Chair Law convened the regular meeting for the University of South Florida, Board of Trustees in the Marshall Center Ball Room, Phyllis P. Marshall Center, USF Tampa Campus, Tampa Florida at 9:45 a.m.

Chair Law introduced and welcomed Trustee Gene Engle. Trustee Engle expressed his appreciation on becoming a new member and is looking forward to serving on the Board. Mr. Engle served on the USF Foundation Board and was instrumental in bringing 10 million dollars to the USF Lakeland campus.

Trustee Flowers introduced the new President and Vice President for Student Government. Greg Morgan is the Student Body President and Thomas King is the Student Body Vice President. Both gentlemen are looking forward to assuming their new roles on May 5, 2008.

Chair Law mentioned that it was Match Day at the College of Medicine. The event is at Skipper’s Smokehouse. Chair Law encouraged the Trustees to attend.

President Genshaft reported on the Legislative Session:
Budget cuts: The budget cuts were softened this year due to the use of non-reoccurring money. She reported that the State University System is experiencing a huge reduction and that USF will incur a 15% percent budget cut over 2 years; which will average out to be approximately 54 million dollars; 23% of USF’s budget is state funded; currently there are 100 vacant faculty positions in addition to numerous staff positions that will remain vacant.

Trustee Smith asked President Genshaft if the Florida Legislature will change the procedure of how trustee members are appointed. Chair Law stated that the appointment issue is being discussed in the legislature and there will soon be an update but expected the current BOT appointments to stand.

Byrd Center: The legislation is currently being discussed. The Byrd Center is located on the USF campus. By law the Center is required to give approximately 20% of its budget to grants throughout the state. On bill provides for the Center to fall under USF in which an appointed Board that would oversee the grants. This Board would report to the Board of Trustees. There are 2 versions going around so we won’t know until the session is over which will go through.
President Genshaft stated that the Byrd Center was funded 13 million dollars last year and one option has it receiving zero state funding, requiring it to compete for money.

Strategic Plan: President Genshaft reported that Dr. Stephen Portch visited USF in January. He led a leadership retreat that included faculty, staff and senior leadership. The retreat was focused on the structure and future of the University of South Florida. President Genshaft mentioned that at the retreat, there were discussions on two critical areas that have room for improvement.
   1. **Marketing**— External and internal communications
   2. **Technology**— USF needs more centralization and coordination.

President Genshaft announced that she has appointed Mr. Michael Hoad as the new Vice President for University Communications and Marketing and Mr. Mike Pierce as the new Vice President for Information Technologies. Both have accepted the university-wide mission positions, on a larger scale, without an increase in salary. The President and Chair Law thanked both for their dedication and accepting the new positions.

Distance Learning Fees: President Genshaft mentioned that some Florida universities range in fees from $20 to $300 per credit hours for fees in the Distance Learning Program. The Legislature is planning to put a cap on costs for the Distance Learning Program.

Chair Law mentioned that the Chancellor’s memos are very informative, and wanted to verify that all Board members receive it. She asked the President to call roll.

President Genshaft called the roll with the following present:

Trustee Arnold
Trustee Barber
Trustee Cancio
Trustee Engle
Trustee Flowers
Trustee Law
Trustee Patel
Trustee Ramil
Trustee Smith
Trustee Soran – by phone
Trustee Tomasino
President Genshaft proudly reported that in the most recent issue of *The American Research Universities*, USF has moved up from 62 to 51 in rankings of top research universities. USF is 2nd in top research dollars and research expenditures in the state of Florida.

**New Business – Actions Items**

Chair Law asked for a motion to approve the December 6, 2007 and January 17, 2008 Minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Consent Agenda**

Chair Law asked Trustee Arnold if there were any comments on the ACE Workgroup items. Trustee Lee Arnold stated that the items have been examined, discussed and approved by the Workgroup and recommends approval by the Board.

Trustee Jan Smith commented that the USF Sarasota-Manatee Campus would like to opt. in to have the tuition differential.

Chair Rhea Law stated that the tuition differential is for research universities and that the Tampa campus is where the Doctorial programs are held that is why USF Sarasota-Manatee is not included.

The President stated that the Legislature allowed 3 research universities to charge the differential tuition, which goes above Bright Futures. Those universities were: The University of Florida, Florida State University and the University of South Florida. Florida Student Government Association also supported this initiative.

Trustee Arnold commented that when the Strategic plan was done, the committee recognized that the Research 1 Institution *Operations*, was on the USF Tampa Campus. The *Operations* include a certain faculty commitment, laboratory commitment and an overall cost and delivery platform that are different from the branch campuses. The branch campuses have a different way of delivering their curriculum and meeting the Strategic Plan. If the branch campuses decided to opt in on the tuition differential, the Legislature may decided to readdress the issue because it would appear that the main campus would not have the impact of being a Research 1 institution.

Provost Ralph Wilcox commented that the primary funding base for public universities is balanced between tuition and state appropriation. Provost Wilcox stated that each regional campus by formula receives an additional $500 per FTE, which is more than what the main campus receives.

Chair Law suspects that there will be a number of funding opportunities that are authorized by the legislature moving forward.
Trustee Lee Arnold stated that the strategic plan could be rewritten however, the new model would run into problems academically as well as financially.

Trustee Kiran Patel stated that the regional campuses goals are the same but there aren’t enough resources/funding to support them all at the same level.

