

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**FULL BOARD  
Minutes of the May 8, 2015 meeting**

**Brian D. Mitchell, Chair**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Mitchell called the meeting of the Full Board to order at 12:45 p.m. Trustees Lorraine Tyson, Jack Beaupre, Bruce Friefeld, Patrick Ormsby, Anibal Taboas, and Student Trustee Jeremy Joyce were in attendance. Trustee Eileen Durkin was absent.

Others present: Elaine P. Maimon, President; Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; David Meadows, Executive Vice President and Treasurer; Alexis Kennedy, General Counsel; Karen Kissel, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Will Davis, Vice President for Development; Aurelio Valente, Vice President for Student Affairs; Maureen Kelly, Director of Governmental and Community Relations; Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President; Sheryl Jones-Harper, Civil Service Senate President; Mychael Vanarsdale, Student Senate President; Colleen Sexton, Associate Provost; Ann Vendrely, Associate Provost; Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean, College of Business and Public Administration; Beth Cada, Dean, College of Health and Human Services; Andrea Evans, Dean, College of Education; Lydia Morrow-Ruetten, Dean, University Library; and David Dixon, Internal Auditor.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Report of the Board Committees**

**Human Resources Committee.** Committee Chair Tyson reported the Human Resources Committee met on May 8, 2015 and a quorum was present. The Committee met in Executive Session and then heard a report from Trustee Mitchell on the most recent Civil Service Merit Board meeting. The Committee adopted minutes for its meeting on February 27, 2015 and recommended to the Full Board the adoption of and placement on the Consent Agenda of: *Resolution 15-28: Award of Rank and Tenure, Resolution 15-29: Approval to Transfer Tenure from the College of Business and Public Administration to the College of Arts and Sciences, and Resolution 15-30: Approval of Salary Increase for Non-Negotiated Employees.*

**Academic Affairs Committee**

Committee Chair Taboas reported the Academic Affairs Committee met on May 8, 2015 and a quorum was present. The Committee heard reports on GSU's Program Accreditation Status for

May 2015, the Annual Listings Report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, a Report on Off-Campus Sites, Termination of the Naperville Center Lease effective December 2015, and an Update on Freshman and Sophomore Enrollment for Fall 2015. The Committee adopted minutes for its meeting on February 27, 2015, and recommended to the Full Board the adoption of and placement on the Consent Agenda of *Resolution 15-31: Approval to Move the Master of Public Administration Program from the College of Business and Public Administration to the College of Arts and Sciences*, *Resolution 15-32: Approval of Name Change of the College and Divisions in the College of Business and Public Administration*, *Resolution 15-33: Approval of Request for new Unit of Instruction – 2+2+1 Program in Health Informatics*, *Resolution 15-34: Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates*, and *Award of Emeritus Status*.

**Budget and Finance Committee.** Committee Chair Ormsby reported the Budget and Finance Committee met on May 8, 2015 and a quorum was present. The Committee heard reports on the Operational Budget vs. Actual Expenses as of March 31, 2015, and the Annual Report on Depositories. They also participated in a study session on Tuition and Fees. The Committee adopted minutes for its meeting on February 27, 2015, and recommended to the Full Board for roll call approval the following: *Resolution 15-36: Approval of Tuition Rates for Academic Year 2015-2016*, *Resolution 15-37: Approval of Student Fee Rates for Academic Year 2015-2016*, and *Resolution 15-42: Award of Contract for Student Disability Services*. The Committee also recommended to the Full Board the adoption of and placement on the Consent Agenda of *Resolution 15-38: Approval of Preliminary Operating Budget*, *Resolution 15-39: Approval of Ellucian 5-year Service and Maintenance Contract*, *Resolution 15-40: Award of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Sub-Awards*, *Resolution 15-41: Approval of Siemens Industry, Inc. Contract Renewal*, and *Resolution 15-46: Award of Sole Source Contract to CBS Radio East Inc.*

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Approval of Minutes – February 27, 2015**

