

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, September 16, 2025  
3:00 – 4:30 pm  
Zoom

**Minutes**

Members Present: Nefertiti Long (Chair), Monica Alejandre, Roderick Hendry, Cole Jackson, Gray McBride, Lou Monville, Diego Rendon, Shanthi Srinivas, Steve Vivian, Raymond Watts

Members Absent: Lauren Bruggemans, William Stevenson

Chair, Nefertiti Long called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Motion: Approval of the May 21, 2025, meeting minutes.  
(Monville /Srinivas/Unanimous)

**Committee Reports**

Ray Watts, Executive Director, welcomed the Executive Committee and expressed his enthusiasm for continuing to work closely with the Foundation Board. He shared that one of his priorities this year is to strengthen board engagement and announced that, going forward, Executive Committee meetings will include only the Executive Director and Board Secretary to allow for open and candid discussions. Watts thanked members for their volunteer service and reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring their time is used strategically and with meaningful impact.

Watts then reviewed the agenda for the upcoming board meeting.

Steve Vivian, Chair of the Alumni Association, reported that the Professor for a Day program is expanding, with plans to engage more alumni. He noted the success of the recent 66ers Night event and reported that nominees for the Alumni Hall of Fame are under review. The university's 60th anniversary will be celebrated on October 5 with a major social media campaign promoting alumni engagement and giving. Alumni tiles have also been installed on campus.

Cole Jackson, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided a draft audit that has been prepared and reviewed, with no areas of concern identified. He noted that the audit profession continues to emphasize maintaining independence through an arm's-length approach during audit.

Shanthi Srinivas, Chair of the Board Membership Committee, introduced individuals to serve as ad-hoc members on this year's board committees. Following their first year, they will be invited to join the board next fiscal year, should they be willing to serve.

**Motion:** Approval of ad hoc members join board committees.  
(Jackson/Hendry/Unanimous)

Gary McBride, Chair of the Investment & Finance Committee, presented the new Foundation operating budget and updates to the Investment Policy Statement. He explained that refinements to alternative investments align with the Foundation's long-term strategic goals and emphasized the growing importance of this asset class for endowments and foundations.

**Motion:** Approval of the Investment Policy Statement.  
(Monville/Srinivas/Unanimous)

Roderick Hendry, Chair of the Philanthropy Committee, reported that the committee is focusing on expanding education and engagement opportunities to better align donor and alumni interests with university initiatives. Hendry highlighted the importance of Alumni Association's work in engaging alumni to advance campaign goals.

### **Open Discussion**

Diego Rendon, ASI President, shared that campus life remains strong, with high levels of student participation and engagement. Srinivas inquired about strategies to maintain student connections after graduation, and Watts suggested revisiting certain outreach initiatives in the future. Lou Monville, Vice Chair, noted that the President's message at the next board meeting will be impactful and recommended adding routine items to the consent agenda to streamline the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.

