

**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, meeting as a committee of the whole, was held in person and via audio-videoconference at GSU’s University Park Campus in Engbretson Hall on June 9, 2023 beginning at approximately 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 June 7, 2023 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

II. ATTENDEES

Chair Sebastian confirmed a quorum was present given the presence of the following four (4) Trustees¹ in attendance in person at the start of the meeting:

- Kevin Brookins, Trustee and Vice Chair;
- Lluvia Hernandez Aguirre, Student Trustee;
- James Kvedaras, Trustee; and
- Angela M. Sebastian, Trustee and Chair.

Trustee John Brudnak joined the meeting in person at approximately 9:05 am. Trustee Anibal Taboas joined the meeting remotely via videoconference at approximately 9:15 am.

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¹ Six trustees are currently seated; therefore, four trustees constitute a quorum.

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
- Corey S. Bradford, Sr., PhD, Vice President of Administration and Finance
- Janelle A. Crowley, PhD, Chief of Staff, President's Office
- William A. Davis, MS, Vice President, Institutional Advancement, Marketing and Communications
- Maureen Kelly, Executive Director for Government Affairs
- Paul McGuinness, MA, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
- Therese King Nohos, JD, Vice President, General Counsel
- Joi F. Patterson, PhD, Chief Diversity Officer
- Beverly Schneller, PhD, Vice President, Provost and Chief Academic Officer

III. ABSENCES

None.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

VI. CHAIR COMMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Sebastian welcomed all to the meeting and noted that three trustees, Trustees Brudnak, Kvedaras, and Taboas, were reappointed for a new term. She also announced that the student trustee, Trustee Hernandez Aguirre, was elected to a second term. Chair Sebastian called for a motion to approve the proposed Agenda. Trustee Kvedaras so moved, and Trustee Brookins seconded. The motion passed upon unanimous vote.

VII. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chair Sebastian asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the February 3, 2023 meeting of the committee of the whole. Trustee Hernandez-Aguirre so moved, and Trustee Brookins seconded. The motion passed upon unanimous vote.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

The Agenda's informational items were presented as indicated in the Agenda and as follows:

1. Dr. Natalia Rekhter gave the Faculty Senate Report in lieu of Dr. Li-Wei Peng. She highlighted that the Faculty Curriculum Committee has approved 140 syllabi for online delivery, which was an enormous task.
2. Mr. Brave Fung gave the Civil Service Senate Report. He advised the Board that employees of the month for February, March, and April were Robert Bews, Fred Yantes, and Markita Alexander, respectively. The Civil Service Senate is actively reviewing how it awards its annual scholarship, its governance and bylaws, potential platforms for advocacy, and programming.
3. No Student Senate report was provided during summer break.
4. Dr. Robert Stanley gave a status update on strategic planning. He emphasized the need to integrate multiple planning documents, such as Strategy 2025, the Enrollment Management Plan, the Athletics Plan, the Facilities Master Plan, and the Academic Advising Plan. He gave an overview of efforts to date regarding data collection in analyzing progress towards goals. He then highlighted key progress points for each of the eight strategic goals in Strategy 2025 such as: (i) reaffirmation of accreditation, proposed

Honors College, and proposed Graduate College regarding progress towards Goal 1 (Academic Excellence and High Quality Programming); (ii) the Summer Bridge Program and revised Academic Advising model regarding progress towards Goal 2 (Student Success); (3) new hires as evidence towards Goal 3 (High Quality Faculty and Staff); (4) development of a LatinX center, first generation student center, and transfer agreements as evidence of progress towards Goal 4 (Enrollment Optimization); (5) ongoing applications for the Seal of Excellencia and the Baldrige Award as evidence of progress towards Goal 5 (Investing in Excellence); (6) hiring of a new Chief Diversity Officer and breaking ground on a new Social Justice Center as evidence of progress towards Goal 6 (Social, Ethical, and Environmental Stewardship); and (7) review of policies and procedures as evidence of progress towards Goal 8 (Continuous Improvement).²

