

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Approved for
release at 2-19-21
meeting

Minutes of the Friday, December 11, 2020 Board Meeting

Note: As permitted by Public Act 101-0640, Illinois Governor's Disaster Proclamation issues on November 13, 2020, and Executive Order number 2020-71, the December 11, 2020 board meeting was held via Zoom.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Governors State University Board of Trustees meeting for Friday, December 11, 2020 was called to order by Chair Harrell at 8:33am. Roll call was taken and Trustees Kevin Brookins, John Brudnak, Pedro Cevallos-Candau, Lisa Harrell, Janine Latrice Koger, Jim Kvedaras, Angela Sebastian, and Anibal Taboas were in attendance.

Also in attendance:

Cheryl Green, President

Mary Pat Burns, Interim General Counsel, Burke Burns & Pinelli, Ltd.

W. Paul Bylaska, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Elizabeth A. Cada, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Therese King Nohos, Vice President, General Counsel

Penny Perdue, Chief of Administrative Operations and Liaison to the Board

Catherine Balthazar, Dean, College of Health and Human Services

Villalyn Baluga, Associate Vice President for Finance

Zion Banks, Senior Writer, Marketing and Communications

Theresa Booker, Telecommunications Engineer, Information Technology Services

Hollie Campbell, Assistant to the AVP of Enrollment Management

Mushtaq Choudhary, Director of Auxiliary Services and Housing

Robert Clay, Executive Director, Student Engagement and Intercultural Programs

Marlon Cummings, Faculty, College of Education, Faculty Senate Representative

Will Davis, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and CEO of the GSU Foundation

Shannon Dermer, Dean, College of Education

Richard Enyard, Vice President, Human Resources

Sondra Estep, Faculty, College of Education, President, UPI

David Golland, Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Senate President

Giesela Grumbach, Faculty, College of Health and Human Services, Faculty Senate Representative

David Green, Chair, College of Business

Brenda Hannigan, Administrative Assistant to Vice President for Administration and Finance

Sarah Hirsch, Project Manager, Advertising and Marketing, Marketing and Communications

Rosemary Johnsen, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

Sheryl Jones-Harper, President, Civil Service Senate

Maureen Kelly, Director of Governmental and Community Relations

William Kresse, Faculty Senate Representative
Joan Johns Maloney, Coordinator of Benefits and Employee Relations, Human Resources
Andrae Marak, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Paul McGuinness, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and Director of Admissions
Paula McMullen, Academic Advisor, Senior Status
Rashidah Muhammad, Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Senate Representative
Heather Penn, Chief Broadcasting Engineer, Digital Learning and Media Design
John Perry, Interim Executive Director of Student Financial Services
John Potempa, Associate Vice President for Facilities Development and Management
Chuck Pustz, Associate Vice President for Information Technology Services
David Rhea, Faculty, College of Arts and Sciences, Director, Center for the Junior Year
Lisé Schneider, Director of Admissions
Colleen Sexton, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs
Tracy Sullivan, Assistant Vice President of Procurement
Catherine Tymkow, Faculty, College of Health and Human Services, Faculty Senate Representative
Chelsea Vanderpool, Faculty, College of Business, Faculty Senate Representative
Jason Vignone, Director, Graduate Admissions and Retention
Haley Walsh, Editorial Assistant, Marketing and Communications
Corey Williams, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students
Jun Zhao, Dean, College of Business
Sandra Zurawski, Director of Budget and Financial Planning

Several members of the general public were also in attendance.

Chair Remarks

Chair Harrell began her remarks by noting that GSU's governing statute vests the board with the ultimate responsibility for the administration of the University and that the Board has the authority to delegate that administration to the University president. The Board is proud of the work that Dr. Green has accomplished in her first six months and is encouraged by her efforts to strengthen the administration's relationship with various stakeholder groups. It is the Board's expectation that those groups will continue to work with Dr. Green on issues that impact the University. She then addressed meeting protocols, stating that GSU maintains one of the most inclusive meeting protocols, compared to sister universities. The Board and its committees will not be making any changes to its meeting protocols, but will continue to encourage public comment at meetings and will hear reports from the three senate presidents at full board meetings.

Chair Harrell requested that stakeholders continue to work directly with Dr. Green, noting that, when necessary and appropriate, Dr. Green will bring issues to the Board's attention. Rich discussions have and will continue to take place in the Board's committee meetings and attendance at committee meetings is both encouraged and welcomed.

Chair Harrell welcomed GSU's new general counsel, Therese King Nohos, and thanked Mary Pat Burns and Sarah Boeckman for their work and for facilitating a smooth transition with Ms. Nohos. She offered her thoughts and prayers to the family of Jon Cobb, GSU's theater manager, who recently passed away. Jon's generous personality, cheerful presence, and joyful lifelong service to the arts was a gift to the GSU Center for Performing Arts.

Public Comment

Sondra Estep, President, GSU Chapter, UPI Local 4100

Dr. Estep gave her remarks, expressing pride in GSU during the pandemic and expressing concern regarding the state's budget.

