

**MINUTES OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
REGULAR MEETING**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “GSU,” respectively), an Illinois body politic and corporate, was held in person and via audio-videoconference at GSU’s University Park Campus in Engbretson Hall on October 21, 2022 at 9:00 am. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the Agenda posted for public notice before 9:00 am on October 19, 2022 in accordance with Section 120/2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. 5 ILCS 120/2.02. Before the meeting, each Trustee received a book with materials corresponding to action and discussion items, a copy of which is maintained with the Board records.

I. MEETING DETAILS

Meeting Chair: Angela M. Sebastian

Minutes Recorded By: Therese King Nohos, General Counsel, on behalf of James Kvedaras, Secretary

II. ATTENDEES

Chair Sebastian confirmed a quorum was present given the presence of the following seven (7) Trustees in attendance:

- Kevin Brookins, Trustee
- John Brudnak, Trustee
- Lisa Harrell, Trustee
- Lluvia Hernandez Aguirre, Student Trustee
- James Kvedaras, Trustee
- Angela M. Sebastian, Chair
- Anibal Taboas, Trustee (via Zoom)

President Cheryl Green, Ph.D., *ex-officio* Board member and chief executive officer of GSU, was present as were the following members of the President's Cabinet:

- Joshua R. Allen, MPS, SHRM-SCP, Vice President of Human Resources (via Zoom)
- Janelle A. Crowley, Ph.D., Chief of Staff, President's Office
- William A. Davis, MS, Vice President, Institutional Advancement, Marketing and Communications
- Maureen Kelly, Executive Director for Government and Community Affairs
- Corey S. Bradford, Sr., Ph.D., Vice President Administration and Finance/Board Treasurer
- Therese King Nohos, JD, Vice President, General Counsel/Board Chief Legal Counsel
- Beverly Schneller, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

III. ABSENCES

None.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sebastian at approximately 9:00 am.

V. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Sebastian welcomed all to the first meeting of the Board of the academic year, particularly the Student Trustee, Lluvia Hernandez Aguirre. She thanked the Board committees for their work since the last meeting. She recognized the professors who were recommended for the distinction of professor emeritus as well as Dr. Beverly Schneller who was recommended to be awarded the distinctions of faculty rank and tenure. She also thanked all those who worked to streamline the presidential review process. She also welcomed the Senate Presidents, who would be invited to address the Board during the meeting.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments were made by various constituents.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of (i) Resolution 23-12 and (ii) approval of the prior open meeting minutes. Trustee Kvedaras so moved. Trustee Taboas seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, the Consent Agenda passed upon unanimous vote thereby approving the following items:**

- **Proposed Agenda;**
- **Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2022 Closed Session of the Board;**
- **Resolution 23-06 to approve Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget and authorize its submission to Illinois Board of Higher Education (“IBHE”);**
- **Resolution 23-07 to approve Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Appropriations Budget and authorize its submission to IBHE;**
- **Resolution 23-08 to approve Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Budget and authorize its submission to IBHE;**
- **Resolution 23-09 to approve the Investment Policy;**
- **Resolution 23-10 to approve the President’s Annual Performance Assessment for Fiscal Year 2022, the President’s Performance Incentive Compensation for Fiscal Year 2022 based on Annual Assessment, and the President’s base salary increase for Fiscal Year 2023 based on Annual Assessment; and**
- **Resolution 23-11 to approve Emeritus Faculty Designation.**

VIII. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Green started by reporting the College of Business has received its final notification of the continued accreditation from the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business through 2026. Their next accreditation site visit will be in 2026-27.

President Green next reported that, in keeping with the goal of enhancing the reputation of Governors State University, the University sent Student Senate President, Marquis Parks, to a National Student Leaders White House Summit on reproductive rights, hosted by Vice President Kamala Harris, accompanied by Dr. Phyllis West, Director of the Social Justice Initiative. President Green then reported that the Social Justice Initiative hosted a site visit by the Illinois

Equal Justice Foundation on October 12, 2022 to discuss GSU's application for funding for a legal clinic.

In the area of grants, the College of Business submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation, as part of its ongoing effort to provide leadership, research and development for alternative forms of energy. With regard to the administration and finance department, President Green reported that the University presented at the IBHE Big Picture meeting on October 13, 2022 regarding its budget requests. Regarding legislative affairs, President Green noted that, earlier this month, she met with Rick Bryant of Congresswoman Kelly's office, regarding advocacy efforts for the South Suburban Airport.

