

New College of Florida Board of Trustees
Approved Minutes
Annual Meeting of September 16, 2006

Members Participating: Gen. Rolland V. Heiser; Warren Hudson; Bob Johnson; Marissa Krumm; Dr. Douglas Langston; Major Gen. Raymond E. Mason, Jr.; Kenneth Misemer; J. Robert Peterson; Col. Mickey Presha; Dr. Vicki Raeburn; Jane Smiley. **Not Participating:** Rev. Jerome Dupree; Elaine Keating.

Call to Order

Chairman Johnson called the Annual Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Acknowledgement of Notice of Meeting

Chairman Johnson requested and received acknowledgement that the Annual Meeting had been duly noticed on September 6, 2006. He announced that the Board elected officers last year for two-year terms, so elections this year are not necessary.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Misemer moved to approve the draft Minutes of the Meeting of June 10, 2006, seconded by Trustee Hudson. The Minutes were approved unanimously. Chairman Johnson announced that the Schedule of Meetings for 2006-07 would stand approved as distributed.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Johnson welcomed Trustee J. Robert Peterson, appointed by the Board of Governors last month to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Cranor's resignation. He reviewed Trustee Peterson's impressive credentials: naval service in World War II, law degree from the University of Pennsylvania, LL.M. in taxation from New York University, and many years of service at United Parcel Service as corporate officer and chief legal counsel. Trustee Peterson stated that it was a privilege to be on the NCF Board. Chairman Johnson noted that every day seems to bring more good news about New College of Florida in the media: the US News & World Report rating of the College as #1 public liberal arts institution in the US and the Groundbreaking Ceremony yesterday for five new dormitories. His greatest concern as Board Chair is keeping President Michalson at New College; many would like to hire him away. At the June 10th meeting, the BOT authorized him to work with Dr. Michalson on his three-year contract. Chairman Johnson asked the Board to extend the President's current contract to December 31, 2006 with a five percent increase in base salary with the understanding that he would present the new contract at a future meeting. He attributed the amazing successes of the last five years for the College to the leadership of President Michalson and his team, working together to administer the policies the Board set: hiring the best faculty, attracting the best students, and doing what he characterized as "pick and shovel" work. Chairman Johnson reported that New College Foundation, led by Trustee Raeburn, who is Chair of the Foundation Board, voted to become a direct support organization of NCF last week. Drafts of proposed changes of the Foundation's articles and by-laws have been forwarded to the Foundation by NCF General Counsel Pfeiffer. The Foundation has to adopt new by-laws before the College BOT can act to accept this change in status, probably at the November meeting. He also said that he expected to have some forward movement ready to report soon on the College's purchase of the Car Museum property from the Airport Authority. In order for the appraisals obtained independently by the Airport Authority and New College on property occupied by the Car Museum to be shared each other, an impasse had to be declared in the negotiations. The Airport Authority is under the jurisdiction of the federal government; New College operates under state government jurisdiction. The appraisals obtained by the Airport Authority (\$4.4 million) and New College (\$3.6 million) are quite far

apart. Chairman Johnson asked for authority from the BOT to purchase the Car Museum property from the Airport Authority within the price range of the two appraisals. Commenting on the proposed Land Use Institute, Chairman Johnson reported meeting with the president of the University of Florida and others to discuss this major research institute for the State of Florida to be headquartered in Sarasota. Sarasota County has offered five acres of land plus \$2 million and New College has included an allocation of more than \$800 thousand for it in its Legislative Budget for 2007-08. Chairman Johnson concluded by noting that the BOT Committee appointments are as listed, with the addition of Trustee Peterson to the Finance and Administration Committee. His motion to extend the president's contract to 12/30/06 with a five percent increase in base salary retroactive to July 1, 2006 was seconded by Trustee Heiser. Trustee Mason asked if this interferes with the base salary increases planned for faculty and staff; the answer was no. The motion was approved unanimously. Trustee Hudson moved to authorize the Chairman to execute a purchase agreement for the Car Museum property with the Airport Authority at a price between the two sets of appraisals; the motion was seconded by Trustee Raeburn and approved unanimously.

