which would
24 be 2017. How does that correlate or correspond with
25 the new state law that requires the board to elect a

1 chair to serve a full two-year term?

2 ATTORNEY THOMAS: In accordance, that chair would
3 have -- the new chair that's selected subsequently
4 would have to serve the two-year term, but we're still
5 in the unexpired term, so we have to be in compliance
6 also with our operating procedures.

7 TRUSTEE CARTER: Trustee Woody.

8 TRUSTEE WOODY: With that said, I would like to
9 make a nomination to recommend to the board to elect
10 Kelvin Lawson as our Chairman.

11 TRUSTEE CARTER: Kelvin Lawson.

12 TRUSTEE GRABLE: Second.

13 TRUSTEE CARTER: Are there any further
14 nominations?

15 Okay. Thank you. We have only one candidate for
16 Chairman of the Board.

17 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Trustee Carter?

18 TRUSTEE CARTER: You are recognized.

19 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Simply follow rapid rules of
20 order. I move that the nominations come to close with
21 said one name.

22 TRUSTEE WOODY: Second.

23 TRUSTEE CARTER: All let it be known by the sign
24 of aye.

25 (All answer in affirmative.)

1 TRUSTEE CARTER: All those opposed, like sign.

2 So we are in order. Thank you, members.

3 We have one candidate for the Chair of the Board,
4 and that's Trustee Lawson.

5 All of those in favor, let it be known by the
6 sign of "aye."

7 (All answer in affirmative.)

8 TRUSTEE CARTER: All those opposed?

9 Congratulations, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Thank you. At this point, we
11 also have another order of business, and that is we
12 need to elect a Vice Chair.

13 As you heard, I was fortunate enough to be the
14 Vice Chair, and I'm even more fortunate enough to be
15 elected Chair, so thank you, but that does leave us a
16 vacancy in our Vice Chair position.

17 So at this point, Board members, I would open the
18 floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

19 Trustee McCoy?

20 TRUSTEE McCOY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like
21 to nominate Trustee Carter for Vice Chair.

22 TRUSTEE GRABLE: I would like to second the
23 motion.

24 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Thank you.

25 TRUSTEE WASHINGTON: I would like to nominate

1 Trustee Kimberly Moore.

2 TRUSTEE WOODY: Second.

3 TRUSTEE LAWSON: So moved and properly seconded.
4 We have two candidates. Are there others?

5 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Mr. Chair, so that we again, in
6 keeping our records proper and it then become a
7 document, this is to fill the unexpired term of the
8 current Vice Chair's position that's now vacant, so it
9 would be the remainder of that term?

10 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Yes, sir.

11 TRUSTEE DORTCH: All right. Now that we have
12 that clear, I move the nomination come to a close with
13 the said two names.

14 TRUSTEE WOODY: Second.

15 TRUSTEE MILLS: I have a third nominee. I'm
16 sorry, I have a nominee if I can.

17 TRUSTEE LAWSON: I'm sorry.

18 TRUSTEE MILLS: I would like to nominate Trustee
19 Washington for Vice Chair.

20 TRUSTEE SMITH: Second.

21 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Are there others? Are there
22 others for Vice Chair? If not, I will entertain a
23 motion to close.

24 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Mr. Chair, move that the
25 nomination come to a close with a second.

1 TRUSTEE WOODY: Second.

2 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Motion has been moved and
3 properly seconded. All those in favor, say aye.

4 (All answer in affirmative.)

5 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, we
6 are going to have to do a bit of a roll call vote,
7 obviously. So all of those -- I'll go in order of
8 nomination. So all of those in favor of Trustee
9 Carter, as your name is called, please respond by
10 saying aye.

11 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Roll call.

12 TRUSTEE LAWSON: I'm sorry. Great idea. So if
13 you could do roll call. And I would ask, for
14 clarity's sake, we're going to do a complete roll call
15 of the board; as your name is called, please voice
16 your recommendation as for the chair and that way
17 we'll only have to do the roll call once.

18 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Carter?

19 TRUSTEE CARTER: Carter.

20 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Dortch?

21 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Moore.

22 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Grable?

23 TRUSTEE GRABLE: Carter.

24 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Lawrence?

25 TRUSTEE LAWRENCE: Washington.

1 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Lawson?

2 TRUSTEE LAWSON: Moore.

3 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee McCoy?

4 TRUSTEE McCOY: Carter.

5 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Mills?

6 TRUSTEE MILLS: Washington.

7 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Moore?

8 TRUSTEE MOORE: Moore.

9 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Perry?

10 TRUSTEE PERRY: Moore.

11 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Reed?

12 TRUSTEE REED: Moore.

13 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Smith?

14 TRUSTEE SMITH: Washington.

15 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Washington?

