

MINUTES

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS**

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HELD IN

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

May 2, 2014

(Approved September 3, 2014)

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
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Chairman Phil Adams convened a special workshop meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, at 8:39 a.m., Friday, May 2, 2014, in the Board Meeting Room, on the campus of Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Phil Adams, Chairman
Mr. Cliff Thomas, Vice Chairman
Mr. Anthony Buzbee
Ms. Elaine Mendoza
Ms. Judy Morgan
Mr. Jim Schwertner
Mr. Morris Foster
Mr. John D. White
Mr. Nicholas Madere (Student Regent)

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Charles Schwartz

Chairman Adams announced that a quorum was present. He said over the past year significant time and effort had been spent trying to focus on some of the critical future challenges facing The Texas A&M University System and higher education in general. He added that this meeting was the next step in this important objective. Chairman Adams asked Chancellor John Sharp and Dr. Richard Chait, Professor Emeritus, Harvard Graduate School of Education, to introduce the special guests who would serve as panelists and to describe the format of the meeting. He said no Board action would be taken.

The following speakers were introduced and each gave introductory comments: Professor Dave Frohnmayer, President Emeritus & Professor of Law, the University of Oregon; Dr. John V. Lombardi, Professor of History, Associate Director of Libraries and Director of the Measuring Performance Center, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Dr. Katharine Frase, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, Global Public Sector, IBM Corporation; and Dr. Jorge A. Vanegas, Ph.D., Dean, College of Architecture, Texas A&M University.

Dr. Chait presented questions to each panelist and moderated discussion between the speakers. Professor Frohnmayer provided information on the current challenges facing higher education, including research, cutbacks in government support, competition from for-profit education providers and foreign universities, and emerging technological changes. He also discussed the Lincoln Project, an initiative of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, on which he serves as a member of the executive committee. Dr. Lombardi discussed university rankings based on his research and the material presented in *The Top American Research Universities*, which he co-authored. Dr. Frase provided information on the impact of technology and new innovations on the future of higher education. Dr. Vanegas addressed future challenges facing higher education and The Texas A&M University System specifically based on his research efforts and experience at Texas A&M.

The meeting was recessed at 10:13 a.m. and reconvened at 10:28 a.m.

Next, continuing with the topics presented earlier, Dr. Chait moderated a Q&A discussion between the panelists and Board members including identifying rankings that really matter, selecting and attracting good people who are strategic thinkers, infrastructure and facility needs for the future, the role of a system versus a university, attention to revenue and expenses, how to achieve desired strategic outcomes and innovative reward systems and ways to incentivize.

Chairman Adams thanked Dr. Chait and the panelists for their excellent and thoughtful presentations and discussion. He recessed the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

At 1:05 p.m., Mr. Adams reconvened the meeting and called on Mr. Billy Hamilton, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, to discuss the System presentation of key long-range issues including financial direction and focus, demographics, role and opportunities for regional universities, the flagship and the System, long-term financing of capital facilities, affordability, maximization of external assets, the System's role in the future of Texas and educational excellence for the System.

After discussion of the long-range issues presented, the Board discussed issues going forward including demographics, capital facilities, fiscal sustainability and research.

There being no further business, Chairman Adams adjourned the meeting at 1:39 p.m., the same day.

Vickie Burt Spillers
Executive Director, Board of Regents