President's Report – State of the College Report

President Michalson also welcomed Trustee Peterson and thanked Chairman Johnson for his kind remarks. He noted that his State of College Report had been distributed, so his remarks would be an extension of that document. He commented on how serendipitous recent events have been for New College: the transfer of the leasehold; the move of USF; the US News & World Report rating; the master planning process, the groundbreaking. He reminded the Board that in June they approved the Legislative Budget Request for 2007-08, which included these three priorities: \$1.8 million for the second of three equal installments of “transition to independence” funding; \$492,000 for enhancements to the Pritzker Marine Science Center's mission; and \$840,000 for the Land Institute project described by the Chairman earlier. The Board of Governors approved all three “new money” priorities and the interface with the Legislature is just beginning. The \$1.8 million is being treated as a continuing obligation, so it is practically a consent item; the fate of the other two priorities remains to be seen. President Michalson commented that enrollment, by design, has fallen back to 740-750, a good thing in terms of maintaining the low student-faculty ratio and the percentage of students we are able to house on campus. This year is a much-needed timeout on enrollment growth; it will be a physically tough year ahead. Fences surround the five construction areas on the east campus, making navigation there difficult, and the construction noise has not even begun. While a bond issue funded the five new dorms, President Michalson expressed worry about funding renovations to Hamilton Center. The funds provided by the bond issue may not be sufficient to cover these renovations. These days, at most institutions, student centers are gleaming, state-of-the-art showplaces. NCF must find funding to update its outdated student living and dining facility or students will go elsewhere. The President welcomed new provost, Dr. Samuel Savin, who started work early, at an AAC&U Institute on student engagement in June with Trustee Krumm and others. The group returned with the idea of taking a fresh look at NC's founding principles, renewing and refreshing them in the current context. Their discussions contain seeds for a renewal of curricular planning. The need for greater diversity in curricular offerings at NCF was a major point made a few years ago by Dr. David Smith, an alumnus who served as Dean of the Faculty at Williams College. Dr. Smith is returning to talk about this again soon. President Michalson announced that NCF also is planning a series of annual speakers around Presidents Day, alternating between Washington and Lincoln experts. He added that Trustee Mason raised the issue that Florida no longer recognizes these birthdays as official holidays, so as an educational institution, NCF will take the lead. Next year NCF will have two new faculty members in Chinese language; experts in the field have suggested that this development involves the need for NCF to join a consortium so students will be able to spend time in China for language study. Dr. Michalson added that with respect to the President's

Evaluation, he appreciated the effort the Committee made to acknowledge his team. The team is the key to success and this all goes back to the Board, and being sensitive to the distinctions between setting policy and engaging in management. Trustee Raeburn asked if the Chinese professor would be teaching Mandarin; the answer was yes.

Legislative Update

Pat O'Connell and Hugh MacMillan reported that the people in Tallahassee think all is going well. According to Pat, five years ago, the concern in the capital was all about the separation from USF and how could NCF survive as an independent member of the State University System; now the Senate staff is asking NCF's advice on the steps necessary to create a new public institution. Some of those in leadership roles only know NCF as an independent member of the SUS. She noted that Chairman Johnson, President Michalson, and John Martin, Steve Pfeiffer and General Heiser are all highly regarded in the capital. When NC students come to Tallahassee, it is clear that the College deserves the accolades it receives. Mr. MacMillan agreed and said that the fact that NC faculty all hold the Ph.D. or the terminal degree in their field conveyed a lot. He relayed a comment from a key government staffer: "It's about time we started taking care of someone [NCF] who can deliver."

New College Foundation Report

Mr. John Cranor, President and CEO of New College Foundation, reported that Chancellor Rosenberg asked the Foundation to consider becoming a direct support organization (DSO) last spring. Foundation Chairman Raeburn appointed a Task Force to look into the ramifications and the New College Alumnae/i Association appointed its own Task Force. Dr. Raeburn talked to both Task Forces and to the Chancellor. The Foundation Board met on Monday and voted to seek DSO status from NCF. Chairman Raeburn appointed another Task Force to evaluate and modify the Foundation's by-laws, revising them to comply with DSO requirements. The revised by-laws should be approved by the Foundation in time for consideration at the BOT's November 4th meeting. Mr. Cranor said NCF's independence within the SUS and the success it has enjoyed, plus the fact that the Foundation faced the prospect of losing its eligibility for state matching funds if it did not become a DSO convinced all but the most stalwart defenders of Foundation independence that it was time to become a DSO. Secondly, Mr. Cranor announced that in honor of Rhoda Pritzker, the Libra Foundation of Chicago has made a \$2 million gift to New College, which should be matched by state funds bringing the total to \$4 million. The Foundation has a testamentary gift in hand of between \$2 and \$2.7 million, plus another in excess of \$1 million, both subject to state match. Thirdly, he indicated that the Foundation is looking for record yield among alumnae/i solicitation in terms of percentage of participation as well as dollars donated. The fourth development he reported on was the Foundation's seeking funding from project-based grant proposals to other foundations; an amount somewhere in the low millions is anticipated from such sources this year.