Vice Chair John Ramil suggested that Trustee Smith could bring in a proposal for the Board to consider approving his request to opt in on the tuition differential.

Chair Law asked Vice Chair Ramil if there were any comments on the Health Sciences and Research Workgroup.

Vice Chair Ramil stated that the items have been examined, discussed and approved by the Health Sciences work group and recommends approval by the Board.

Chair Law stated that the Finance and Audit committee has reviewed all items and recommends approval.

Chair Law asked United Faculty of Florida President Dr. Sherman Dorm, if he had any comments on the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Dorm commented on the debate in Tallahassee in regards to the structure of higher education governance. Six years ago 60% of Florida voters put in place the current structure: the Board Governor’s, the Board of Trustees and the appointment processes, the representation, the faculty and students at both levels and the authority and duties of both levels. Dr. Dorm stated that we should trust the process, as the voters approved it six years ago.

Dr. Dorm commented that Trustee Smith’s comments align the concerns that USF Sarasota-Manatee faculty members have mentioned in regards to separate accreditation. He stated that the BOT members, under the Florida Constitution, have the authority to adjust the mission of the University of South Florida.

Dr. Dorm mentioned the website Google Scholar, if you type in the University of South Florida and click on recent articles, there are pages of impressive publications produced by USF faculty.

Chair Law commented that USF has a lot to be proud of and look forward to working with Dr. Dorm to finalize negotiations.

**New Business**

Chair Law asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was moved, seconded and approved.

Chair Law asked Executive Vice President, Carl Carlucci to present the next item.
**FL 115- The Capital Improvement Trust Fund**

Dr. Carl Carlucci reported that in January 2008 the Board of Governors approved an allocation from the Capital Improvement Fee Trust Fund for inclusion in the 2008-09 legislative budget requests. The Board of Governors expressed its desire to fast track these projects recognizing the contribution that construction has to the economy. There was a schedule set. USF was required to have a project list no later than February 29, 2008 and that the BOT approve, finalize and submit the project lists by April 15, 2008. The Capital Improvement Fee Trust Fund is specifically targeted at projects that support student life such as recreation facilities, student unions and other projects concerning student life.

The University of South Florida allocation from $160 million dollars that the Board of Governors recommends will have to be bonded. Our allocation would be $23.7 million dollars. The distributions of funds were based on enrollment. Projects presented today were put forward by the USF campuses through their student, faculty, and staff committees. The Tampa campus is a $20 million dollar project for a multi-purpose wellness and nutrition center which will include food facilities as well as an expansion for campus recreation. USF Lakeland campus has put forward a student center project for $542,000 that is included in the Phase I PECO Project. Dr. Carlucci stated that USF Lakeland will use their money as part of the design to their new campus and facilities for students. USF Sarasota-Manatee will use $750,000 to renovate and improve the existing courtyard. USF St. Petersburg campus will spend $1.9 million on two projects, the renovations and expansion for the current fitness center and multipurpose student center.

A packet given to the Trustee members show a breakdown of proposed examples of spending.

Trustee Law asked for a motion to approve. It was seconded and approved.

Chair Law asked Provost, Dr. Ralph Wilcox to present item **FL 116 - The Path to Mission Differentiation.** A packet of information was given to the Board members.

Provost Wilcox presented a blue print of the University of South Florida’s strategic future. The blue print was a product of many months of conversations and discussions across all USF campuses combined.

Provost Wilcox stated that as a public university, the University of South Florida is deeply committed to meeting the broad and diverse needs of the greater Tampa Bay region. This can be achieved with a unified and focused USF effort at Tampa campus, including USF Health as well as differentiated missions on each of our campuses. Provost Wilcox stated that USF system has and will continue to have one Board of Trustees and one University President.

The Power point presentation included topics on:

- Defining the USF System
- Background History of USF
• Future Actions
• AAU Multi-Campus Institutions
• Advantages
• Student Impact
• Vision for USF System

Provost Wilcox stated that there are 14 of 34 Public AAU Universities that are part of multiple campus systems.

Chair Law thanked Provost Wilcox for his presentation and efforts.

Chair Law asked for a motion to approve. It was seconded and approved.

**Trustee Roundtable**

Trustee Engle congratulated President Genshaft and CEO Marshall Goodman on their work in Tallahassee. The President and CEO Goodman presented to the Governor information on the USF Lakeland PECO request for a new campus on the Williams Property site.

Trustee Garin Flowers stated that when dealing with housing rates, there should be strong accountability.

Trustee Smith announced that USF Sarasota-Manatee CEO Dr. Arthur Guilford has integrated very well into the Sarasota-Manatee community, has been accepted, and is doing a good job.

Vice Chair John Ramil asked what the status was for the USF Bulls basketball team for post season play.

President Genshaft announced that in 2009 all of the Big East Men’s Basketball teams will be permitted to play at Madison Square Garden’s for first time. This year only the top 12 teams attend. She also mentioned a new site for Women’s Big East basketball tournament is under research.

Trustee Flowers announced that it was his last Board of Trustee meeting and thanked everyone for making it a great year.

President Genshaft and Chair Law, on behalf of the Board of Trustee members, commended Trustee Flowers on his work as a Trustee.

**Adjournment**

Having no further business, Chair Law adjourned the University of South Florida Board of Trustee meeting at 11:50 a.m.