16 TRUSTEE WASHINGTON: Washington.

17 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: Trustee Woody.

18 TRUSTEE WOODY: Moore.

19 TRUSTEE LAWSON: When you're done, can you give

20 us the official tally, please?

21 ATTORNEY BARGE-MILES: I'm doing it now.

22 Trustee Moore, six votes; Trustee Carter, three

23 votes; Trustee Washington, four votes.

24 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Congratulations for Trustee

25 Moore. It is somewhat typical for the Chair to give a

1 speech at this point, and I will spare you guys all of
2 that.

3 So I'll just say a couple of things. You've
4 heard it from a lot of constituents that spoke earlier
5 today. I love the school. That is the only reason I
6 am here. This is an unpaid position and it takes a
7 ton of time, so I'm here because I want to be here and
8 I am here to make a difference. What you can expect
9 from my administration is that we will make a
10 difference.

11 Next, we will have the President's Report from
12 Madam President.

13 TRUSTEE CARTER: Congratulations, Vice Chair
14 Moore.

15 TRUSTEE MOORE: Thank you very much. I
16 appreciate that.

17 PRESIDENT MANGUM: And let me join you in
18 congratulating the Chair, as well as the Vice Chair
19 Moore, on your election.

20 VICE CHAIR MOORE: Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT MANGUM: I'm looking forward to working
22 with you to move FAMU forward.

23 So good morning. Good afternoon, almost now,
24 members of the board. Thank you very much for this
25 opportunity.

1 I am going to take a little time to share with
2 you some of the things that Florida A&M University has
3 been doing, because we have had an exciting year and
4 we continue to have a lot of good things happening on
5 the campus.

6 So now I would like to just begin by inviting you
7 to look at the President's web page that we have that
8 boasts things that are happening at the University on
9 a regular basis. So any time you want to know what's
10 happening at FAMU and the things you won't see in the
11 regular news, you can look at the web page and you can
12 see all of the exciting things that our faculty are
13 doing or our students are engaged in on a regular
14 basis.

15 So, I think what they're showing you now on the
16 video monitor is some of the things you can have
17 access to. We've made a lot of progress in the last
18 two years since I've been here at Florida A&M
19 University. We've talked about education. We've
20 talked about education as a right and making sure that
21 our students have access to a quality education.

22 All of the efforts of our team has been to look
23 at the institution, evaluate what exists, and to turn
24 it to a place where our students will want to come to
25 FAMU, other students will want to come to FAMU and

1 that people will invest in this institution.

2 Being a "Best in Class" institution is something
3 that we continue to put forward as a method to
4 identify the quality of education and experiences that
5 our students can expect. We have also said that we
6 know that we are an HBCU, but that is not our mission;
7 that is not how we're driven. We're driven to provide
8 a quality education, and we want to provide the best
9 quality and education.

10 We will always be a Historically Black College
11 and University. It's a defined characteristic by the
12 federal government that allows us to receive funding
13 from the federal government and federal agencies to
14 advance our institution and to advance our mission.

15 We understand that our students that come to us,
16 come to us trusting that we are going to provide that
17 education and that we are going to provide that
18 quality. It has to change, however, with the changes
19 in our society. So we are not the FAMU of 1887, we
20 are not the FAMU of 1850s -- of 1957 or the 20th
21 century. Our goal is to be a 21st Century University
22 that prepares our students to be successful in today's
23 market and the markets of the future.

24 To do that, we have to transform. We have to
25 change the way that we do things. We have to provide

1 that customer service that you heard the students talk
2 about. They don't need to stand in long lines. They
3 don't need to wait to get their aid, and that's what
4 they've been doing.

5 So, we've been evaluating the institution to be
6 sure that we can be more effective and more efficient
7 in the services that they receive, but also, provide
8 them with the experiences that they will expect if
9 they attended any other quality institutions in these
10 United States.

11 Our students must be engaged. They must study at
12 home, but they also must study abroad. That's the
13 reason why we believe that we've expanded our presence
14 internationally, and we made that exposure available
15 to more students than just students in certain
16 disciplines. Our students have taken advantage of
17 those opportunities. Our faculty have taken advantage
18 of those opportunities. We provide opportunities in
19 Spain. They go to Haiti. They're in the Caribbean,
20 South Africa; they're all over the world. That's what
21 the students of today expect when they come to an
22 institution and that's what we are providing for our
23 students, and we challenge our faculty to incorporate
24 these activities into their curriculum and give our
25 students the exposure that they expect.

1 So we say, what's wrong with that? Honestly, it
2 requires us to meet a different standard of excellence
3 than what we've had in the past. And that's okay,
4 too, because our students expect it. When you talk to
5 them and when they communicate of over social media,
6 they're talking about experiences that other students
7 have, and they want to know why they can't have those
8 experiences here.

