

Chicago State University  
Board of Trustees  
Legislation and Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes  
Academic Library – Auditorium, Room 415  
March 8, 2010  
3:42 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Lisa Morrison Butler, Chairman  
Trustee Rev. Leon Finney, Ph.D.  
Trustee Betsy Hill  
Trustee Gary Rozier  
Trustee Zaldwaynaka “Z” Scott  
Trustee Rev. Richard Tolliver, Ph.D.  
Trustee Levon James, Student Representative

Others Present

Mr. Wayne Watson, Ph.D., President  
Mr. Patrick Cage, Esq., General Counsel for Labor and Legal Affairs  
Dr. Renee Mitchell, Director of Human Resources  
Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Ms. Altricia Wheeler, Administrative Assistant  
Dr. Erma Brooks Williams, Associate to the President for the Board of Trustees and Governmental Affairs

1. Call to Order  
Trustee Morrison Butler called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call  
A quorum was verified and roll call was taken.
3. Verification of Meeting Notice  
The meeting notice was posted as mandated by the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

4. Information Items

a. Legislative Update

Dr. Erma Brooks Williams presented an update since the Illinois General Assembly met after the February 2<sup>nd</sup> primary election. Dr. Brooks Williams stated the state is facing a deficit of \$13 million as well as a \$77 million pension deficit. However, the Civic Foundation is offering some solutions of a 3-5% increase in personal income tax. Dr. Brooks Williams noted that CSU will be traveling to Springfield for the Higher Education Lobby Day on April 21, 2010.

Dr. Brooks Williams reported that Senator Trotter proposed to cut CSU’s budget from \$38 to \$34 million, because of Senate Bill 1237, which proposes to cut state appropriations across the board by 10%.

Dr. Brooks Williams explained the following bills:

SB 3397 – prohibits State employees and spouses from acquiring state contracts

SB 3454 – a whistle blower State hotline

HB 5483 – require public meeting minutes to be released within 8 business days, still in committee

HB 5288 – communication by and among community college trustees on an internet blog does constitute a meeting

HJR 75 – study the effectiveness of the Monetary Assistance Program (MAP)

HB 4706 – would repeal the 50% tuition waiver for children of public universities employees

*Trustee Scott questioned if the university was taking a position through a lobbyist. Dr. Brooks Williams replied the university was advised not to hire a lobbyist due to the budget crisis. Trustee Scott stated that might be the advice, but are the students being protected in Springfield? Dr. Watson responded he will revisit hiring a lobbyist next year.*

Dr. Brooks Williams reported that the federal lobbyist in Washington presented \$12 million in proposals and an overall 29% increase in the Pell Grant funding. Dr. Brooks Williams commented that CSU will get \$1 million for the Black Male Center and in the federal budget there is a proposed increase of \$642 million over a 10 year period. However, the drawback is no increase in child care, trio or work study. But in terms of the agency levels, there have been a proposed increase of 3-4%.

b. Personnel Update

Dr. Renee Mitchell described the role of the Office of Human Resources (HR). Dr. Mitchell stated that HR is currently transforming from a process center to becoming a strategic partner to the university, which means offering internal consulting, executive coaching along with regular day-to-day HR tasks. Dr. Mitchell explained the immediate goals include increasing professional competencies, implementation of technology to facilitate quality improvement and seamless customer service.

Dr. Mitchell stated over the last quarter the office of HR has been instrumental in assisting the university in the work force planning initiative. She further stated that the work force planning or right sizing has been an activity that is currently taking place to insure that HR has the right people in the right roles to move the university forward based on its mission and goals.

Dr. Mitchell explained the Workforce Planning Committee's role was to seek to understand and challenge each department/unit to ensure that their mission and vision aligned to the overall university's mission and vision.

5. Other Matters

a. Public and Employee Comments

There were no public and employee comments.

6. Adjournment

**Trustee Finney moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee James seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.