

Valencia College Foundation
Report to the Board of Trustees
May 2021

Foundation board welcomes new chairwoman

Diane O'Dell, who serves as executive director of Universal Orlando Foundation and vice president of community relations and diversity for Universal Orlando, begins her term as Valencia College Foundation chair on July 1.

Diane has served on Valencia's foundation board since 2009 and been instrumental in UO's support of Horizon Scholars, Art of Tomorrow and Taste for Learning, as well as Universal's longtime Valencia endowment fund.

Deb Mears is handing over the gavel and will serve as immediate past chair on the executive committee.

Directors review fiscal year-end financial performance

In the May finance and full-board meetings, directors reviewed reports to ensure stewardship of the philanthropy entrusted to Valencia. Disbursements to scholarships and programs, the most meaningful metric, were \$5.9 million.

Total net assets were \$107.2 million on March 31, 2021, as compared with \$87.2 million on March 31, 2020. The endowment portfolio was valued at \$86.9 million on March 31, an increase of \$22.3 million during the fiscal year.

Total portfolio return was 34.6%, as compared with the benchmark of 31.6%.

An important goal is to align foundation portfolio strategies with the college's sustainability priorities. In May, advisers presented a follow-up educational session outlining a sustainable ESG approach for foundation investments. (ESG stands for Environmental, Social and Governance.) The finance committee will meet in July and August to prepare and approve recommendations for the investment policy and strategy.

Valencia Foundation seeks like-minded leaders to advance the college's mission

The foundation nominating committee seeks candidates for board membership. Initial terms two years, followed by two cycles of three years each. The board meets in full four times a year, as well as in a two-day retreat. Throughout the fall and spring, several storytelling and engagement events are offered at lunch and in the evening. Please share potential candidates with ggallagher@valenciacollege.edu.

Learn more about how Valencia Foundation serves the college

Foundation board member's value interactions with college trustees, and welcome participation in events and meetings when convenient. Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 dates will be released in the summer. Two upcoming opportunities:

- ◆ Thursday, **May 27**, 6 p.m.: **Alumni Conversation with Sandy via Zoom**
- ◆ Wednesday, **Aug. 11**, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.: **Finance Committee via Zoom**