

Chicago State University (CSU)
Board of Trustees
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Academic Library – Auditorium, Room 415
December 13, 2013
8:30 a.m. – 1:38 p.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Anthony L. Young, Chairman
Trustee Michael Curtin, Secretary
Trustee Spencer Leak, Sr.
Trustee Nikki Zollar
Student Trustee Ismael Reyna, Jr.

Board Members Not Present

Trustee James T. Joyce, Vice Chairman
Trustee Horace Smith

Others Present

Mr. Wayne Watson, Ph.D., President
Mr. Patrick Cage, Esq., General Counsel for Labor and Legal Affairs
Dr. Latrice Eggelston, Director Institution Research
Dr. Angela Henderson, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Edmundo Garcia, Professor, Chemistry & Physics
Mr. Raoul Garcia, Exec Director and Controller
Dr. Leroy Jones, Director, STEM
Dr. David Kanis, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Ms. Farah C. Muscadin, Esq., Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Mr. Lawrence Pinkelton, Interim Vice President of Administration and Finance
Ms. Bonnie Phillips, Assistant to Farah C. Muscadin
Ms. Bobbie Stewart, Director Cashier
Mr. Langdon Neal, Board Attorney

1. Call to Order

Trustee Young 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. Action Items

a. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**Trustee Curtin moved to approve the previous (September 20, 2013) meeting minutes.
Trustee Leak seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:**

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

- b. Approval of 2014 Board Meeting Dates: March 7, 2014; May 9, 2014; June 27, 2014; September 19, 2014; and December 12, 2014**

Trustee Curtin moved to approve the 2014 Board Meeting Dates. Trustee Reyna seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

5. President's Report

President Watson welcomed new Board member Nikki Zollar and Student Trustee Ismael Reyna, Jr.

He reported on the following items:

Merit Scholarships – President Watson stated that to date over \$700,000 in merit based scholarships have been awarded to over 950 students and that these students have an average GPA of 3.48 and are studying across a broad range of quality academic programs. He reported that the scholarships range in amounts based on need, with the average scholarship being just over \$1,000. Dr. Watson stated that these scholarships are helping more students afford college and are helping CSU attract and retain students.

Enrollment Push - President Watson stated that increasing enrollment continues to be a top priority and that we are actively working to increase the number of quality students enrolled in programs at CSU. He reported that the Enrollment Management Department spearheaded a successful Open House in November. President Watson stated that the Enrollment Management team is also working to expand our outreach efforts by forming partnerships with area high schools, with a particular emphasis on building quality relationships with schools outside of CSU's traditional footprint. He stated that there was an increased in January applicants from 840 in 2013 to more than 1370 in 2014, a 63% increase.

Infrastructure and Technology Improvements – President Watson stated that we continue to move forward with the updating of our Switch Gear. He reported that more than 700 new computers on campus have been added and that we have invested in new wireless technology, which has more than tripled the wireless online speed on campus. He stated that our IT team is working to double the speed again by the end of the year. He reported that we are working to streamline our campus email system. He reported that we are continuing to move forward in our West Side Campus development.

Academic Achievements – Dr. Watson reported that two undergrad biology students, Mr. Aaron Thompson and Ms. Clara Pham, were recently honored at a national biology conference in Chicago with an award for Best Presentation. He reported that Assistant Professor, Valarie Goss and several students visited the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists & Chemical Engineers. He stated that the Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Miriam Mobley Smith was recently named "Pharmacist of the Year" by the Illinois Pharmacists Association. He reported that CSU has recently welcomed dignitaries from partner universities in India and China and that we

are working to strengthen our international presence. Dr. Watson reported on the CSU Urban Mindfulness and Addictions Research (CUMAR) grant, which is a five-year, \$1.97 million dollar program that is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

President Watson thanked the Board members, as well as each and every member of the CSU family for doing their part to make this a successful year. President Watson stated that he is looking forward to working with everyone to do even more in 2014. He wished everyone a safe and joyous Holiday season.

Trustee Young asked if there were any questions from the Trustees regarding the President Report, There were no questions from the Trustees.

