

MINUTES

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SECOND MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 1999

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Edwin Goodman
Jerome A. Chazen
Yazmet Colon de Clarke
Carol Gresser
George Kaufman
Elise Robins
Peter Scotese (emeritus)

ABSENT AND EXCUSED

Robin Burns
Andrea Jung
Jay Mazur
John Pomerantz (emeritus)

OFFICERS PRESENT

Joyce F. Brown, President
Harvey Spector, Treasurer and VP for Finance and Operations
Jeffrey I. Slonim, General Counsel and Secretary of the College

OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Blaifeder, Budget Office
Peter Brooks, Administrative Computer Center
Irene Buchman, Business and Technology
Raymond Carozza, Personnel Administration
Herbert Cohen, Student Affairs
Ellen Conovitz, Institutional Services
Dario Cortes, Academic Affairs
Howard Dillon, The Library
Beverley Douglas, Office of the General Counsel

Michael Frauenglass, Art and Design
Ellen Fried, Office of the General Counsel
Henry Gibson, Science and Mathematics
Loretta Lawrence Keane, College Relations
Jacqueline Lakah, Liberal Arts
Jack Lubowsky, Academic Computing
Charles Mannino, Printing Department
Philip Milio, Student Life
Annette Picora, Office of the President
David Portnoy, Budget Office
John-Harvard Reid, Institutional Advancement
Michael Renzulli, International Programs
Lou Stollar, UCE of F.I.T.
Elaine Stone, Continuing Education
Jacqueline L. Venable, Institutional Advancement
Judy Wood, UCE of F.I.T.

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A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS 362.A

Chairman Edwin A. Goodman called the three hundred and sixty-second meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

B. PUBLIC SESSION 362.B

No one registered for the public session prior to this meeting and there was therefore no public session.

C. PRESIDENTS REPORT 362.C

Last Meeting of the Year/Century:

Dr. Brown thanked all those in attendance. She briefly discussed the five-year investment plan, a comprehensive document that positions us to translate the issues which emerged from our strategic planning process into real programs with identifiable outcomes. The plan addressed growth and development in the areas of faculty and curriculum development, academic and administrative technology, student recruitment and services, campus improvement and expansion, human resource development, institutional advancement, and external relations.

Laboratory Fees:

Speaking about laboratory fees in support of academic computing technology (Item 1.4 of the Agenda), Dr. Brown told the Board that the introduction, integration, upgrading, and maintenance of technological capability is foremost on the College=s agenda. Industry states that there is a need for technological skills if F.I.T.=s graduates are to be competitive. Students have been stating that they need to be proficient in the latest innovations. Faculty have also stated their need to integrate technology into the curriculum. Dr. Brown said that we are initiating faculty and curriculum development activities as part of our professional development plans. Even considering the rapidity with which equipment becomes outdated, we are very far behind where we should be and it will be a very costly undertaking to bring us up to speed and to maintain currency in our position.

Within the State University there is a practice of imposing technology fees to mitigate the ongoing need for technology maintenance and enhancement. Current practices within the university have been analyzed. Ultimately, we will have to submit this plan for approval to SUNY.

Five-Year Plan:

Dr. Brown informed the Board that we are moving forward on the other elements of our five-year plan. The vice presidents are in the process of developing a timetable and an outline of benchmark activities which will keep us on schedule for implementing all of the aspects of our plan. Some activities, such as the expansion of our professional development and continuing education offerings, are under way.

Continuing Education:

Three open house events were held to publicize and to conduct registration for Continuing Education. A marketing and advertising mini-campaign were also done. We will be successful in rebuilding this area of adult education at F. I.T. Dr. Brown commended Dr. Dario Cortes, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Professor Elaine Stone, Acting Dean for Continuing Education; and Loretta Lawrence Keane, Director of College Relations, for putting together the College=s outreach activities in this regard.

Student-Related Services:

Dr. Brown told the Board that one of the priority areas of the College=s five-year plan includes a focus on the expansion of student-related services. Dr. Brown then introduced Dr. Herbert Cohen, the newest member of her administrative team. Dr. Cohen, who joined the College at the end of October, is Vice President for Student Affairs. Most recently, he served as vice president for development and instructional support at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan. Dr. Cohen holds an Ed.D. in counseling psychology from the University of South Dakota, a master=s degree in student personnel administration from New York University, and a bachelor=s in psychology and education from Long Island University.

Mission Review:

The Mission Review process was completed and was very productive. SUNY was complimentary about the College=s programs and its mission. Dr. Brown told the Board that we fully expect to leverage their new familiarity with our work and their enthusiasm for our mission into support for our programs as we move forward.