Mitchell requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2015 Full Board meeting. Friefeld made a motion. Ormsby seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

The following Resolutions are brought before the Board for approval:

**Resolution 15—28:** Award of Rank and Tenure

**Resolution 15—29:** Approval to Transfer Tenure from the College of Business and Public Administration to the College of Arts and Sciences

**Resolution 15—30:** Approval of Salary Increase for Non-Negotiated Employees

**Resolution 15—31:** Approval to Transfer the Master of Public Administration Program from the

College of Business and Public Administration to the College of Arts and Sciences

**Resolution 15—32:** Approval of Name Change of the College and Divisions in the College of Business and Public Administration

**Resolution 15—33:** Approval of Request for New Unit of Instruction (RNUI) - 2+2+1 Program in Health Informatics

**Resolution 15—34:** Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates

**Resolution 15—35:** Approval to Submit the AY2014-2015 Academic Program Review Report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education

**Resolution 15—38:** Approval of FY16 Preliminary Operating Budget

**Resolution 15—39:** Approval of Ellucian Five-Year Service and Maintenance Contract

**Resolution 15—40:** Award of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Sub-Awards

**Resolution 15—41:** Award of Siemens Industry, Inc. Contract Renewal

**Resolution 15—46:** Award of Sole Source Contract to CBS Radio East Inc.

Mitchell requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Tyson made a motion. Friefeld seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Approval by Roll Call**

**Resolution 15—36:** Approval of Tuition Rates for Academic Year 2015-2016

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-36. Tyson made a motion. Ormsby seconded. Roll call was taken and Mitchell, Friefeld, Beaupre, Ormsby, Tyson, Taboas and Joyce voted aye. The motion passed.

**Resolution 15—37:** Approval of Student Fee Rates for Academic Year 2015-2016

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-37. Friefeld made a motion. Taboas seconded. Roll call was taken and Mitchell, Friefeld, Beaupre, Ormsby, Tyson, Taboas and Joyce voted aye. The motion passed.

**Resolution 15—42:** Award of Contract for Student Disability Services

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-42. Friefeld made a motion. Ormsby seconded. Roll Call was taken and Mitchell, Friefeld, Beaupre, Ormsby, Taboas and Joyce voted aye. Tyson abstained. The motion passed.

## **REPORTS**

### **Brian D. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees**

Chair Mitchell made the following remarks: It has been a year since I began my tenure as Board Chair. Today, regretfully, we had to raise tuition and fees due to the uncertainty in the State of Illinois. Let me assure you we don't make these decisions lightly and as you saw earlier this morning much thought and analysis went into this decision. The budget situation in this State—a

subject that has been front and center for as long as I have been a trustee—remains uncertain. No one knows what will happen; however that does not mean that uncertainty should consume or define us. I am confident that together we can handle whatever the next year brings.

Now, let's talk about all the good things going on at GSU. Today the Board officially reconfirms its confidence in and appreciation to President Maimon. After a comprehensive assessment, which the Board commissions every few years, we are pleased to thank Dr. Maimon for her commitment to our students, her dedication to transparency, and her persistence in telling the GSU story locally, in Springfield, and across the nation. As we once again prepare to celebrate Commencement we can reflect on all that has been accomplished in the last year. Freshmen walking the halls. Students living on campus. Sports being played in the gym and on the campus fields (and don't forget at the University Golf Course). A dedication to excellence by all continues to manifest itself in so many ways. That dedication was validated when GSU was awarded the ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation on March 15. The award is given to "colleges or universities which in a period of great change in higher education have responded to challenges in innovative and creative ways that allow the institution to thrive." The award also took into account GSU's financial planning—careful, thoughtful, and always with an eye on what is most important—student success. I want to welcome Executive Vice President David Meadows on behalf of the Board. We have high expectations which we believe you will fulfill. I thank each and every one of you for your dedication and support. Keep moving GSU forward.