9 What we are experiencing now and we will continue
10 to experience is a lesson in change, in
11 transformation. Change is difficult. It's difficult
12 under the best of circumstances, even when you don't
13 realize you have a compelling reason to change. But
14 that's not our case. We have a compelling reason to
15 change. In order for us to answer questions about
16 continuing to be relevant, you have to make that
17 change and you have to show that you're changing to
18 respond to the needs of a changing society; a need for
19 changes in the educational outcomes that we have.

20 We're in a performance-based society.
21 Accountability. We talk about it and we talk about
22 quality. What's wrong with measuring our results?
23 What we looked at and what my team continues to assess
24 is what our metrics look like. We make decisions
25 based upon where we are, where we want to be;

1 understanding where we have been and making sure that
2 we are not repeating, I'm going to say, the
3 less-than-stellar outcomes of the past.

4 So we're pushing our students forward to make
5 sure we are truly a school of choice; that's a school
6 that any student that is interested in pursuing higher
7 education would attend, not because we provide an
8 opportunity for low wealth students or students who
9 would otherwise not have had an opportunity to go to
10 college, because they still need the same quality of
11 education that is available at every other institution
12 that they would attend.

13 We are committed -- make no mistake about it --
14 for providing opportunities for students that don't
15 get admitted in other places because of selective
16 criteria. We are committed to inclusion, but what we
17 want to do and when we include our students is provide
18 them with the opportunity to succeed; that is, to
19 provide the support that they need to get through
20 those difficult courses. That's what we do and that's
21 what we have reformed ourselves to do, and we expect
22 our faculty and our staff to provide those same
23 opportunities, and go that extra step, to make sure
24 our students understand and have that foundation they
25 need to pursue their dreams.

1 We are not trying to defer or deter their dreams.
2 We are trying to enable their dreams and that what's
3 we do on a daily basis. So, being a school of choice
4 means that our students will want to come. We have
5 been recognized as a school of choice by Essence
6 Magazine, by Money Magazine. They have highlighted
7 that African-American students in this country would
8 choose an HBCU, because of the experiences and support
9 that we provide over other institutions; given the
10 quality of the education that we provide.

11 So we have a lot of badges that support us as a
12 school of choice: Money Magazine, Essence Magazine.
13 They talk about the academic quality. They talk about
14 affordability, so we are affordable and we are
15 accessible and we will continue to provide these
16 opportunities for our students.

17 Smart Access says we're the Number 2 best value
18 in colleges. That means we aren't over-charging our
19 students, but what we want to do is make sure that our
20 students have access to the same type of facilities
21 that they would receive at another institution. That
22 means we are reinvesting the resources that we have
23 back into the facilities that we have; back into the
24 classroom experiences.

25 I think it's time out for, I'm just going to call

1 it redirecting the resources. Our whole focus is
2 putting the money back into the students' experience.
3 You will see all of the students, all of the programs
4 we have designed are designed to put money in the
5 students' pockets, money in our libraries, money in
6 the student support services, and money in the
7 facilities, and classrooms that will support our
8 students.

9 Last year, the performance funding model shows
10 that we are making the right decisions with regard to
11 providing support for our students. The performance
12 metrics exceeded. We exceeded our previous goal by 13
13 points, and that's a lot. Most people didn't expect
14 that we were going to make it; while we have always
15 met the state's standards.

16 We exceeded our previous year by 13 points, which
17 puts us in a position to receive performance funding
18 from the \$500 million that the state is providing for
19 its institutions, so we are proud of that, but that
20 came because our students committed themselves to
21 academic progress; our faculty committed to working
22 with our students, and our faculty also committed
23 themselves to putting more research grants in and
24 receiving more funding from external sources.

25 So we are moving together as a unit. We are

1 moving together as an institution in the right
2 direction; regardless of the decisions, we do make
3 decisions to make sure that our faculty -- as well as
4 our employees, staff and students -- are making
5 progress. And they are not aligned. We make changes
6 and we make decisions like any other organization.

7 We're looking for the maximum impact that all of
8 our employees and all of our students have. So we
9 will continue to make the tough decisions because
10 that's the only way we're going to get a different
11 outcome; providing asking people to give us their best
12 and do their best and reward them for it.

13 We have had a lot of student success efforts this
14 past year, and our ability to move the needle depends
15 on our students as well as our faculty. We've had a
16 large graduating class in 2015-16 than we've had in
17 several years. The new interdisciplinary studies
18 program assisted us in getting some of the students in
19 the system that were churning and not knowing what
20 they wanted to do or wanted to be, out of the
21 undergraduate education and ushering them into a
22 possibility of masters degree or a more focused
23 program.

