



## Florida A&M University

### National Alumni Association, Inc.

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RECORDING SECRETARY

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**Florida A&M University National Alumni Association (FAMU NAA)**  
**Executive Council (Executive Board and Chapter Presidents) Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 8, 2016**

### Call to Order

President Clark Called the Meeting to order.

### Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Recording Secretary. The roll recognized all executive board members, all Chapter Presidents, and then removed all other persons not authorized to be on the call.

### Executive Board Members

Past President, Recording Secretary, Far West Member-At-Large, Financial Secretary, Parliamentarian, Florida Region Vice President, Media and Technology, Executive Assistant, Mr. President, Executive Assistant, Northeast Region VP, Executive Director, Audit, 3rd Vice President, Southern Region VP, Past President, Southern Member-At-Large, 2nd Vice President

### Chapters

New York, Capital City Chapter, Leon County, Marion County, Las Vegas Chapter, Central Mississippi Chapter, Birmingham, AL Chapter, New Orleans, LA (NOLA) Chapter, Northern Virginia Chapter, Sarasota/Manatee County Chapter, Central Ohio Chapter, Capital City Chapter, South Dade Chapter, Charlotte, NC Chapter, JRE E Lee / Jacksonville Chapter, Southwest Georgia Chapter, Massachusetts Chapter, Washington D.C. Chapter, Orlando Chapter, Peachtree Chapter, Broward County Chapter, Brevard County Chapter, Columbia, SC Chapter, Dallas / Fort Worth Chapter, Tampa Chapter, Chaplain / Raleigh Durham, NC Chapter, Palm Beach, Metro Atlanta Chapter, St. Lucie, Miami-Dade County, Southwest Florida Chapter, Fayetteville, NC Chapter, Montgomery Chapter, Gold Coast Chapter, Madison County

### Identified Callers

Carolyn Collins, Gregg Bishop NYC, Dr. Leila Walker, Victor Gaines, Artisha Polk, Anne McKinney, Carolyn Jones, Kim Cowan, Regina Gardner, Reggie Mitchell, Sr., Van Russ, Angela Bledsoe, Derrick Singleton, Juanita Moore, Mary Smith, Kim Cowan, Jean Downing,

Chantel Black, Sharon Duncan, Thomas Mitchell, Sr., Tirrell Hamilton, Floyd Hill, Steven Roberson, Kristin Harper, Anne McKinney, Marian Gibbons, Victor Gaines, Greg Clark, Nichole Phillips, Dr. Leila Walker, Akunna Olumba, Kathy Times, Lenard Franklin, Freddie Young, Gen. Leroy Bell, Magaleda Youcin, Cassie Farmer, Carmen Cummings, Irene Walker, Nedra Speights Fortson, Atyia Allen, Artie Polk, William Youmans, Tony ?, Chuck Lewis, Gioia Bufkin, Apryl Freeman, Marcus Leach, Gerald Jenkins, Wendell Dougins, Mary Smith, Keith Shannon, Yolanda Pinkard, Carolyn Collins, Skip McLemore, Donita Williams, Denetra Collins, Shaquesa Zigler, Melody Jacobs, Dr. Jabari Prempeh, Lynnete Wims, Nicole Jones, Travis Jones

## **Invocation**

Opening Prayer was done by Chaplain Keith Shannon.

## **Statement of the Agenda**

President Col. Gregory Clark called the meeting to order and immediately turned the meeting over to the invited Past FAMU President Fred Gainous to "...allow Past President and United Faculty of Florida Union President Dr. Elizabeth Davenport to give the pulse of students and faculty." President Clark further stated that he will get a summary of what transpires.

Afterwards he wanted to get a pulse from each Chapter as to what the NAA should do going forward. He reminded us that some people think that we should remain neutral. But the President reminded us that he does serve on the FAMU BOT's "President's Evaluation Committee and he will ensure that an evaluation is written and he wants your feedback.

President Clark stated that these meetings are for Chapter Presidents. This meeting is not for all members. Before we left the Executive Council call on June 1<sup>st</sup>, the minutes were already on social media.

President Dr. Gainous

It saddened him that the University is in such turmoil.

He doesn't like the possibility of allowing someone of her \_\_\_\_\_? BOT to shepherd the University.

He has been tasked with talking about the legacy of FAMU. As President he sat through 27 meetings in 30 months. He doesn't see how this administration moves forward. There have been failed attempts to remove the President, the BOT has said things about the administration. He doesn't like how they sound, but find truth and credibility in the statements.

There need to be a major infusion of wisdom, intelligence, and loyalty to FAMU. Mostly in academic programming, vision, set of goals, roadmap for the future of how to get there regardless of who sits in the President's Chair.

His task is not to question the BOT decision either one way or the other, but to support their decision.

President Gainous then began to take questions from the Chapter Presidents.

If he were with the Southern Accreditation of Colleges and Schools (SACS), he is sure that they would have someone at the BOT meeting on both days. SACS previously urged him to file complaints against FAMU, but he refused to do so.