Campus Master Plan Report

Mr. Jono Miller, Chairman of the Campus Master Plan Steering Committee, reported a final draft of the Campus Master Plan should be ready for the Board's consideration at the November 4th meeting. Creating this master plan has been the most participatory process in the College's history, he said, but many people, including the new Provost and the incoming students have not had a chance to comment and there is at least one issue on which the Committee does not have consensus. Mr. Miller reminded the Trustees that at their last meeting, Dr. Rick Coe, Chair of the Social Sciences Division, questioned the site north of the library as the best location for the College's next major building. Fortunately, both Dr. Coe and Master Plan Consultant Stefanos Polyzoides were able to attend the most recent Steering Committee meeting. Each spoke to the issue and the Committee members weighed in. While the majority of members support the plan as

drafted, the Committee has left the matter open for further discussion. Following two more campus meetings this week, the Steering Committee will meet to recommend adoption so that they can take public comment. The comment process will consist of “an informal public information session” followed by a public hearing, and then the Steering Committee will meet roughly a month from now and decide if any changes are warranted. Mr. Miller stated that he anticipated the Master Plan would come before the Board on November 4th. Once BOT approval is in hand, the document will be forwarded to local governments and State agencies for review and comment. Obviously, the Master Plan is closely linked to the new residence halls and, for instance, the storm water management for east campus resulting from the new dorm construction will be imported into the plan. In addition, in anticipation of a new commitment to the campus landscape, President Michalson has announced the creation of a Landscaping Advisory Group. Mr. Miller concluded by noting that the final composition of that group is being determined, but it should hit the ground “planting” as the Master Plan is finalized.

Academic Affairs Committee Report

Trustee Misemer, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met earlier that morning with Provost Savin, whom he asked to make the report. Dr. Savin stated they had discussed the AAC&U Institute in Utah which Wendy Bashant, Maribeth Clark, Julie Morris and Trustee Krumm attended in June. They worked in a facilitated manner on a problem they had brought with them to chew on, how to tie Academic Affairs and Student Affairs together more closely to enhance the student experience, and then began to look at more general questions, such as how to enhance the academic program and student experience at New College. They asked themselves to what extent do we adhere to the founding or underlying principles, and is this good or bad? Should we be reconsidering these principles? The resulting document, “Realizing the Promise of New College,” is designed to engender discussion across the campus community about adhering, modifying or coming closer to these principles in order to make the New College educational experience even better.

Audit Committee Report

Trustee Raeburn, Audit Committee Chair, reported that the Audit Committee met prior to the full board meeting and that no items are forthcoming today for BOT action. The Committee discussed the Audit Committee Charter draft, designed to address concerns of the Sarbanes Oxley legislation on compliance, which will be modified and brought to the full Board on November 4th.

External Affairs Committee Report

External Affairs Committee Chair Smiley reported that the Committee had met at 9:00 A.M. and followed an agenda established by Director of Public Affairs Jake Hartvigsen. Mr. Hartvigsen summarized the meeting, reporting first on the number of media mentions that New College received in the first 267 days of 2006: New College received 156 different mentions in newspapers, magazine articles and television news, in 25 different media markets around the country and in every major market in Florida. He noted that key themes are being implemented, developed from the first comprehensive alumnae/i survey conducted by the Office of Public Affairs, in conjunction with New College Foundation and NCAA that he reported on at the last meeting. Eight key branding words, “i-words” (intellectual, independent, inspired, intense, involved, individualized, intimate, innovative) are being integrated into the College’s communications, particularly the advertising campaign and the next cycle of admissions materials. The “i-words” are featured on the banner-wrap on the construction fencing facing US 41, a location that provides maximum public exposure to passing motorists. The new Gateway entrance signage, “New College of Florida, Founded 1960,” will build campus identity, as will the “wrap.” Mr. Hartvigsen reported that the Committee discussed the media partnerships with Sarasota *Herald-Tribune* and ABC-7, which has netted the College good exposure and \$20,000 in

free in-kind advertising. He concluded by noting that Dean Killion's report on the in-coming class revealed that both quality indicators and the number of applications are up, selectivity is up, and the public affairs and admissions effort are keeping up with that pace.