24 So that's part of what we're doing. The
25 International Education office was supported more and

1 enriched to give us students opportunities in ways to
2 travel. We have students working with the Olympics in
3 Brazil. We have our ROTC students spent time in
4 Normandy and in Paris; a great experience for them.
5 They texted pictures back, because it gives them a
6 sense of what they're about, what they're doing, and
7 why they have given their life of service to this
8 country in the Armed Forces.

9 We have also experienced a higher licensure
10 passage rate in our nursing program, and there was a
11 lot of consternation about making sure that our nurses
12 had the quality of education to be able to become
13 nurses and pass that exam. We insist that our
14 students are prepared when they leave, and all of our
15 students that had some difficulty passed that exam.
16 In fact, we received a 78 pass rate for the first time
17 in 2015, which is very important for our students to
18 be successful. That's a more than six percent
19 increase. They know how difficult it is, because some
20 of them worked really hard to make sure that they
21 achieved that status. So we didn't have to redirect
22 them into another area. They stuck to it and they got
23 that passage rate up.

24 We are also stronger in our advisement program.
25 That means our students, we are getting better advice

1 on how to pursue college. We implemented new
2 software, new tutoring programs, and we increased the
3 personnel in that area. We were asked about how we
4 are supporting and what supports student success.
5 These are the things that got our students to a
6 successful career and successful college completion.

7 We strengthen our course offerings by
8 restructuring the courses, by redesigning the high
9 failure rate courses. Some of you probably know that
10 I visit and drop in on classes on the high failure
11 rate classes, on math and science and biology; to see
12 how the students are being instructed, but also to
13 provide the necessary support and assistance to the
14 faculty that are providing the courses for our
15 students. We move to a wrap-around support service
16 for our students in the math labs to give them the
17 support.

18 The basic point I'm making is our students need
19 the support. They had not been getting it to a degree
20 that gave them what they needed to be, to be
21 successful, and move from one course to another. That
22 also means that we have to assist our faculty in
23 faculty development and providing them with programs
24 that will give them an opportunity to enrich their
25 approach to teaching. Many of them attended the FAMU

1 leadership academy, participated in distance learning
2 certification programs, and overall, the Vice Provost
3 for faculty development has been studying and getting
4 opportunities to help our faculty improve their
5 communication and their presentation of material and
6 have been experimenting with it.

7 It takes the entire university. There's not one
8 thing we do to correct or ameliorate the problems. We
9 aren't covering them up. We are identifying them and
10 then we are addressing them.

11 I would like to spend the rest of my time,
12 because we are having great success, I believe, with
13 our students, as well as with our faculty, and that
14 shows in their research. Us moving from a research
15 one to a higher research status; that means they are
16 being more successful in getting their grants approved
17 at a federal level.

18 I will say, unofficially, that I got a text
19 yesterday from USD, from our congresswoman saying that
20 the USDA is going to give us another half-million
21 dollar to study water research and water quality.
22 That plays very heavily in our Brookfield area, so
23 we're really thankful for any increases we receive,
24 and I know our interim vice-president is excited as
25 well; was wondering where that money was going to come

1 from, so that's very helpful and it's helpful from our
2 faculty that do work in the environment and our
3 agricultural programs as well.

4 I would like to give a few recognitions to our
5 faculty, staff, and our students, because it is
6 extremely important that you recognize the work that
7 they are doing amidst all of -- what some say
8 confusion for us in academia is the order of the day.
9 That's what we do.

10 So first, I would like to start with asking
11 Dr. Maurice Eddington, Dean of the Science of College
12 and Technology, to join me in addressing to you the
13 newest edition to the Rattler family, Dr. Murray
14 Gibson; the newest Dean of FAMU and FSU College of
15 Engineering.

16 DR. EDDINGTON: Good morning members of the
17 Board of Trustees, Madam President, all of the
18 Provosts. I have the distinct honor and extreme
19 pleasure of introducing Dr. J. Murray Gibson as the
20 new Dean of the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering.

21 The search committee, which consisted of 16
22 members, equally representing both universities, set
23 out to identify highly qualified candidates who
24 possessed transformational leadership skills, as well
25 as the ability to effectively chart a new path for the

1 Engineering College.

2 The committee reviewed an outstanding pool of 52
3 candidates. 12 candidates were invited for first
4 round interviews, and from those 12 we selected five
5 for on-campus interviews.

6 The on-campus interview process involves sessions
7 with faculty, students, staff, administrators and
8 alumni. Their feedback was incorporated into the
9 committee's review process, and Dr. Gibson was
10 subsequently identified as the Committee's top choice
11 for the position.