The Legacy Group did sign a letter not to support the contract extension of President Mangum.

Gregg Bishop, New York Chapter President asked a question regarding the State of the University and current climate of the Florida State University System (SUS).

If the BOT does not renew the President's contract, how do we prevent becoming another South Carolina State or other University? How quickly can we get leadership?

President Gainous doesn't think it's a matter of quickness. He hopes the BOT brings someone to sit in the President's chair that can address seven (7) or more specific issues related to FAMU.

Carolyn Collins asked President Gainous about the inadequate supply of students. She wanted to know his opinion of not having General Studies; special funding for waivers to bring students from out-of-state for border state students like UWF and enrollment.

President Gainous stated that students who can learn should be admitted, especially given America's history.

Doris Hicks stated that in some cases when our students are denied admission to FAMU, they are eligible to USF or other universities. How does that happen?

President Gainous responded that there is a disconnect between the FAMU Admissions Office and the applications process. President Larry Robinson's daughter never got a response from the University when she applied. He cannot tell you why it is so slow between application and admission. This fact has dogged the institution.

Derrick, Central Mississippi Chapter asked a question about the Brooksville Land No one's gone to Washington to get more for it. Is there anyone on campus or BOT, or a Committee that outlines our deficiencies?

President Gainous responded that there is an advisory Committee for Brooksville. The Vice President for Institutional Research Patricia Green Powell is in charge. The massive land takes experience to supervise that land.

President Clark thank President Emeritus Gainous for participating on the call.

## **BOT Presidential Evaluation**

In order to help the FAMU NAA President decide what to do with his FAMU Presidential Evaluation, he wants to quickly hear from the Chapter Presidents. He doesn't want to hear long drawn out comments especially if you haven't surveyed the chapter members.

### **Roll Call of Chapter Comments**

#### **Jerry, Dallas / Fort Worth, Texas**

They didn't have enough information to make an informed decision. He thinks they will rely on President Clark's judgment.

#### **Brian Moses, Houston, Texas**

The general consensus is to keep President Mangum. They want stability and see improvement.

#### **Washington, Greater Dayton, Ohio Chapter**

Does not think that the NAA should remain neutral. He recommends that we take a position one way or another based upon facts and not emotion.

#### **Kristin Harper, Central Ohio Chapter**

Their chapter voted unanimously not to renew President Mangum's contract. It was heart breaking, but based upon her unprofessional conduct.

#### **Sebastian Alexendar, New Jersey Chapter**

Not an overall consensus from their chapter. He speaks individually and in agreement with the Vice President on behalf of the Chapter that the body needs to give her a chance to prove herself.

#### **Gregg Bishop, New York Chapter**

The majority feel that the President should be given another chance for the sake of stability.

#### **Dr. Artie Polk, Washington Chapter**

There were a small number of persons who responded to canvas. The NAA should not take a position on whether the contract should be renewed. There were twelve (12) responses total.

#### **Latia, Massachussets Chapter President**

She surveyed Chapter with three (3) responses. One (1) doesn't understand, and two (2) desire to allow contract to expire.

#### **Derrick, Central Michigan**

They had a less than ten percent (10%) response rate. The recommendation, however, was keep her, offer to tell BOT to pound sand. He declined to insert his feelings, but we need to have a “come to Jesus” moment.

**Xavier Durden, Southwest Tennessee**

From an anonymous poll, the majority are in favor of extending contract for sake of stability.

**Columbia, SC**

They got 0 responses.

**Melody Jacobs, Fayetteville/Fort Bragg, South Carolina**

Of all who responded, they recommended to extend.

**Nedra Speights Fortson, Southwest Georgia Chapter**

She called a meeting and polled 15 people. Nine (9) responded that they support the renewal of President Mangum’s contract. Found out information of a higher level view positive direction.

Chanel Black, NOVA

There was little response from the e-mail. The Chapter Board, however, don’t feel that the NAA should take a stance. Haven’t seen anything negative, so they would like to have her extended. Didn’t have enough information as to facts regarding the extension.

**FLORIDA REGION**

**Anne McKinley, Marion County**

They had a meeting yesterday. There were 19-20 people in membership in favor of Dr. Mangum. We do need to improve communication, but we need stability.

**Dwayne Corker, Gadsden County**

The majority of the chapter are in support of continuity. They want to see improvement across the board, but understand the political climate is not good. She is bringing about a change long overdue. She and the BOT should sit down and roundtable.

Lucretia, Southwest Florida Chapter

She polled the chapter and got 9 responses. Six (6) called for the termination of Dr. Mangum, but implement stability; three (3) voted to keep her, and resolve personality issues.

Cole Corley, Volusia County Chapter

They had a chapter meeting. The majority support President Mangum. They asked that we stop the infighting and stop admitting students who don't qualify for admission.

William Youmans, Orange County Chapter