**Elaine P. Maimon, President**

President Maimon made the following remarks: Chair Mitchell, I want to thank you and the full Board for your confidence in my leadership as demonstrated in the Presidential Assessment. I want to underline how important having an independent Board is to this University. I want to take this occasion to thank the Trustees, Administrators, faculty, staff and students for the creativity and hard work that has created our successful transformation. Commencement time is upon us, a time when we can see the fruit of our labors. Three generations of a family will be graduating at the 5 p.m. ceremony, our first Prairie Place residents will graduate, and we have two outstanding Honorary Degree Recipients, Elizabeth Brackett and Nikki Giovanni. The second cohort of Dual Degree Program (DDP) will be graduating as well, a total of 71 students including two earning master's degrees. We currently have 372 students in the DDP pipeline with 204 currently enrolled at GSU. Of all the DDP students who have transferred to GSU, 94% have graduated or are on track to graduate. This program works. Thanks to Chair Mitchell for his remarks about the ACE award which I was proud to accept on behalf of all of you.

GSU's application to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) was approved on April 13. Many thanks to Coach Anthony Bates, Dr. Aurelio Valente, Dr. John Yunger, Dr. Gebe Ejigu and all those who worked so hard for this acceptance. Acceptance into the

Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) is up next and they will be on campus this summer. International student enrollment has increased and more applications are arriving each day. I also want to point out that April was Sexual Assault Awareness Month and we had a team led by Aurelio Valente and Robert Clay, the Director of Intercultural Student Affairs, who planned a month full of informative events.

Legislative Update. Since my last report to the Board I testified before the Senate Appropriations II Committee and the House Appropriations Higher Education Committee. I have also met with legislators, their staff, and the Secretary of Education among others. GSU received official Senate Recognition Certificates for the ACE Award from Senators Radogno and McGuire, as well as House recognition from Representative Anthony DeLuca. GSU Students visited Springfield and were recognized from the floor of the General Assembly by Representative DeLuca, Representative Will Davis, and Senator Michael Hastings. We are doing everything we can to make sure our story is known. I want to thank Maureen Kelly for her tireless work on our behalf in Springfield.

As Provost Bordelon reported in the Academic Affairs Committee, recruitment for our second freshman class is going well, and is ahead of last year. We are also well ahead of last year in student contracts for Prairie Place.

Today I have a special announcement regarding the GSU Promise. We have reached and exceeded the goal of our mini-campaign. Between February and May we raised over \$100,000 to complete our first million dollar scholarship campaign. Special recognition should go to Vice President Will Davis and his staff who worked tirelessly to close the gap by Commencement Day. Many thanks to all who contributed, including our Trustees. As of May 8 we have exceeded our \$1M goal.

### **Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President**

Dr. Muhammad made the following remarks: Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with the Board of Trustees. Our working together is important and we do not take this opportunity for granted. This is my last meeting as Faculty Senate President. Thank you for awarding tenure and promotion to associate professor to my colleagues, Lydia Falconnier, Social Work; Walter Henne, Chemistry; Vincent Jones, Criminal Justice; Lawrence Maucieri, Psychology and Counseling; Evelina Mengova, Accounting and Finance; Divya Sood, Occupational Therapy; Feng Tian, Management and Marketing; and Christopher White, English. I congratulate them on their superior teaching and scholarship.

On to more serious concerns. All over the state beautiful flowers are blooming, but the Governor's proposed budget reductions will cut off their heads. There is nothing pretty about headless green stems. Please know that the Faculty Senate applauds the work of the Maimon

administration and the fundraising done by the GSU Foundation, but we are going to need more money. Without additional avenues of support how will we sustain our new programs and our established programs which also have a stake in our reputation? We are concerned that even a small tuition increase may price us out of the market for our local residents. Some students are working two or three jobs in order to pay for their education. GSU is not just some small college hidden in the cornfields south of Chicago. We are a model 21<sup>st</sup> century educational institution. The Faculty Senate is very concerned about the number of suspended faculty searches. Our enrollment and our commitment to quality education demands that we hire additional tenure-track faculty to replace retiring faculty and/or honor the tenets of our master plan.