6. Reports

a. Academic and Student Affairs

1. Information Items

Trustee Young presided over the meeting.

a. Academic Affairs Update

The CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research) Student Presentations - Dr. Angela Henderson introduced Dean David Kanis and Dr. Leroy Jones who gave an overview of STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math). Dr. Jones stated that there is a serious issue with a STEM shortage of qualified individuals particularly in the minority community. Of the 2000 PhD's awarded only 20-30 are to African-Americans and the number is even lower in physics and mathematics.

Dr. Jones, Dean Kanis, and Dr. Garcia each noted the importance of the STEM program. Dr. Garcia introduced the CSU students who travelled to CERN to do research.

Bernard Lawson, a junior majoring in English and Physics reported that he worked on the N4 program, which is a new type of laser. He stated that this was a real nine to five job.

Tasha Williams explained the T-O detector Zmat design program.

Mike Tyler a Physics and Secondary Education major worked on data analysis. He stated that this was a great opportunity, which allowed him to engage with noted physicists.

Rodney Carmona, a Physics major worked on a major detector looking at the amount of mass an object has at any speed. He explained the results of his data analysis.

Dean Kanis stated that when the NSF (National Science Foundation) made their presentation to the Senate Appropriation Committee, they used an image of CSU students working at CERN.

Dr. Garcia further explained CERN and noted that every country in the world has some participation.

President Watson asked each student to state their age (to understand demographics), career and academic plans.

Rodney Carmona stated that he is 25 and majoring in Physics.

Mike Tyler stated that he is 33, a Physics and Secondary Education Teaching Option student in the College of Education. He will pursue his Doctorate in Education and would like to change the method for teaching STEM.

Bernard Lawson stated that he is a Physics Med Tech. He plans to teach at CSU. Mr. Lawson also plans to attend Georgia Tech, Notre Dame, or Northwestern.

Tasha Williams, 42, stated that she is majoring in Physics and Secondary Education (Math and Chemistry). She stated that she wants to serve intercity youth.

Dr. Henderson stated that Academic Affairs has two resolutions.

Dean Richard Darga presented the Open Access resolution. He stated that the committee will be comprised of students, faculty, administration, and a non-voting member of the publishing community.

1. Action Items

a. Open Access Task Force Resolution

Trustee Leak moved to approve the Open Access Task Force Resolution. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Dr. Yvonne Harris presented the Minority Retirement resolution. She stated that this grant focuses on the financial needs in underserved communities. Dr. Harris reported that this is the first of its kind and that there were only four awarded.

b. Minority Retirement Planning Resolution

Trustee Young moved to approve the Minority Retirement Planning Resolution. Trustee Curtin seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

b. Enrollment Management and Student Affairs

Dr. Latrice Eggeston stated that Vice-President Peebles was delayed at the airport and that she would be presenting for Enrollment Management. Dr. Eggeston

reported on spring enrollment, outreach efforts, and marketing. She noted that applications were up by 63% and that new admits are up. She stated that we are having more open houses and that we are reaching out to other states such as Michigan, Iowa and Indiana. Dr. Eggeston reported on retention efforts, stating that the graduation rate was steady at 21% and that there is collaboration with faculty to increase enrollment.

Mr. Matthew Harrison reported that applications for the spring are up and that applications for early decision students were available at an earlier time. Mr. Harrison stated that there were problems with spring numbers because of a software issue. He stated that fall applicants were offered scholarships.

Trustee Young asked if more scholarships were awarded this year than in previous years and where did the new money come from. Mr. Harrison stated that more scholarships were awarded than in previous years and that \$300K in scholarships was offered. Dr. Eggeston reported that some of the new money was a gift from former State Senator Emil Jones.

Trustee Young asked if we can expect to maintain the same level of scholarship offering. Dr. Eggeston stated that we are looking at garnering more funding from other areas. Trustee Young asked about the 21% graduation rate. Dr. Eggeston noted that the graduation rate is based on First Time Full Time (FTFT) students; however it does need to include non-traditional students. Dr. Eggeston stated that Vice President Peebles is committed to increasing enrollment and Ms. Peebles will be working with the Enrollment Team over the holiday break to continue to process applications. Trustee Reyna noted that the 40% transfer rate is not incorporated into the graduation rate.

b. Finance and Audit

Trustee Young stated that he was formally appointing Trustee Zollar as head of the Finance and Audit Committee.

