

Board of Visitors – Texas A&M University at Galveston

Minutes
January 22, 2015

Dennis Murphree called the meeting to order.

In attendance were Greg Binion, Kyle Buese, Chris Cahill, Michael Cokinos, Bob Fry, Paul Hill, Pete Huddleston, Keith McFatridge, John Michael, Phyllis Milstein, Jerry Mohn, Dennis Murphree, Brandon Neff, Chris Orth, Vic, Pierson, Wayne Prescott, Brian Roy, Bob Sakowitz, Albert Shannon, Jim Watson, and Jonathan Whitworth.

Committee reports were presented. Bob Fry shared that the Industry Relations Committee had met and learned from a special guest speaker about the university needs. Dennis Murphree, on behalf of the Board Development Committee, presented the nomination of Mr. Kyle Buese, of the Houston Port Authority, for membership into the BOV. Dennis asked that he be accepted by acclamation, all were in favor. Keith McFatridge met with the Scholarship and Alumni Relations Committee but was not present to present a report at the general meeting.

Minutes from the August 22, 2014 Board of Visitors meeting were presented for approval. A motion and second were made to accept as presented. All were in favor

Admiral Smith introduced CAPT Joe Klenczar, the new ship captain. Dr. Louchouarn introduced Joel Sauer – Corp commander who spoke briefly. Mr. Sauer shared that he plans to work for the Military Sealift Command and spoke about the importance of the new Maritime Academy Residence Hall and for cadets to live in the hall to develop leaders of character. Our cadets will be referred to as midshipmen from this point forward as they are in the US Maritime Academy which differentiates them from the College Station Corp. of Cadets. Dr. Louchouarn also shared that TAMUG has a record enrollment for the spring 2015 semester; that Dr. Merrell won the Quasar event given by the Bay Area Economic Development Board recognizing him for his research with coastal protection and he talked about the tremendous impact of Bob Mitchell, President of BAYEP, on the progress of the IKE Dike Project.

Admiral Smith discussed the Chancellor's visit to campus in Sept. 2014 to visit with administration, faculty and staff, that the Attorney General rendered a decision in the fall that we are eligible for university funds available for construction. (Previously, we were told that we were not eligible for these funds.) He also discussed problems with the TS General Rudder – inefficient, houses few cadets, runs at 8 knots and that the campus needs a larger and more efficient deployable multi-purpose vessel.

Dr. Patrick Louchouarn spoke briefly presenting following points to the Board of Visitors:

- Chris Marshall received the Assoc. of Former students Achievement in Teaching Award
- Jay Rooker will be the newest Regent's Professor and is part of another team that \$2Million dollar grant
- There is a 5% increase in enrollment
- Program of Requirements for a new Academic Building was completed in December and we are hopeful that we will be able to move forward with this building in the near future.
- Dr. Antonietta Quigg is PI for 7.2 million dollar research grant. Only 12 of these were given in the US.
- TAMUG professors have received a grant from Mexico to research oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico
- Texas Commission in Environmental Quality has awarded 2 Centers of Excellence – we are a part of that and received \$1million
- The above brings us to over \$11 million in grants and that doesn't include the many small grants that we have and are a part of.
- Working with the CS College of Engineering on a potential creation of an "Ocean Engineering" department that will rest between the two campuses. An official announcement would be made by the Chancellor for the fall of 2015.

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- New agreement signed between TAMUG & Copenhagen Business School to allow for the exchange of 25 students each year between our campuses. The students will pay tuition to their university but attend campuses at the partner university. There are a number of other universities contacting us to discuss these types of agreements

General Bill McClain introduced the student Veterans Assoc. leaders and discussed the upcoming Mardi Gras event being underwritten by The Tremont House (from the Mitchell family).

RADM Robert Smith introduced Rick Kline, Senior Development Officer.

Bob wright discussed lack of awareness by Houstonians about TAMUG and the opportunity to tap into this market for recruitment. He presented the new commercials and discussed the timeline of market coverage.

Grant presented updates on the new Maritime Hall and showed a rendering of the completed projected. The Maritime Residence Hall is expected to open in November 2015. Everyone was encouraged to follow the building's progress on the website. A Topping off ceremony is scheduled for 2/17/15. He also discussed the vision of a 4 floor, 44 million dollar academic building. The ground break should happen in fall 2015 with a spring 2017 completion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.