Pension. As it is now we cannot hire new faculty and our pension issue is so up in the air that the situation is cloudy for current faculty and any new faculty who dare come to Illinois. The Illinois Supreme Court has ruled that the pension plan proposed is unconstitutional, so we now have to start back at square one.

Research and Scholarship. We are encouraged to do scholarship, research, and professional development, which include networking and presenting research at national and regional conferences and conventions. Very few faculty can afford to spend \$2000-\$3000 to attend conferences. We need support for that networking.

Faculty Concerns. Some faculty have concerns about moving the MPA program from CBPA to CAS. Currently, the program is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) until 2017-2018. There is concern that this accreditation may be in jeopardy in the coming years. In addition, CBPA has more funding than CAS to house faculty, so some are concerned about that support system. Additionally, CBPA advising is done by professional advisors while CAS has very few professional advisors and relies on faculty to do the advising. Are the faculty moving from CBPA to CAS going to be trained as advisors? The Faculty Senate asks that you please take our concerns into account.

Gen-Ed Implementation Task Force. The Task Force is continuing to work on an organizational structure for assessment of GE learning outcomes, updating and clarifying policies and procedures needed for General Education, and the structure for a more permanent General Education committee. The Task Force is hosting a retreat with faculty, advisors, mentors, and all who taught or work with the first-year students to discuss what worked, what didn't and why, and whether our learning objectives have been met.

Thank you.

**LaTonia Richmond, Civil Service Senate Vice President**

Ms. Richmond made the following remarks: Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to be here in Sheryl (Jones-Harper's) stead, and thank you to Chair Mitchell for his service to the

Civil Service Merit Board. Recently the Civil Service Senate had a productive meeting in conjunction with Human Resources during which information was dispersed on the Civil Service System and representatives from the State University Annuitants Association were available to answer questions. Senate elections were held and new memberships were solicited. During the spring semester four Civil Service Senate scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$500 each. The Spring Vendor Fair was very successful, representing 32 vendors, with part of the profits going to the endowment fund. The Employee of the Month program is going well. The Civil Service Senate looks forward to Commencement and would like to congratulate all 2015 graduates.

### **Mychael Vanarsdale, Student Senate President**

Mr. Vanarsdale made the following remarks: I'm honored to be here, and honored and privileged to serve the students of GSU. On March 30, new officers were elected including a newly elected IBHE representative, Lisa Wallace, and new Student Trustee, Yolanda Pitts. The Student Senate recently marched on Springfield, rallying on the Capitol steps to hand out postcards to individual legislators to show how state appropriation cuts are affecting college students. The Student Senate is looking forward to welcoming new students to Smart Start which begins the week of August 10, and participating in Welcome Week activities the week of August 24 when the fall semester begins. The Senate has developed a new guest format to foster and engage collaborative relationships within the University and will be reaching out to Administrators to take part. Thank you.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Resolution 15—43: Release of Executive Session Minutes***

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-43. Tyson made a motion. Ormsby seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### ***Resolution 15—44: Presidential Assessment***

Friefeld read the resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Elaine P. Maimon, with a distinguished record both as a faculty member and administrator in public and private institutions of higher education, has served as the President of Governors State University since July 1, 2007, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees, as part of its annual assessment of the President, has just concluded a comprehensive evaluation of Dr. Maimon's leadership of the University, with participation from a cross section of stakeholders including Board members, senior academic leaders, direct reports to the President, faculty and staff leaders, students, and key external stakeholders, and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Maimon, who is committed to making higher education available to all, has led the University in its transformative, positive transition from an upper-division public university

admitting only juniors, seniors, and graduate-level students, to a comprehensive public university offering academic study at all levels, and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Maimon has overseen the development of the highly regarded Dual Degree Program, a transparent budget process, and the continual updating of GSU's strategic plan, all as the University is continuing to meet the fiscal challenges presented by a diminution of State funding over the past eight years, and