President's Report

Dr. Green reported the following to the Board:

- GSU's essential workers, specifically the university police, facilities, food service, and the Family Development Center staff, deserve our appreciation for their hard work in keeping the campus open and safe during the pandemic.
- John Potempa and his entire team have been working diligently to develop GSU's facilities master plan. It is estimated that the process will be complete in November 2021.
- GSU anticipates implementing a spring operating plan similar to the fall 2020 plan. The majority of classes will be delivered remotely. We will continue to monitor the rapidly changing conditions to provide a campus climate that is safe and productive.
- After a review of various options, academic affairs and enrollment services has chosen Scholarship Universe by Campus Logic software, which will allow for the centralization of scholarship offerings on campus and give students access to external scholarships. This software will directly address the number one reason students drop out of school—financial aid barriers.
- GSU is developing a virtual one-stop process for admissions, financial aid, registration, and financial services. This will allow a user to move quickly between systems to better assist students. In the future, a physical one-stop location will be developed.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Harrell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2020 Board meeting and to keep the executive session minutes closed pursuant to the recommendation of counsel. Trustee Brookins motioned. Trustee Koger seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

Information Items

Report on Purchases \$50,000 to \$99,000 for the Period September 21, 2020 through November 17, 2020

There were no such purchases to report during this time frame.

Budget to Actual Report

Dr. Bylaska called the Board's attention to the Report on Budget to Actual, which was provided in the Board book. There were no questions.

Report on Tuition and Fee Waivers

John Perry, Interim Executive Director of Student Financial Services, presented the Tuition and Fee Waiver report, which was provided in the board book. Discussion ensued.

Report of Budget and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Kvedaras reported that the Committee met on November 20, 2020 and heard reports on several information items. No action was taken. He noted that he is bringing one of the topics to today's meeting and asked Rosemary Johnsen, Associate Provost and AVP of Academic Affairs, and Paul McGuinness, AVP for Enrollment Management and Athletics, to report on GSU's strategic enrollment plan. Discussion ensued.

Report of the Human Resources Committee

Committee Chair Cevallos-Candau first gave a Civil Service Merit Board report, noting that he represents the Board of Trustees on the University Civil Service Merit Board. There was a meeting yesterday. New rules were established for separations and demotions at the universities; more information will be released soon. GSU's next Civil Service Audit will take place in January/February of 2022.

Chair Cevallos-Candau next reported that the Human Resources Committee met on December 8, 2020. He motioned on behalf of the Human Resources Committee to approve Resolution 21-6, Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Metropolitan Alliance of Police, Chapter 717. Trustee Kvedaras seconded. After brief discussion, the motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Chair Cevallos-Candau closed his report by noting that Resolution 21-7, Approval of Presidential Assessment Goals, will be deferred to later in the meeting.

Report of the Governance and Nominations Committee

Committee Chair Brookins reported that the Governance and Nominations Committee met on December 7, 2020 and discussed three items. No action was taken.

- Review of GSU Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures—Chair Brookins reported that the last robust review was undertaken some ten years ago and the committee plans to conduct a thorough review of all of the governance documents. Ms. Nohos will provide the committee with recommendations on the best way to conduct this review.
- Review of Meeting Protocols— Chair Brookins reported that GSU’s meetings are among the most inclusive of GSU’s sister universities.
- Criteria for President Emeritus Status—Chair Brookins reported that the Board has no guidelines in our governing documents for granting emeritus status. The committee has asked Dr. Green or her designee, Therese King Nohos, to bring forward a recommendation for a policy on awarding president emeritus status.

Action Item

Chair Harrell, in the absence of any concern or conflict from the trustees, noted that the 2021 meeting dates were approved as presented.

Senate Reports

Dr. David Golland, Faculty Senate President

Dr. Golland provided his report to the Board and presented a PowerPoint regarding shared governance and the faculty’s role on various university committees.

Ms. Sheryl Jones-Harper, Civil Service Senate President

Ms. Jones-Harper provided her report to the Board, expressing her appreciation for the University keeping employees’ health as a priority. She welcomed all newly classified civil service employees to Civil Service Senate meetings.

Chair Harrell noted that Mark Tyler, Student Senate President, is unable to attend today’s meeting as he has obligations related to his finals. He will provide a written report to the board.

(Trustee Sebastian exited the meeting at approximately 10am.)

Legal Update/Executive Session

Chair Harrell requested a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1), of the Open Meetings Act to discuss personnel matters. Trustee Koger motioned. Trustee Kvedaras

seconded. Roll call was taken and Trustees Brookins, Brudnak, Cevallos-Candau, Harrell, Kvedaras, Koger, and Taboas approved. The Board moved into executive session at 10:06am.

The Board returned to open session at approximately 11:04am. No formal action was taken while in Executive Session.

Old Business/New Business

Human Resources Committee Chair Cevallos-Candau motioned on behalf of the Human Resources Committee to approve Resolution 21-7, Approval of Presidential Assessment Goals for the Initial Term of the Presidential Agreement. As this was a committee motion, there was no second. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 am with a motion from Trustee Brookins and a second from Trustee Koger. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Perdue
Recording Secretary