President Green reported on several recent successful events, including Fall Fling, Convocation, the Distinguished Alumni Event, Homecoming Week, and the Sculpture and Wine Dine Event.

President Green reported that, in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023, HR has continued to combat the "great resignation" that the country has been experiencing by providing professional development of employees and ensuring employees concerns are heard. HR recently implemented the Stay Interview process which identifies employees who have been with GSU for at least (4) four years and seeks to understand reasons employees stay at GSU as well as areas they would like to see addressed.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

Those information items identified in the Agenda were presented to the Committee as follows:

- Civil Service Senate Report by Brave Fung, Senate President;
- Faculty Senate Report by Marlon Cummings, Senate President;
- Student Senate Report by Marquis Parks, Senate President;
- University Annual Report by William A Davis, Vice President, Institutional Advancement, Marketing and Communications. Vice President Davis introduced the first

GSU institutional-wide annual report produced in over 13 years (at least). A robust discussion of the report ensued. Trustee Harrell asked for direction on how the Trustees could most effectively use the report; and

- Board of Trustee Resource Manual by Maureen Kelly, Executive Director of Government and Community Relations. A robust discussion ensued. Trustee Kvedaras noted that Board is very willing to engage with elected officials but wants to ensure they do so in a coordinated way. Chair Sebastian reiterated that the Trustees are available to help. The Board then discussed the need to write follow-up letters, including to Vice-President Kamala Harris, thanking her for organizing the student assembly, and to Representative Will Davis thanking him for introducing the South Suburban Airport House Bill 58-10. They also discussed sending a note of thanks to Chair John Atkinson and Executive Director Ginger Ostrow for the opportunity to present GSU's budget needs.

X. CLOSED SESSION

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to enter closed session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/, to discuss personnel matters of an individual employee. Trustee Kvedaras so moved and Trustee Brookins seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, **the Committee unanimously voted to go into closed session.** The open period of the Committee's meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 am.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

The open portion of the Committee's meeting resumed at approximately 12:30 pm. Chair Sebastian noted that no action was taken in closed session.

Trustee Sebastian asked for a motion to approve Resolution 23-13, approval to waive initial reading of and to publish for comment proposed policy regarding working from home. Trustee Harrell made a motion to approve Resolution 23-13. Trustee Kvedaras seconded the motion. **Roll call was taken and Resolution 23-13 passed unanimously.**

Chair Sebastian then turned to the second action item, Resolution 23-14, approval to waive initial reading of and to publish for comment proposed policy regarding Annual President Assessment Process. Chair Sebastian asked for a motion on Resolution 23-14. Trustee Kvedaras so moved; Trustee Brookins seconded the motion. **Roll call was taken and Resolution 23-14 passed unanimously.**

Chair Sebastian then addressed Resolution 23-15: Approval of raise to salary schedules for non-negotiated employees. The question on the floor noted, Chair Sebastian, is to approve a raise for non-negotiated employees of 2% effective July 1, 2022, for all non-negotiated employees who were employed with the university as of April 1, 2022. Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Brudnak motioned; Trustee Brookins seconded the motion. **Roll call was taken, and Resolution 23-15 passed unanimously.**

Regarding Resolution 23-16, approval of proposed voluntary resolution agreement with U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Harrell made a motion to approve; Trustee Brookins seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, Resolution 23-16 passed unanimously.**

Chair Sebastian then addressed those items removed from the Consent Agenda. Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve Resolution 23-12, tenure and faculty status for Provost Schneller. Trustee Harrell made a motion to approve; Trustee Brudnak seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, the Resolution passed unanimously except that the Student Trustee did not vote as she is precluded by law from voting on tenure.**

Chair Sebastian then turned to approval of the open session of the August 5, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting. The motion on the table, noted Chair Sebastian, is approval of the minutes with the corrections of Trustee Brudnak being listed on the Student Affairs Committee and not Trustee Brookins, and Trustee Brookins being listed on the Budget Finance Committee only once and not twice. Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Trustee Harrell made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Trustee Brookins seconded the motion. **Upon roll call vote, the amended minutes were approved unanimously.**

XII. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Regarding new business, Chair Sebastian reported that she is working with administration on setting the calendar for next year and getting clarity on what is to be covered on a routine and recurring basis.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Brudnak motioned; Chair Sebastian seconded. The motion passed upon unanimously roll call vote and the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:40 pm.

Approved by: _____

Angela M. Sebastian
Chair

Approved by: _____

James Kvedaras
Secretary