12 Some of his previous professional appointments
13 include -- and this is just a small sampling --
14 serving as the founding dean of the College of Science
15 at Northeastern University; director of the advanced
16 photon source at Argon National Laboratory. That's
17 the nation's largest user facility; head of
18 electronics and photonics department at AT&T bell
19 labs; as well as being a professor at the College of
20 Engineering at University of Illinois, Urbano
21 Champagne, which is a Top 10 engineering college in
22 the country.

23 Dr. Gibson received his PhD in physics from the
24 University of Cambridge, and he is internationally
25 recognized scientist in the area of material

1 scientists.

2 He has published over 200 -- 200 -- peer reviewed
3 articles; has garnered in excess of \$100 million from
4 federal agencies. He has secured \$26 million via his
5 fundraising efforts, and he also holds five patents in
6 semiconductor technology.

7 Dr. Gibson's distinguished record of scholarship,
8 extensive leadership experience, significant
9 fundraising accomplishments, industry connections, and
10 strong track record on diversity made him an ideal
11 candidate for this position.

12 In addition, the committee was also very
13 impressed Dr. Gibson's enthusiasm for FAMU's mission
14 in our desire to be one of the nation's top producers
15 of minority engineers.

16 I can say as dean of the sister college, I am
17 extremely happy. I was serving myself by serving on
18 this committee, because as we all know, if engineering
19 is doing well, we're all doing well.

20 So with that, I want to introduce you all to an
21 outstanding candidate, Dr. J. Murray Gibson.

22 DR. GIBSON: Thank you, Maurice. I'm really
23 honored to get this position, so thank you. Thank you
24 for the time to meet with you and speak very briefly.
25 I'll stick to two minutes, I promise.

1 This is really an exciting opportunity for me. I
2 have always been attracted to opportunities, and this
3 is really an appealing place. It's probably unique to
4 do something truly significant on the national
5 engineering education stage, and the neatness comes
6 from the partnership.

7 We have here at FAMU a proud tradition as an HBCU
8 and a mandate to diversify engineering via showcase
9 for engineering education, so I am proud to come here
10 as a FAMU faculty member.

11 The partnership with FSU enables things no other
12 place in the US can do to really make progress in the
13 engineering education.

14 You may know this, but let me tell you some
15 statistics. While African-Americans make up 12
16 percent of the US population, only five percent of
17 engineers are African-American.

18 Women and Hispanics are similarly unrepresented.
19 This is a serious national crisis that has been
20 recognized. Intel has put up \$300 million to address
21 this issue in new ways. Google is seeking 1,000 new
22 engineers for underrepresented communities. The
23 National Science Foundation director has put out a
24 signature \$100 million initiative to find fresh and
25 new ways to address this problem, and I think we're in

1 a unique position to garner this support to our
2 bright, young people who don't understand that
3 engineering is a fantastic career opportunity. We
4 have to make that available to them. It not only is
5 very rewarding and creative, but the starting salary
6 amongst engineers are among the highest of all
7 graduates.

8 And I don't know if you know this, but if you
9 look at the Fortune 500, 33 percent of CEOs are
10 engineers undergraduates; only 11 percent were
11 business majors.

12 So it's of great economic importance to this
13 region that a top engineering school be developed.
14 Florida is not in great shape there. The best
15 engineering school in Florida is UF. It's ranked 43.
16 It's tied with my current institution, which I'll be
17 leaving here in a few weeks to come here.

18 I was, as mentioned, at one of the top schools,
19 which is tied with Georgia Tech right now. We need a
20 Georgia Tech in Florida, and it's a powerhouse-type of
21 a thing, and I think the opportunity exists here with
22 this unique partnership to make some progress, and
23 FAMU will be key to that success, and of course, it
24 will benefit both institutions.

25 So that's what got me excited about coming here.

1 And I'll just say that one of the things we have to do
2 right away is reverse the slide of the
3 underrepresented engineering community here and
4 increase the number of undergraduates from FAMU in
5 engineering. It has gone down rather dramatically in
6 the last decade, and I am going to be very aggressive
7 in recruiting and dealing with some of the issues that
8 President Mangum mentioned about retention, about
9 preparation, which are critical for engineers.

10 And I think it's a very exciting opportunity.
11 I've had some experience but I'm going to gain a
12 tremendous amount from the unique experiences here at
13 FAMU.

14 And finally, I want to say this is a great
15 opportunity. It has challenges. As President Mangum
16 said, change comes with opportunity, and this is a
17 fantastic opportunity and I'm committed to its
18 success. I'm honored to have the opportunity to do
19 this.

20 I will end by saying that my family, I have a
21 FAMU graduate and FSU graduate. My wife grew up in
22 Tallahassee, so for me that is an exciting nexus and I
23 am excited to be here.