Educational Foundation Dinner Dance:

The annual gala was an incredible success by any measure. Thanks to many of the Trustees, and thanks to the indomitable spirit and commitment of Gene Kahn and the May Company stores, \$4.5 million was raised in one night. The May Company dedicated the proceeds of the journal to our capital campaign, which means that we get to match that amount three-to-one with state and city funds. The journal raised \$833,000; it will yield approximately an additional \$2.5 million. Dr. Brown told the Board that we are almost half-way through our goal of phase one. We have received our first million-dollar gift and we anticipate having the state bond issue in place by February or March of 2000. This means that we will break ground by spring of next year.

Reception for Speaker of the Assembly:

A reception was held for Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the Assembly, to thank him for his assistance in obtaining a technology grant from the State. Dr. Brown thanked those who had attended the reception and stated that, by next week, we would learn whether we were successful in having the City Council restore our city budget shortfall.

Visual Design Program:

Last year, the College searched for, and then selected, Pentagram Design Inc., a graphic design firm, to help market the F.I.T. brand. Michael Bierut, partner in Pentagram, will demonstrate the comprehensive visual design program which they have developed for the College. The goal is to create a visual image and attitude for the College as well as graphic standards which are applicable across a variety of uses. We will use this comprehensive visual design program to coordinate all of F.I.T.'s print and other materials.

Other News:

President Brown thanked the trustees for their support of the College and of her administration. She stated that she was looking forward to continuing our journey together into a new century. She wished everyone a very blessed holiday.

D. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION DINNER DANCE REPORT

Jacqueline Venable, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, reported that the College raised \$7.4 million one year earlier than anticipated and that we were just shy of the halfway mark. Ms. Venable stated that she was in the process of putting together a peer leadership steering committee of alumni volunteers which will be solicited and which will agree to solicit others. This group should number approximately 30 persons and should be in place by March 2000. She will identify leadership and will name a chairperson.

More than 2600 people attended the dinner dance and \$4.5 million was raised. The entire evening's event garnered over \$7 million. Ms. Venable stated that the Educational Foundation achieved dinner- attendance and dollar-amount records and that she was very pleased with the efforts.

E. BUSINESS SESSION

I. Action Items

1.1 Approval of December 13, 1999 Minutes 362.1

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the three hundred and sixty-second meeting of the Board of Trustees held on December 13, 1999 be and hereby are approved.

1.2 Ratification of Resolution 361.2 (Approval of Minutes 362.2

of September 13, 1999)

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED: That the actions taken at the three hundred and sixty-first meeting of the Board of Trustees in respect of

Agenda Item No. 361.2 - Approval of Minutes of September 13, 1999 be and hereby are approved.

1.3 Ratification of Resolution 361.3 (1999/2000 Operating 362.2

Budget Modification)

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED: That the actions taken at the three hundred and sixty-first meeting of the Board of Trustees in respect of

Agenda Item No. 361.3 - 1999/2000 Operating Budget Modification

be and hereby are approved.

1.4 Proposal For Class and Laboratory Fee In Support 362.4

Of Academic Computing Technology

Academic Computing classrooms and labs must be kept up-to-date with the latest computer technology in order to provide F.I.T. students with relevant and current computer skills. The current projected costs of maintaining a computer and software infrastructure for the computer labs and computer equipped classrooms in Academic Computing at F.I.T. are substantial. The College=s multi-year financial plan has identified the need for a minimum annual investment of \$250,000 to ensure the ongoing viability of existing computer laboratories and classrooms. A computer lab fee structure tied to computer courses taken is an equitable way of sharing the cost of computing because it is proportional to the actual time students are scheduled to use the facility.

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolutions were unanimously approved:

RESOLVED, That a fee structure be implemented beginning in the Fall 2000 semester which levies an initial fee of \$10.50 per scheduled computer class and lab hour for classes which are specified as utilizing academic computing classroom facilities.

RESOLVED, That a list of all classes subject to this fee will be disseminated to students prior to registration.

RESOLVED, That the list of classes subject to the fee may be modified as necessary to reflect changes in course offerings.

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees authorizes the President to take all appropriate steps to initiate the computer lab and class fee.

1.5 Appointment - Administrative Representative to 362.5

F.I.T. Student-Faculty Corporation (Herbert Cohen)

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED: That Herbert Cohen, Vice President for Student Affairs, be appointed as the administrative representative to the F.I.T. Student-Faculty Corporation, effective December 13, 1999.

1.6 Bank Account Signature 362.6

Dr. Herbert A. Cohen was appointed the Vice President for Student Affairs of the College, effective October 29, 1999. He will become a signatory on the F.I.T. Student Loan Fund Association account replacing Jeffrey Handler, Acting Vice President for Student Affairs for the College. All accounts require two signatures which can be executed manually or by facsimile (plated).

