

Chicago State University
Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs, Personnel, and Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes
Academic Library, Legislative Rooms 301 and 302
April 9, 2009
7:38 a.m. – 9:46 a.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Betsy Hill, Chairman
Trustee Rev. Leon Finney, Ph.D.
Trustee Peggy Montes
Trustee Jawaun Sutton, Student Representative

Others Present

Dr. Frank G. Pogue, Interim President
Mr. Katey Assem, Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement/CSU Foundation
Dr. Howard Johnson, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Dr. Dean Justmann, Interim Vice President for Finance, Administration and Finance
Dr. Kenneth Koroma, Associate Vice President for Sponsored Programs
Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Altricia Wheeler, Secretary to the Board
Dr. Erma Brooks Williams, Associate to the President for the Board of Trustees & External Relations

Roll Call and Verification of Meeting Notice

A quorum was verified. The meeting notice was posted as mandated by the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Action Items

a. Approval of Previous Minutes

Previous meeting minutes were approved, with the exception of the following addition: To note that when we discuss the admission requirements that the Board asked and the administration informed us that those new requirements were going into effect immediately.

Addition to the February 4, 2009 minutes have been made as follows: When we discuss the admission requirements that those new requirements will go into effect immediately.

Information Items

a. Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

1. Accreditation Process Update

Dr. Westbrooks provided a summary of the accreditation process and updates. Dr. Westbrooks noted that on November 17, 2003 the Higher Learning Commission Institutional Actions Council voted to continue the accreditation of CSU; however, the commission requested a monitoring report on enrollment management. Dr. Westbrooks stated that on October 11, 2006 an analysis report was provided with some noticeable progress. In addition, the commission requested we send a progress report on enrollment management which is due on June 1, 2009.

2. Tenure Recommendations

Dr. Westbrooks explained the tenure process regarding faculty as the portfolio moves to department chairperson to dean, to university personnel committee and then to the president. There are no exceptions to the process. Dr. Westbrooks noted that a timetable must be followed and that on April 10, 2009, Dr. Pogue will review the portfolios.

Trustee Hill stated that a meeting will be held in May to vote on tenure.

b. Dr. Howard Johnson, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

1. Enrollment Update and Marketing of New Admissions Standards

Dr. Johnson presented an enrollment update as of March 27, 2009. Dr. Johnson stated based on the new criteria for admissions he expects a yield of 50 percent. In order to address recruitment and retention, the plan requires a strong marketing strategy to communicate the image. In addition, the plan requires a

commitment to student success whereby every dean, faculty, staff, and all students participate. However, there are several assumptions that we cannot generate new funds.

Trustee Finney commented that Michael Madigan did agree to help generate additional funds to help student enrollment. This grant will help students.

2. Athletics Update

Dr. Johnson reported that men's basketball is the only sport which generates money; however, \$1.3 million is spent for travel.

Trustee Sutton: Do you think it is a good idea to compare how other schools generate money?

Dr. Johnson responded that is a challenge at any college.

Dr. Finney stated that he was concerned with our athletic program and that we need to do no less for our students than other schools.

c. Legislative Update

Dr. Erma Brooks Williams stated that the Illinois General remains in session. All bills are now on the table.

Dr. Williams commented that 40 members of black elected officials throughout Illinois want to embrace CSU.

Dr. Finney commended Dr. Williams on the outstanding effort she has put forth in trying to make sure we get the best possible set of circumstances from the General Assembly.

Public and Employees Comments:

Mr. Levon James, student of College of Business: Dr. Johnson, I am serving on the Tuition and Fees Committee, which is making the recommendation to lower the tuition fee to make up for lost enrollment over the years.

Trustee Finney: Are you recommending that the Board change our policy as it relates to out of state enrollment cost?

Mr. Levon James: Yes.

Laurie Walter: The Presidential Search Committee was in name only and allowed minimal input.

Trustee Finney: I believe that this process was open to the community and we had a good search firm.

John Orebiyi, Political Science major: Could you consider a larger room for the next meeting?

Jeremy Allen commented that lowering the enrollment criteria will not make CSU more competitive.

Trustee Hill responded: Sorry you were not at our last meeting because that was the same question we posed, but we were ensured that it would.

Trustee Finney stated: The enrollment plan was designed to move us forward; it calls for service for the students.

William Blackman: When the new president comes in, will he be micro managed and not allowed to take reign and take steps to move this university in a positive direction?

Trustee Finney responded: I don't think we have micro managed this president at all.

Raymond Morris Jr., accounting major of College of Business, commented that he wanted a president who can work smoothly but independently from the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Dominic Westmoreland, a political science student: Can you address a rumor that the interim president was pressured not to hire a permanent Vice President of Financial Affairs?

Trustee Finney: Any new president that comes to a university would want to hire his or her Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. Raul Flores, student of Political Science Department: On behalf of the CSU students we believe that a good presidential candidate should have extensive fund raising experience with a record of achievements, which neither candidate possesses.

Trustee Hill responded: We can agree with the first part of your statement without agreeing with the second part.

Ms. Leslie White, junior transfer student from Howard University, commented on a six year expectation for graduation seems below standards.

Trustee Montes replied: We agree with you but that seems to be the fact of today.

Mr. Ashton Valentine, Student Government Senator: Why is the library called the New Academic Library when it does not have updated books nor has the proper resources?

Trustee Hill responded: You should speak to the Dean of the library.

Mr. Valentine: The failure of this board to conduct a transparent and credible presidential search suggests to the student body that you do not have the university's best interest in mind.

Trustee Hill reminded everyone that it was this board that brought Dr. Pogue here.

Ms. Valeria Jones, criminal justice major, I attended a meeting where you discussed changing the enrollment criteria. I expressed my reservations at that time and I feel as though we are sacrificing our integrity for money.

Trustee Hill: This board cares deeply about the students. Every member of this board serves and does everything we do without compensation. We do it because we want to. We do it because we believe in your education. This happens on every university going through a transition.

Mr. Victor Sorell: What was the criterion for the selection of the final two candidates?

Dr. Williams: It is posted on the web.

Dr. Pettis, President of Alumni Association. The final two candidates that came out of your deliberations were not recommended by the Presidential Advisory Committee. How did this come about?

Dr. Williams: We had a quorum, Finney, Montes, Tolliver, and Hill. We went to 12 to 5 and interviewed, then identified 2.

Dr. Pettis: Who were the five?

Trustee Hill: That information is not a matter of public record.

Trustee Hill motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Finney moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sutton seconded.

The adjournment passed as follows:

Ayes: 3

Nays: 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.