

**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 December 9, 2022 beginning at 9:03 am. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the Agenda posted for public notice before 9:00 am on December 7, 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 eight (8) Trustees in attendance at the start of the meeting:

- Kevin Brookins, Trustee and Vice Chair
- John Brudnak, Trustee
- Pedro Cevallos-Candau, Trustee
- Lisa M. Harrell, Trustee
- Lluvia Hernandez Aguirre, Student Trustee
- James Kvedaras, Trustee and Secretary
- Angela M. Sebastian, Trustee and Chair
- Anibal Taboas, Trustee

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)
- Corey S. Bradford, Sr., Vice President of Administration and Finance
- 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
- 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, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

In addition, members of the University community were in attendance, including presenters Sandra Zurawski, Executive Director, Budget and Financial Planning; Tracy Sullivan, Associate Vice President, Procurement and Business Services; and John L. Perry, Executive Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships. Also present were Civil Service President Brave Fung, Faculty Senate President Li-Wei Peng, former Faculty Senate President Marlon I. Cummings, and Student Senate President Marquis Parks.

III. ABSENCES

None.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Sebastian at approximately 9:00 am.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Several members of the public and University community made comments regarding working conditions and contract negotiations with University Professionals of Illinois: Maria Valgoi;

Crystal Harris; Lauren Foley; Paula McMullen; Chris Griner on behalf of Alli Cipra; and Stephen Wagner.

VI. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Sebastian thanked those who gave public comment. She asked for a moment of silence for Chasatte Simeon, a University senior who recently passed away. She also announced that the Board continues to work on governance and would be sharing some changes today regarding how the Board governs.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair then addressed the consent agenda, explaining that any item could be removed upon the request of any Trustee. No items were removed. On unanimous vote, the consent agenda passed, including:

- Approval of the Proposed Amended Agenda;
- Approval of the Board of Trustee Minutes of the October 21, 2022 Meeting Open Session; and
- Approval of the Board of Trustee Minutes of the October 21, 2022 Meeting Closed Session.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Green shared updates from across the University, starting with announcing plans to host a memorial service in the Spring for all GSU community members who have passed in the last year, including Ms. Simeon. She next announced that the Illinois Board of Higher Education ("IBHE") will host its January 2023 meeting on the GSU campus, which it has not done since 2013. She reported that, on December 6, Will County and the Southland Chamber of Commerce held an event on campus. She next discussed significant grant activity. She then announced that the budget process by the Planning and Budget Advisory Counsel began in December 2022 for Fiscal Year 2024 purposes.

President Green then discussed personnel items, including announcing several internal promotions: (i) Jason Zingsheim earned the position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences after a national search; (ii) Timothy Harrington earned the position of Assistant Provost; (iii) Marlon Cummings earned the position of Interim Chair for the College of Education; and (iv) Amy R. Vujaklija earned the position of Director of Educator Preparation and Assessment. A search for the new Dean of the Library will begin shortly and the University is continuing its search for a Chair of the Library. A search for the Director of the Center for Performing Arts is ongoing as well.

President Green next updated the Board on accreditation, noting that the Physical Therapy program's programmatic accreditation was renewed by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

Regarding legislative affairs, she announced that the date of the Governor's budget address is February 15. Also, there will be public hearings held on college debt. Two bills of import are being considered: (i) H.R. 7780 regarding mental health services and (ii) H.R. 8688 to create grant opportunities for universities in economically challenged areas.

Regarding human resources, she reported that the University continues to voluntarily monitor for salary equity, completing 11 market and salary equity analyses in the second quarter of 2023.

Regarding spring enrollment, President Green reported that enrollment is down half-a-percent (0.5%) compared to last year's spring semester but there are five (5) more weeks before enrollment ends.

President Green also announced that the administration met and will be announcing a new plan for academic advisor workloads in early spring.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

Dr. Janelle Crowley, Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Initiatives, gave a report on the “committee of the whole” structure as a potential substitute for the current committee structure. A robust discussion ensued.

Brave Fung, Civil Service President, then gave a report on Civil Service. He thanked Lannie Brown-Simon, M.S., who will be joining the administration, for her service to Civil Service. He congratulated Nancy Rios, Teri Bushey, and Nicholas Denault who were named Civil Service Employees of the Month for September, October and November, respectively. He also thanked President Green for hosting a meeting of the Senate leaders to discuss shared governance. He thanked Joi Patterson and Laura Manion, both of whom have addressed the Civil Service recently. Finally, he announced that January 13, 2023 will be Civil Service Day.

Dr. Marlon Cummings, outgoing Faculty Senate President, noted that he will be stepping down as Faculty Senate President given his appointment as Interim Chair of the College of Education. He thanked his colleagues for their leadership and support. Dr. Peng, the incoming Faculty Senate President, expressed appreciation for her new role.

Marquis Parks, Student Senate President, reported that the Student Senate is planning programming to honor Ms. Simeon. He also announced that the Student Senate would be hosting a town hall discussion on January 26, 2023. He thanked Dr. Patterson for addressing the Student Senate and President Green for hosting a meeting of the Senate Presidents on shared governance.

X. ACTION ITEMS

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to entertain approval of a revised curriculum display and program outcomes for the revised Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. Trustee Harrell so moved and Trustee Kvedaras seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to approve the proposed Calendar Year 2023 meeting dates. Trustee Harrell so moved and Trustee Kvedaras seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to approve Resolution 23-17, a recommendation from General Counsel to maintain the confidentiality of certain closed session meeting minutes. Trustee Taboas so moved and Trustee Harrell seconded. General Counsel Nohos presented the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to entertain approval of early tenure by exception for Quincy Martin, III via Resolution 23-18. Provost Schneller presented the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote.

X. ACTION ITEMS

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to go into closed session, citing Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/. Trustee Harrell so moved and Trustee Brudnak seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous roll call vote. The open portion of the session adjourned temporarily at 12:10 pm. The Board reconvened at 1:15; Trustee Brudnak was not present. Chair Sebastian noted that no action had been taken in closed session.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Sebastian entertained a motion to adjourn. Trustee Hernandez Aguirre so moved and Trustee Cevallos-Candau seconded. It passed unanimously.

Approved by: _____

Angela M. Sebastian
Chair