



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Foundation, Inc.

UCF Foundation Board of Directors New Board Directors Orientation

August 16, 2024, at 9:30 AM EDT to 3:00 PM EDT
UCF FAIRWINDS Alumni Center
12676 Gemini Boulevard North
Orlando, FL 32816

Members Present:

Brian Butler, *Chair*, Matt Assenmacher, Teresa Borchek, Cary D’Ortona, Manish Hirapara, Karen Manglardi

Members Absent:

None

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Brian Butler H’22, Chair, UCF Foundation Board, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

II. Orientation Discussion

Chair Butler, and Rodney Grabowski, Senior Vice President, UCF Advancement and Partnerships, and Chief Executive Officer, UCF Foundation, Inc., led discussion on the following item:

A. DISC-1: Thought Leadership with Rod Grabowski, CEO, UCF Foundation, Inc.

Chair Butler began the meeting by welcoming the newly appointed Elected Directors and provided the framework for the morning’s discussion. Directors were invited to introduce themselves and share their connection to and passion for the university. Rod Grabowski shared his background in higher education and journey to UCF. Grabowski outlined high-level strategic priorities for the Advancement and Partnerships division with a focus on enhancing the way the university tells its story and increasing alumni involvement.

Grabowski highlighted recent wins within the division, including exceeding the \$100 million attainment goal for two (2) years running, a goal that was set forth to be achieved in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 per the UCF Strategic Plan. He also discussed potential challenges related to campaign planning. The board members engaged in discussion on how they can help to impact success in the coming year and throughout their first term.

Chair Butler, and Rodney Grabowski, Senior Vice President, UCF Advancement and Partnerships, and Chief Executive Officer, UCF Foundation, Inc., led discussion on the following item:

B. DISC-2: Strategic Issues with the Advancement and Partnerships Executive Team

Grabowski introduced the Advancement and Partnerships division’s leadership team.

- Joe Allwood, Associate Vice President, Advancement Operations, UCF Advancement and Partnerships
- Craig Erwin, Chief Financial Officer, UCF Foundation, Inc. and, Associate Vice President for Accounting and Finance, UCF Advancement and Partnerships
- Michael Harding, Associate Vice President, Partnerships, UCF Advancement and Partnerships

- Heather Junod '98, Associate Vice President, Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving, UCF Advancement and Partnerships
- Sean Hartman, Interim Chief Communications and Marketing Officer, UCF Communications and Marketing
- Rachel Schaefer '18MNM, Associate Vice President, Chief of Staff and Campaign Director, UCF Advancement and Partnerships
- Gina Sholtis, Senior Associate Vice President, Development, UCF Advancement and Partnerships
- Richard Welsh, Senior Associate General Counsel, University of Central Florida, was introduced, but not present.

The Elected Directors sought ways to support the team in achieving the division's goals. The leadership team outlined the scope of their work and its alignment with the University's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. Key themes included the emphasis on increasing the endowment to achieve preeminence, a primary goal of the University. From an operational standpoint, the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) was noted as a significant enhancement to the division's work. The leadership team also discussed strategies for developing enterprise-level partnerships with corporations. There were discussions on communication efforts to ensure the University's mission and values are effectively represented, which directly impact fundraising efforts. The discussion also touched on optimizing the UCF Foundation's real estate assets and addressing the challenge of potential vacancies and the need to backfill vacant spaces.

III. Closing Remarks and Announcements:

Chair Butler thanked the Elected Directors and staff for their participation. The next meeting of the UCF Foundation Board is scheduled for October 23-24, 2024.

IV. Adjournment:

Chair Butler adjourned the meeting at 2:32 p.m.

Approved by the UCF Foundation Board of Directors on **October 24, 2024**.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Dana Patton
2024-11-01 01:39 UTC

Dana Patton '93, *Secretary*, UCF Foundation Board of Directors

Minutes prepared by: Ronney Demosthene, *Coordinator, Foundation Board Relations*, UCF Advancement and Partnerships