**WHEREAS**, the assessment of Dr. Maimon's management showed widespread recognition and regard for her visionary leadership, her ability to effectively communicate that vision to the University community, and to be inclusive and consultative in her decision making and leadership, thereby serving as a leader people are willing to follow, and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Maimon has brought the University both federal and local recognition by her selection as convener of the Illinois Council of University Presidents from 2011-2014, her election as a Board Member of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (2011-2014), her service on the Board of Directors of the Will County Center for Economic Development (2009-present), as well as membership in the Chicago Network (2008-present), a group of outstanding women in academia, business, the arts, government, and politics, and

**WHEREAS**, the American Council on Education recognized her inspirational leadership and groundbreaking work when Governors State University received the 2015 ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Governors State University Board of Trustees commends Dr. Maimon for her exemplary leadership of the University and her unwavering commitment to providing high quality and affordable education to all students in our region. The Board expresses its gratitude for the growth and development of Governors State University during her presidency and its continued support for her contributions, which are so critical to the University's future.

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-44. Beaupre made a motion. Tyson seconded. Mitchell commented that the report spoke very highly of Dr. Maimon and spoke for itself. The Board is very grateful for Dr. Maimon's contributions. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote amid applause.

***Resolution 15—45: Honoring the Service of Student Trustee Jeremy Joyce***

Friefeld read the resolution.

**WHEREAS**, The Governors State University Board of Trustees was created on January 1, 1996 by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain Governors State University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one whom is a Governors State University student selected by their peers; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeremy Joyce, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration, Management this month, has served as Student Trustee from July 2014 through June 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeremy Joyce has served the University as a Peer Mentor, an Orientation Leader, a member of the Program Council, a members of APICS (American Production and Inventory Control Society), and a Tour Guide for the Office of Admissions; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeremy Joyce has been an active advocate for Governors State University, its students, faculty, and its mission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of Governors State University that Jeremy Joyce be formally recognized and commended for his service as Student Trustee, for his commitment to the role of Student Trustee as a representative of all students; for his dedication to the University as a whole, providing sound guidance and perspective; and for the spirit of committed governance which he brought to the task.

Mitchell requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-45. Taboas made a motion. Tyson seconded. Tyson congratulated Trustee Joyce, who will be working at Northern Trust when he graduates. Thank you for your service to the University. Joyce thanked the Board and the Administration for the opportunity to be part of the Board of Trustees which he knows will enhance his career. He introduced Yolanda Pitts, the Student Trustee elect. Mitchell also thanked Joyce for his service and presented him with a gift from the Board. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote amid applause.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **Charles Dieringer, community member**

Mr. Dieringer made the following comments: I have come to the Board meetings many times in the last few years and it has helped educate me in terms of sustainability. We have a serious sustainability issue in this area that I want to identify. I have experience working with the University of Illinois on watershed tolerance. We can see the wetlands. We have the resources to supply the city of Chicago, but in the last few months we have had a threat to our watershed due to oil pipes associated with Canadian National. We are trying to keep the watershed protected. Our watershed flows into Lake Michigan. If this pipe breaks our water supply will be threatened.

### **Alyse Zieman, community member**

Ms. Zieman made the following comments: I am also concerned about the pipeline. It is going around the University, congrats on that, but it is going in. The Earth Day events on campus were very enjoyable. Transportation to and from the University is good so keep doing the good job that you are doing. I'm very grateful for the affordable education that GSU provides the people of this region. I appreciate the Sexual Assault events the University sponsored. I come here every week and enjoy the grounds, and hope you will continue to maintain them.

Trustee Taboas thanked Faculty Senate President Rashidah Muhammad for her service, stating he will miss her in the role of Faculty Senate President with her informative reports and presence at the Board meetings.

Mitchell requested a motion to adjourn. Tyson made a motion. Joyce seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote and the meeting of the Full Board of Trustees adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Johns Maloney