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED, That the Treasurer and Vice President for Finance and Operations be and hereby is authorized to take whatever steps are necessary to have Dr. Herbert A. Cohen added as signatory on the account of F.I.T. replacing Jeffrey Handler, effective December 13, 1999.

1.7 Certificates of Permanent Tenure 362.7

The below-listed members of the personnel of the College have met the necessary requirements for tenure as set forth in the Bylaws of the Fashion Institute of Technology. The President has recommended the granting of tenure effective on the dates listed below.

Upon motion made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED: That Certificates of Tenure be issued to:

Patricia Amato	Administrative Assistant
	Faculty Services
	December 2, 1999
Salvatore Catalano	Instructor
	Illustration
	February 1, 2000
Susan Jacobson	Assistant Professor
	Educational Skills
	February 1, 2000

Anne Kong	Assistant Professor
	Display & Exhibit Design
	February 1, 2000
Francine Post	Assistant to the Executive Director
	Administrative Computer Center
	August 9, 1999
Diana Reyes	Personnel Associate
	Personnel Administration
	October 21, 1999
Steven Stipelman	Assistant Professor

	Fashion Design Art
	February 1, 2000
Sree Vegunta	Instructor, Non-Classroom Faculty
	Counseling Center
	April 23, 2000

II. Financial Report - First Four Months of Fiscal Year 362.8

Harvey Spector, Treasurer and Vice President for Finance and Operations, presented a Variance Report for the first four months of the fiscal year. The budget, as adopted by the Board in June, totaled \$88.660 million. Through October, revenues exceeded expectations by approximately \$550,000. For the same period, expenditures were less than expected by approximately \$125,000. Thus, after four months, actual revenues and expenditures versus budget showed a surplus of approximately \$675,000.

III. Special Report 362.9

Loretta Lawrence Keane, Director, College Relations, introduced Michael Bierut, a partner at Pentagram Design Inc. Following a comprehensive review of graphic design firms, F.I.T. selected Pentagram to produce a comprehensive visual design program for the College.

Mr. Bierut and Pentagram have been working on Aa style that, after repeated use, would come to represent F.I.T. Using slides, a video, and samples (T-shirts, caps) Mr. Bierut demonstrated to the Trustees that this visual would be employed in a variety of ways. Emphasizing that F.I.T. is many things to many people and different things to different people, Mr. Bierut offered AFIT is...@ as the college=s communications strategy. All College print materials, press communications, mailers, T-shirts, and hats will feature this message.

Pentagram also counts among its clients, The Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, the American Museum of Natural History, Princeton University Fundraising, and The Centers for Disease Control.

IV. Information Items 362.10

The Office of College Relations, under the direction of Loretta Lawrence Keane, provided a sampling of news clips and brochures.

Brochures included the Winter/Spring 2000 *Continuing Education and Professional Studies Catalogue*, the Winter/Spring 2000 *Continuing Education Mailer*, and the Spring 2000 *Saturday Live Brochure*.

News clippings included AMay Co. CEO is honored at FIT Event That helps to raise \$7M for education@ (*DNR*, November 17, 1999); AFIT=s Record-Breaker@ (*WWD*, November 17, 1999); AA Certain Sparkle Lights a Memory Lane@ (*The New York Times*, September 26, 1999); AFall Season=s Fanfares@ (*The New York Times*,

September 26, 1999); AReal Charm and Fake Jewels Society Ladies Can=t Resist@ (*The New York Times*, October 10, 1999); AKenneth Jay Lane Exhibition Opens at FIT@ (*WWD*, October 18, 1999);

AFashion Retrospective at the FIT Museum Is >Unmistakably Mackie=@ (*Standard-Speaker*, November 14, 1999); APrice Alone Won=t Sell the E-Commerce Site@ (*WWD*, October 28, 1999); AIn the Flower District, A Crop of High-Rises@ (*The New York Times*, October 10, 1999); and AIt=s So You@ (*The New York Times*, November 14, 1999).

Electronic Coverage included Dr. Brown=s interview on WQXR for a series called A21st Century Visions@; an interview (The Museum at FIT) on *NBC News* in Springfield, CT, for a segment on fashion; and coverage of AUnmistakably Mackie@ on *ABC Eyewitness News*, *CNN*, *Style with Elsa Klensch*, *NBC*, *Today Show*, *NY1*, and *E! Video Fashion*.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and upon motion made, seconded and unanimously approved, the three hundred and sixty-second meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey I. Slonim
Secretary of the College