Finance and Administration Committee Report

Chairman Johnson reported he chaired the Committee meeting earlier in the morning. He asked Vice President Martin to report on their main item of business: a review of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between New College of Florida and the Florida Public Employees Council 79, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO ("AFSCME"). AFSCME and the College spend last year negotiating this contract. The State of Florida has maintained a long standing contract relationship with AFSCME for years, so the negotiators did not have to start from scratch. The Committee voted to recommend ratification of the contract to the Board with one modification in Article 7, Wages, Item 7.1a and 7.1b: the three percent increase for this year will be based on employees rate of pay as of *September 30* rather than *June 30*. AFSCME ratified the contract on September 16th with this modification. Vice President Martin asked for a motion to ratify the agreement as presented. Trustee Raeburn so moved, seconded by Trustee Misemer and the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between New College of Florida and the Florida Public Employees Council 79, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO ("AFSCME") was ratified unanimously.

Student Affairs Committee Report

Trustee Smiley noted that the Committee had met yesterday for lunch and discussion, and asked Dean Bashant to report on the proceedings. Dean Bashant predicted the year would be challenging but upbeat, students are excited about the future, and the new construction. Fences are up all over the East Campus and disruptions in air conditioning, etc. are many. Her goal is to keep people informed. Students contributed to design of new halls and are very much invested in the construction. Dean Bashant introduced her five new staff members to the Student Affairs Committee yesterday, and read their names, the fine institutions they have come from, and their fields of undergraduate study for the Trustees. Robin Bier, Oberlin, Environmental Studies, with a Conservatory degree in Voice is the new Resident Director (RD) for Health and Wellness; Thaddaeus Morelock, Luther College, Africana Studies and English, who spent last year at Wartburg College in Iowa, is RD for Gender and Diversity; Lacy Spraggins, Carleton, Psychology, is RD for First-Year Programs. Graham Bier, Oberlin, Environmental Studies, is also on staff as the Dean's assistant. These young staffers are living in the residence halls and will be mentors and facilitators in all areas, bringing the academic world into their lives. She noted that Meghan Rimelspagh, an NCF 2005 graduate is also new to the Student Affairs staff as a VISTA volunteer coordinator, thanks to a federal grant; she spend last year as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bangladesh.

Presidential Evaluation Committee Report

Trustee Heiser reported that Trustees Keating, Presha, and he worked over the summer to prepare a draft of this year's Presidential Evaluation Report after reviewing President Michalson's list of accomplishments, the NCF faculty's evaluation report summary, and comments from individual Trustees. The Committee met on August 24, 2006 to review the report, which was then adopted and sent to all members of the Board. Trustee Heiser moved to accept the draft Presidential Evaluation Report 2006, it was seconded by Trustee Mason, and approved unanimously.

Statement of New College Priorities for 2006-07

President Michalson stated that the second of his priorities, distributed earlier, is aimed at giving substance to bringing academic and student affairs together. It is driven by what a residential liberal arts college is all about. At most SUS institutions, less than 15 percent of the students live

on campus. Residence life is not a priority for the large state universities that are focused on getting students in and out quickly, educated to fill critical jobs in the state. A residential college is distinctive in that it has the opportunity to focus on character formation, the development of the whole student, and instilling a sense of responsibility for the whole community in its students. Trustee Raeburn moved to adopt the Statement of Priorities for 2007-2008 as proposed by President Michalson, seconded by Trustee Heiser, and they were approved unanimously.

Other Business

Trustee Mason mentioned that he was overwhelmed by the youthfulness of the New College faculty at the Faculty Dinner last night. He also noted that we tend to take our country for granted and was delighted to hear from the President that the College would be recognizing Washington's and Lincoln's Birthdays with a speaker series. He suggested the Board might start each meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Johnson notified the Board members that the NCF telephone numbers will change soon. Notification of new numbers will be provided.

President Michalson told the Board that he had expected the MGT Report on Salary and Benefits, which the College commissioned for comparative analysis, to be completed by now. The UFF negotiations are on hold until this critical information is received. General Counsel Pfeiffer indicated that he had received the benefits portion of the report yesterday, while the salary portion is still pending. The full final report must be in hand before the negotiations go forward.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne L. Janney
Assistant Secretary