24 Thank you.

25 PRESIDENT MANGUM: So thank you, Doctor Gibson.

1 We are really look forward to the great
2 achievements that's going to come from the College of
3 Engineering.

4 I would also like to acknowledge the presence of
5 Dr. Henry Williams, professor in the School of
6 Environment. He has been selected to service as an
7 American Society for Microbiology Distinguished
8 lecturer for a two-year term.

9 Dr. Billings is also a former ASM congressional
10 science scholar, and he's been recognized for his work
11 in the student mentoring and training of the sciences.
12 He has been regularly recognized globally as one of
13 the four most experts on the ecology of bacterial
14 predators, so thank you again, Dr. Williams.

15 Sharing Dr. William's passion for student
16 development and support is Brittanian Gamble, the
17 director of Undergraduate Student Success.

18 Brit, you want to stand up. This spring, the
19 Florida Academic Advising Association recognized
20 Ms. Gamble's work in leading the center and its
21 incredible staff with the outstanding advising
22 administrator award. She also served as principal
23 investigator on a grant that we received from the
24 Department of Education last fiscal year, for nearly
25 \$2 million, to support academic success.

1 So we are searching far and wide to make sure
2 that we leave no stone unturned and lead the way in
3 success for fulfilling the mission, so our staff also
4 write grants to help our students succeed.

5 We are moving forward with FAMU think tank. As
6 you see on the monitor there, Dr. Barbara Barnes,
7 Professor Emeritus and former Dean and former Provost,
8 and Vice-President of the Academic Affairs is chairing
9 the group. We have a stellar group of volunteers that
10 include retired and current faculty members working
11 with us. Is Dr. Barnes here?

12 Make some of the volunteers are here but I'll
13 just call their names. Dr. Anderson -- and if you're
14 a FAMU'n and you went through math, you probably know
15 Dr. Anderson, Malcom Barnes, Dr. Vivian Hobbs,
16 Dr. David Jackson, Colonel Ronald Joe (phonetic);
17 Dr. Ray Mobley, Joseph Roach, Vivian Roster and Bill
18 Tucker that you heard from earlier. That picture is
19 this group of people that advise me on things related
20 to Florida A&M. So they offer workshops, briefings,
21 forums and conferences, and conduct general advising
22 sessions and special studies for our students to help
23 move FAMU forward as people that continuously care and
24 provide their services to the University. So, I am
25 thankful for their continued volunteer service and

1 their participation at the university.

2 Our sustainability institute is also another
3 shining example of our efforts to provide students
4 with the strong academic foundation and a propensity
5 basically to solve some of the world's problems.
6 Devin Crother (phonetic) a student in the School of
7 Environment was recently selected as one of only 15
8 students to join the Environmental Protection Agency's
9 National Environmental Justice Advisory Council; youth
10 perspectives on climate work group.

11 The group will assist the Agency with developing
12 strategies and finding students to combat climate
13 change and to empower other young people to take on
14 that challenge. And speaking of the environment, our
15 research continues to excel in this area through
16 reaching across diverse disciplines.

17 Dr. Yuck Shi (phonetic) in the school of College
18 of Agriculture, and Dr. Gin Chin (phonetic) in the
19 College of Engineering recently joined forces to
20 conduct research on ways to enhance sole nitrogen
21 efficiency and reduce sole nitrous oxide emissions.
22 They were awarded nearly a half-million dollars by
23 USDA to support their research since the last time we
24 met.

25 Also in the College of Agriculture, Dean Robert

1 Taylor was recently recognized by the USDA for
2 completing six years of service to the congressionally
3 Mandated National Agricultural Research Education
4 Extension and Economic Advisory Board to the Secretary
5 of Agriculture, Thomas Vilsack (phonetic).

6 The student in agriculture (unintelligible)
7 Jordan, received top honors at the annual meeting of
8 the southern branch of the Entomological Society of
9 America for her recent presentation on southern green
10 stink bugs and their impact on tomatoes in North
11 Florida. She is one example of the many students
12 showcasing the academic strengths and talents across
13 the United States.

14 Our business students brought home the 1st place
15 prize of Black Enterprise Smart Case competition.
16 These students worked for four weeks and devised
17 solutions to problems of how banks can successfully
18 market financial products to millennials.

19 Their concept impressed the judges so much that
20 they were presented with the top industry award, and
21 it was presented to top industry executives.

22 The weeks before that, our students took home the
23 gold at the 27th Honda Campus All Star Challenge Quiz
24 Bowl Championship. That successful attempt brought
25 \$75,000 in grants back to the campus to help them with

1 their educational expenses.

