

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “GovState,” respectively), an Illinois body politic and corporate, was held in person and via audio-videoconference at GovState’s University Park Campus in Engbretson Hall on April 24, 2025, beginning at approximately 3:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the Agenda posted for public notice before 3:00 pm on April 22, 2025 in accordance with Section 120/2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. 5 ILCS 120/ *et seq.* Before the meeting, each Trustee received materials corresponding to the action items in the Agenda, copies of which are maintained with the Board records.

I. MEETING DETAILS

Meeting Chair: James Kvedaras

Minutes Recorded By: Therese King Nohos, General Counsel

II. ATTENDEES

Chair Kvedaras confirmed a quorum was present given the presence of the following Trustees in attendance in person at the start of the meeting unless otherwise noted:

- Stacy Crook, Vice Chair and Trustee;
- Frances Pao-Han Kao, Trustee;
- James Kvedaras, Chair;
- Judith L. Mitchell, Trustee;
- Karen Nunn, Trustee and Secretary;
- Harish Rayalapati, Student Trustee;
- Anibal Taboas, Trustee; and
- Angelica Zuniga, Trustee.

President Corey S. Bradford, Sr., was present, as were the following members of the President’s

Cabinet who appeared in person:

- Joshua R. Allen, MPS, SHRM-SCP, Vice President of Human Resources;
- Janelle A. Crowley, PhD, Chief of Staff, President's Office;
- William Davis, Vice President, External Affairs
- Paul McGuinness, MA, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management;
- Therese King Nohos, JD, Vice President, General Counsel;
- Patricia O'Neal, Executive Assistant to the President;
- Joi F. Patterson, PhD, Chief of Institutional Engagement and Excellence; and
- Beverly Schneller, PhD, Vice President, Provost and Chief Academic Officer.

Faculty Senate President Josh Sopiarsz was present as well.

III. ABSENCES

None.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kvedaras at approximately 3:00 pm.

V. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dr. Crowley read the University's Land Acknowledgement Statement.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

VII. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Kvedaras announced that former President Cheryl Green had passed away the previous day and asked for a moment of silence. He noted that a Naming Committee was being formed to identify a way to honor her contributions to the University. Chair Kvedaras also thanked Student Trustee Rayalapati, who was attending his last official meeting.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Bradford noted that a bereavement statement regarding Dr. Green's passing had been published by the University. He then reported on the Senate Appropriation Hearing that occurred that week and advised the Board that internal meetings of the Planning and Budget Advisory Council were ongoing.

Chair Kvedaras congratulated the College of Health and Human Services for its recent rankings in *U.S. News and World Report*.

IX. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Kvedaras asked for a motion to approve the meeting's Consent Agenda. Trustee Nunn so moved, and Trustee Taboas seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote, thereby approving (i) the Agenda for the day's meeting and (ii) the minutes of the March 10, 2025 meeting.

X. PROPOSED ACTION ITEM

The Board then was presented with the following action item to consider consistent with the Agenda: Resolution 25-23, Consideration, Selection and Approval of the Presidential Contract.

Vice President Allen presented the Resolution, outlining the process that was followed to select the University's next President. Trustee Mitchell moved to approve the Resolution, and Trustee Crook seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, thereby approving the appointment of Dr. Joyce Ester as the University's next President, effective July 1, 2025.

Chair Kvedaras thanked Trustee Crook and the Presidential Search Committee for their efforts.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other old or new business, Chair Kvedaras then asked for a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Crook so moved; Trustee Zuniga seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 pm.

Approved this 16th day of June 2025


James Kvedaras, Chair


Karen Nunn, Secretary