Board of Visitors August 19, 2015 Minutes

Board of Visitors (BOV) sub-committees met prior to participating in a tour of the Harbor aboard the R/V Trident. Lunch was served before the meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Murphree.

In attendance were Dennis Murphree, Robert Fry, Wade Battles, Michael Cokinos, William Fraser, Damon Gowan, Roger Guenther, Pete Huddleston, Charlie Jenkins, Ross Margraves, Keith McFatridge, Terry Ray, Brian Roy, Bob Sakowitz, Albert Shannon, Tyson Voelkel, James Watson, Jonathan Whitworth. Absent were Greg Binion, Kyle Buese, Chris Cahill, Robb Erickson, Allen Flynt, Billy Greer, Paul Hill, Mark Lyons, James McGregor, John Michael, Phyllis Milstein, Greg Mitchell, Jerry Mohn, Chaz Neely, Bruce Nichols, Brandon Neff, Bob Mitchell, Chris Orth, Vic Pierson, Bob Reinhardt, Bill Schubert, Deepak Varshney, and Kris Vogelpohl. TAMUG attendees included Robert Smith, Patrick Louchouarn, Richard Mallahan, Allan Post, Grant Shallenberger, Bill McClain, Rick Kline, John Kovacevich, Donna Lang, Susan Lee, Cari Bishop Smith, and Kathey Walker.

Susan Lee presented a summary of the 2015/16 budget and responded to questions. Patrick Louchouarn discussed the Provost's newsletter and a recent Hanover report on graduate outcomes. He shared that there has been a 400% increase grant awards and that faculty are consistently receiving small grants and have also received a number of large grants. TAMUG is recruiting top research faculty competing at a national level. TAMUG faculty have been the recipients of a number of important awards referenced in the Provosts' newsletter. THECB recently authorized the creation of the Dept. of Ocean Engineering, a joint program between the Galveston and main campuses.

Dr. Karl Kaiser, Assistant Professor in the Department of Marine Sciences, was introduced by Dr. Patrick Louchouarn. He presented an overview of his research entitled "Organic carbon cycling in the biosphere" followed by a Q&A session. Karl's presentation was followed by Dr. David Lawhon discussing plans for a spring 2016 March of Remembrance. BOV members were encouraged to support the effort. Mr. Grant Shallenberger provided an overview of the Galveston campus building updates including the Texas A&M Maritime Hall scheduled for completion in November 2015, plans for a waterfront Pavilion designed to provide space for events, meetings, conferences and other activities, and the Phase I of the Academic Complex scheduled to break ground in fall 2015. Mr. Rick Kline provided members with an update on recent Office of Development initiatives to include plans for an October 2015 Endowed Scholarship Reception and the inclusion of the Galveston campus in the A&M Capital Campaign, Lead by Example. RADM Robert Smith provided closing remarks for the meeting.

A closed meeting of the Texas A&M University at Galveston Board of Visitors (BOV) was called by RADM Robert Smith. Non BOV member attendees departed. The meeting concluded and was adjourned in a private session.