2 Now, on to the sports arena. The MEAC recently
3 announced that nine of our students were name to the
4 2016 MEAC All Academic Baseball Team. The MEAC
5 recognizes the student athletes with 3.0 or better
6 GPA. So we do have excellence in athletics all
7 around, so I would like to congratulate Coach Jamie
8 Shouppe, who led the team this year to their
9 record breaking 31 wins.

10 What I would say, I am most proud of the work
11 that I our senior woman administrator is doing with
12 women and athletics. The Lady Rattler athletic teams
13 and that's Angela Suggs by the way. Angela is back
14 there.

15 It might not be well-known, but the lady Rattler
16 athletic teams brought home a share of the 2016 Mary
17 McLeod Bethune All Sports Award, tying with Bethune-
18 Cookman with a top all honors in the all sports tally.

19 The lady Rattlers also won conference titles in
20 cross-country, outdoor track and field, and softball
21 with Coach Darlene Moore and Coach Veronica Wiggins,
22 named the outstanding coaches of the year. We are
23 talking about six championships to one coaches and 12
24 championships for the other, so they are stars, so we
25 just wanted you to know that the Lady Rattlers are

1 making it happen.

2 The FAMU cheerleading team also won gold and
3 placed in the individual All Star Co-Ed and all-around
4 categories in the National NBAC Cheerleading
5 championship as well.

6 I guess I will be remiss if I did not
7 congratulate our baby Rattlers at FAMU DRS who took
8 home the girls basketball state championship. I think
9 that's the second year in a row for them as well.

10 What can we say? We are very proud of our
11 student athletes and their success on the field, but
12 also for their work in the classroom and their
13 commitment to community service. On any given
14 weekend, you may find our athletes mentoring young
15 people, or even serving meals to those that are in
16 need. The spirit of community engagement is echoing
17 across the campus among our students.

18 I am also proud to represent FAMU, but I
19 represented the University at Tallahassee Urban League
20 membership campaign. The university community helped
21 kick off the campaign from membership with the
22 Tallahassee Urban League. For more than 46 years the
23 Tallahassee Urban League made a difference in the
24 lives of our students in housing and youth services,
25 as well as crime prevention and victim services.

1 The members of the leadership team recently spent
2 time in the community participating in the elder care
3 services; that is, the Big Wheels Deliver Meals event.
4 We took the morning off and we joined all of the
5 members to the community to deliver meals to our
6 senior citizens. We spent time talking with them and
7 engaging with senior members of this community about
8 their needs to move forward with our educational
9 activity in the community; being able to engage with
10 our seniors and understanding that part of our
11 educational process is also remembering that we are a
12 lifelong learning community.

13 We are also going to participate in The Longest
14 Table, where the University will serve as one of the
15 hosts for the city-wide dining event that's coming up,
16 to foster a dialogue around breaking down racial,
17 cultural and other social and economic barriers in our
18 community.

19 And of course, I have to talk about the College
20 of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences because they
21 continue to set the bar in the community in outreach.

22 On June 2nd, the college's Center For Health
23 Equity, in partnership with the Tallahassee Housing
24 Authority, Leon County Schools, and the Orange Avenue
25 UTA, launched its Transforming Lives and Community

1 summer program. This summer program is designed to
2 inspire our youth through a promotion of health,
3 providing STEM and discovery-based learning. The
4 program is a component of the college's global and
5 domestic outreach initiative, which kicked off this
6 spring in South Africa when the college and students
7 adopted an orphanage and embarked on a new exchange
8 program.

9 FAMU continues to look for unique ways to provide
10 our students with a well-rounded educational
11 experience, and to connect our campus to the community
12 and vice-versa.

13 External relations. Very important. Recently,
14 we had the opportunity to host Senator-elect Joe
15 Negrón and other legislative and community leaders,
16 during a tour of our campus, which allowed them to see
17 our facilities, meet our professors, talk with our
18 students, and learn more about our programs and
19 offerings, and spend time in dialogue with our
20 students to learn more about their needs.

21 It was a very successful visit. They were
22 accompanied by members of the Board of Trustees as
23 well, and I believe that was a very fruitful
24 engagement for us as we visited and talked with the
25 Senator and members of the Legislature to talk with

1 them about what interests them most and what our most
2 important needs.

3 We are excited, also, about the "Ready, Set,
4 Jobs," or "Jobs 2 Degree" Summit that was held in
5 Orlando and about our participation in it. During
6 that event, which most of our Trustees attended,
7 Governor Scott issued a challenge: To keep college
8 affordable and to build strategies that help our
9 students graduate in four years.

10 We've been giving a lot of thought to getting our
11 students out in four years; in fact, we are giving
12 resources to those who graduate in four years, who
13 came and paid their own tuition, their own way.
14 That's very important, and we believe a pivotal
15 program for our students and incentive.

