University of North Florida

Board of Trustees Meeting with Chancellor Criser

Adam Herbert University Center

June 18, 2019

# MINUTES

Chair Hyde recognized Chancellor Criser and thanked him for coming today to speak to the Board. Chancellor Criser stated we just concluded the June Board of Governors meeting last week, which he indicated was one of the largest meetings in terms of attendance. He briefly acknowledged the four new appointments to the Board of Governors that attended:

* Kent Stermon
* Eric Silagy
* Brian Lamb
* Steven Scott

Chancellor Criser discussed the importance of the State University System, serving the medical needs of the state. Over the past forty years, Florida has experienced a serious shortage of nurses, and that continues to be the case today. It is projected the need will continue to increase into the future, and we need to prepare to meet that need.

This summer, the Board of Governors will be studying performance funding as dictated by the legislature. Performance funding is working. Chancellor Criser stated this is the 3rd year in a row Florida has been ranked as the best state for higher education according to US News & World Report. We must now work very hard to understand where we are, where points of improvement are, and where Florida has the ability to succeed. We want to retain that ranking. It is important to parents, as well as students, in determining their school of choice. The ability to have 12 institutions working together is one of the areas where we should be focused. The question is how we communicate what Florida is doing as a system so everyone will want to come here. Trustee Tanzler asked what can we do to make sure we continue to receive funding from the state legislature. Chancellor Criser replied the last six legislative sessions, we have seen an increase in state funding. Our ability to have state support depends on how we translate the priorities that every Floridian can get excited about into our plans and be fiscally accountable. Even if we don’t have a recession, which seems less likely now, we need to be prudent and use the funding to the best interest of our state. It’s also our responsibility to communicate with our stakeholders.

Trustee Bryan asked do you see online courses having any effect drawing students to Florida. Any steps we should be taking? Chancellor Criser answered Florida is the first state to create a goal that 40 percent of undergraduate credit hours will be online by 2025. The emphasis is on high quality. If we see growth, we have the ability to follow students. Considering technology, can we create or identify a center of excellence that UNF will do better than anyone else?

Chancellor Criser reminded everyone about the Trustee Summit that will be held at the University of Florida on October 29, 2019, stating it will be very interesting. The summit will include training developed by the Board of Governors for trustees, so they fully understand what governance about, roles and responsibilities.

Chair Hyde thanked Chancellor Criser for his visit.