5. Mr. Charles Pustz and Dr. Novia Pagone gave a status report on the current status of the institutional technology plan. They emphasized that the Technology Strategic Plan dovetails with Strategy 2025's goals regarding: academic excellence; student success; social, ethical, and environmental stewardship; and strong cyber presence. Completed goals include: reaffirming the use of Blackboard as a mobile learning solution; purchase and integration of the Slate CRM solution for student recruitment; purchase of Qualtrix software for surveying; and migrating email to Microsoft 365. Ongoing work includes: developing a new website and portal; expanding capabilities with use of Microsoft 365 solutions; and investing in classroom technology. Future goals include: enhancing data-driven decision making; implementing a system to track professional development; enhancing recruitment systems; implementing a system to track external sponsorships and partnerships; and developing a solution to allow each unit or department to publish their specific key performance indicators (KPIs). A robust discussion ensued regarding cybersecurity.
6. Mr. Joshua Allen gave a status report on the Civil Service Merit Board, noting that advocacy efforts are underway to change how hiring and recruiting is done statewide. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2023. Chair Sebastian noted that the Board would need to elect a new delegate to the Civil Service Merit Board at the August meeting.

² Dr. Stanley deferred to the following presentation regarding information technology instead of covering it under Goal 7 (Strong Cyber Presence).

7. Dr. Beverly Schneller gave a status update on academics, the institution, and accreditation. She highlighted items such as hosting at least 20 formal and informal events leading up to Commencement celebrating the accomplishments of students and faculty; having the Faculty Senate fully engaged in shared governance; exciting work contemplated on upcoming sabbatical leaves; increasing training for faculty and staff in areas such as student affairs, institutional systems, and leadership, including a new faculty orientation program; proposing two new academic units—the Honors College and Graduate College; launching the Social Justice Initiative’s legal clinic; establishing better pathways for transfer students via transfer agreements; and enjoying the largest Research Day ever.
8. Drs. Nicole Bing and Lisa Pennington gave a report on the Ghana Public Health Brigade, including inviting several participants to discuss their experiences, which consisted of 11 days in Ghana working with rural communities to build home infrastructures and to educate the youth.
9. Chair Sebastian gave an update on the activities of the Executive Committee since the last meeting. She reported that, on April 28, 2023, the Executive Committee met and approved the proposed collective bargaining agreement with the University Professionals of Illinois, Local 4100 (UPI).

IX. PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

After hearing the information items, the Chair then called for all action items to be presented for discussion (but not vote) at this meeting. All action items reflected in the Agenda were presented and discussed as follows:

1. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-26, regarding approving tenure for annual internal candidates.
2. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-27, regarding approving tenure for Timothy Forde.
3. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-29, regarding approving tenure for Anton Lewis.

4. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-30, regarding approving the name change of the College of Education to the College of Education and Human Development and of the Division of Education to the Division of Education and Leadership.
5. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-31, regarding approving the name change of the Honors Program to the Honors College.
6. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-32, regarding approving the establishment of a new academic program called the College of Graduate Studies.
7. Dr. Schneller presented Resolution No. 23-33, regarding approving submission of the Academic Program Review to the Illinois Board of Higher Education.
8. Ms. Tracy Sullivan presented Resolution No. 23-34, regarding approving a contract in excess of \$250,000 for the construction of a building dedicated to Social Justice programming.
9. Dr. Bradford presented Resolution No. 23-35, regarding approving a preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24.
10. Ms. Sullivan presented Resolution No. 23-36, regarding approving a contract in excess of \$250,000 for the purchase of software with E*Value from MedHub, LLC.
11. Mr. Allen presented Resolution No. 23-37, regarding approving a collective bargaining agreement with Service Employees International Union Local 73.
12. Mr. Allen presented Resolution No. 23-38, regarding approving a collective bargaining agreement with The International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 743 (Clerical Workers).
13. Mr. Allen presented Resolution No. 23-39, regarding approving a collective bargaining agreement with The International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 743 (Maintenance Laborers).
14. Mr. Allen presented Resolution No. 23-40, regarding approving a collective bargaining agreement with The International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO, Local 399.
15. Mr. Allen presented Resolution No. 23-28, regarding approving an employment agreement with President Cheryl Green.

X. VIII. CLOSED SESSION

Chair Sebastian called for a motion to go into closed session to discuss collective bargaining agreements and a personnel agreement. Trustee Kvedaras so moved and Trustee Brookins seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The open session adjourned at approximately 11:20 am. The open session reopened at approximately 1:15 pm. Chair Sebastian noted that no action had been taken during closed session.

XI. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Chair Sebastian called for any old or new business. There being none, she called for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Brookins so moved, and Trustee Taboas seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 pm.

Approved by: _____

Approved by: _____

[TO COME, Chair]

[TO COME, Secretary]