16 I'm also happy to report that the University
17 clearly accepted the Governor's challenge in the
18 Finish in Four to Save More. Our Provost had already
19 coined the "Out the door in four," so our students
20 understand that when they come in, that we expect them
21 to leave in four years if they're in a four-year
22 program, or even sooner, if they can now take
23 advantage of the new pale in the summer program.

24 So we're encouraging our students to take as many
25 courses as they can, and we're advising them along the

1 way to make sure they have what it takes to be
2 successful and to graduate and get a job. We're not
3 just interested in graduation; we are interested,
4 also, in making sure that they're ready for work.

5 The last section I have has to do with
6 anniversaries. I do want to highlight the fact that
7 the School of Nursing is celebrating its 80th
8 anniversary, the College of Pharmacy, its 65th
9 anniversary, and the FAMU Foundation, its 50th
10 anniversary, and Marching 100, its 70th anniversary.

11 And that is one thing I would like to mention
12 today. Before I would I do, I would like to back up
13 and say, Retool Your School was a competition that was
14 conducted nationally, and Home Depot invited people to
15 participate and vote for your school, and FAMU alumni
16 and friends voted -- in fact, more than six million
17 votes FAMU received, and it resulted us in receiving
18 \$30,000 of Campus Pride grant to help improve the
19 infrastructure. That was part of our sustainability.

20 These things bring our students in and engaged
21 them on a topic they should be focused on, the
22 environment the science, and it also makes them aware
23 of the needs on the campus. So they'll be improving
24 the campus just by paying attention and voting for the
25 university and showing their passion.

1 But back to the anniversaries. We have had a
2 stellar marching band, the Marching 100, and
3 Dr. Sylvester Young, who came back to the institution
4 to lead our band this last three years, with his
5 transformative leadership in that program, has decided
6 to rush to teaching full-time. But we do want to take
7 the time today to recognize his service and his
8 leadership of the Marching 100 through some very
9 difficult times.

10 Dr. Young, are you here? Now, the often
11 intimidated and never duplicated marching band does
12 have a new leader, so please support Dr. Shelby
13 Chipman, the new director of band program.

14 Congratulations, Dr. Chipman. Dr. Chipman is
15 excited for the University and our students, and he's
16 asking for your support by participating in the
17 recently launched "70 for 70" giving campaign,
18 designed to provide financial support for the needs of
19 the student. After all, it is their 70th anniversary
20 of the Marching 100, so please stop by and talk with
21 Dr. Chipman about how you can help our students.

22 These successes exemplify just how focused the
23 university community is in strengthening our brand,
24 building upon the rich legacy and insuring that our
25 students have every opportunity for success. So, as

1 we wrap up, we want to thank the alumni association
2 for their engagement and their distinguished alumni
3 awards and continuing to bring the alumni back to the
4 campus and also supporting our students with the "Save
5 Our Students" and their loan programs.

6 But as we continue to move the institution
7 forward and wrap up this fiscal year, we look forward
8 to implementing a revised strategic plan that focuses
9 on performance -- and we'll talk about that I'm sure a
10 little more this afternoon. I don't know when or how
11 we're going to get it all in, but I would just say I'm
12 very excited that as we head in to the new academic
13 year we are always inspired by the, what?

14 FAMU forever, backwards never. FAMU today, FAMU
15 tomorrow and FAMU forever.

16 Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Thank you, Madam President, for
18 your report.

19 The legal staff alerted me to one issue that we
20 have with the elections and we need to handle it in
21 the Sunshine, and hopefully it will be very brief.
22 The Vice Chair did not win by a majority, so we have
23 two options: Option one is we can have a run-off
24 between the two candidates that had the highest number
25 of votes; or as a board we can unanimously choose to

1 select Trustee Moore as the Vice Chair, because she
2 had the larger number of folks.

3 TRUSTEE CARTER: I would move that we elect Vice
4 Chair Moore by unanimous action of the board.

5 TRUSTEE DORTCH: Second.

6 Call the question.

7 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: All those in favor?

8 (All answer in affirmative.)

9 CHAIRMAN LAWSON: Motion carries, thank you.

10 Okay. We will break for lunch.

11 Attorney Barge-Miles, how much time? 30 minutes.

12 And we will return to move through our committee
13 reports.

14 Thank you.

15 (Thereupon, lunch recess was taken.)

16 (Thereupon, Volume I concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, Yvonne LaFlamme, Florida Professional Reporter
and Notary Public, certify that I was authorized to and
did stenographically report the foregoing proceeding; and
that the transcript is a true and complete record of my
stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
financially interested in the outcome of this case.

Dated this 4th day of JULY 2016.

Yvonne LaFlamme, FPR
Court Reporter
Notary Public
State of Florida at Large

