



Board of Trustees

Special Meeting

3:00 PM

October 13, 2015

President's Boardroom, The Horace Mann Center

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Trustees Connolly, Hagan, Johnson, Marcus, Martin, Perez, Queenin, and Scheibel.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustees Hill, Landrau, and Slakey.

Meeting called to order at 3:14 PM.

Dr. Ramon Torrecilha provided his professional background and experience. Speaking to capital campaigns, institutional budgets, sustainability, accountability, transparency, autonomy, enrollment, retention, access, diversity, and excellence. He has a four-year plan called "The Westfield Experience." Year one will concentrate on living and learning; year two will be a year of reflection and establishing short and long term goals; year three will be "High Impact" and focused on service learning; and the final year "The Last Mile" will include working with students to transition to the workforce or graduate school.

Dr. Torrecilha believes a significant portion of a president's responsibility is to raise much needed institutional funds and be the "Chief Story Teller." His leadership is based on the notion of shared governance. As president you have to find ways of engaging the campus community in an organic way. To serve as the president and not become the president has taught him how to be proactive, not reactive. He describes the most significant issue facing the new president of Westfield State is likely to be team building, knowing many positions are interim. He also sees this as an incredible and exciting opportunity.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.