Trustee Zollar congratulated the University for participating in the CERN program. She stated that she was honored to be a part of the University and that CSU is a jewel of the Southside and of the city of Chicago. She reported that she has met with many of CSU's department heads and staff.

1. Information Item

Trustee Zollar presided over the committee.

Mr. Pinkelton gave an overview of the University's cash position. He reported that based on the net cash in the bank the current cash balance is approximately \$15 million and the unrestricted cash totals approximately \$9.5 million dollars. Mr. Pinkelton stated that the University's cash position is solid. He gave an update on state appropriations, which are approximately \$42.2 million.

Trustee Young asked if the \$42.2 million in appropriation is for the present timeframe. Yes, July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 Mr. Pinkelton stated. The appropriation for FY15 is May 2014.

Trustee Young asked about the effect of the pension bill and how to address the loss of income.

Mr. Pinkelton stated that the effect will be in the FY15 appropriation and we anticipate a .5% impact to the University (\$400K) cash funds. He reported that the state is phasing the impact of the pension reform over a period of years. He noted that there will be meetings to address this issue.

Mr. Raoul Garcia thanked the Board for the opportunity to be a part of the CSU community. Mr. Garcia gave an overview of revenue, receivables and operating expenses.

Mr. Pinkelton stated that the University is positioned very well going into the FY15 planning cycle. He noted that the FY15 planning cycle has begun and that discussions with the leadership are occurring.

Mr. Pinkelton gave an update of the FY13 audit. Mr. Pinkelton stated that the external auditors will be leaving the campus this month.

c. Facilities

Trustee Young presided over the meeting.

Ms. Horton gave a summary for PFPM activities from August 2013 to November 2013, which including Facilities Administration, Capital Development Projects and Facilities Maintenance.

1. **Action Items**

a. **Electrical Generator Resolution**

Trustee Young asked about the buildings that do not have backup generators and if there was a study to determine the cause. Trustee Curtin asked about the timeline. Ms. Horton stated that Physical Plant, JCC and WSB will be done in that order and that there had been a study. She noted that the timeline is from 6 months to a year.

**Trustee Curtin moved to approve the Electrical Generator Resolution.
Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:**

**Ayes: 5
Nays: 0**

b. **Residence Hall Resolution**

Trustee Curtin moved to approve the Residence Hall Resolution. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

**Ayes: 5
Nays: 0**

c. **Waste Removal Resolution**

Trustee Curtin moved to approve the Waste Removal Resolution. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

d. Legislative and Human Resources

1. Information Item

a. Human Resources

Trustee Young presided over the meeting.

Ms. Farah Muscadin gave background information and an update on the pension bill that passed on December 4, 2013. She stated that it did not include the cost shift; however she anticipates legislation in the spring that will include the cost shift.

Ms. Muscadin also reported on the new scholarship dollars that the University received from the state, stating that this money was from the 2% set aside for Chicago State from the eleven license several years ago. She reported that CSU received \$4.6 million dollars this year. Ms. Muscadin stated that the \$1.6 million subject to appropriation language must be placed in any legislation that gives us our appropriations. Trustee Zollar asked if we were able to get all of the dollars from previous years. Ms. Muscadin stated that we were not able to get all of the dollars from previous years.

1. **Action Items**

a. **State Lobbyist Resolution**

Trustee Young asked about the number of lobbyist and how many worked for us this past session. Ms Muscadin stated that generally speaking it is a team of three or four and that there were three that work for us this past session.

Trustee Young moved to approve the State Lobbyist Resolution.

Trustee Leak seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

e. Civil Service Council Update

Ms. Bobbie Stewart introduced the members of the Civil Service Council and gave an overview of the Civil Service System and the Civil Service Council's mission statement. Ms. Stewart reported on the 16th annual Council of Councils meeting and the Civil Service Town Hall meeting. Ms. Stewart stated that the Council provides support to their members and that there are monthly meetings with President Watson. Trustee Zollar ask if member are supported in a formal way and about the time involved in giving this support. Ms. Stewart stated that additional time is required; however members of the council work (various) different shifts and are available when someone needs their assistance.

f. Student Trustee Report

Trustee Ismael Reyna reported that it is an honor and a privilege to be the Student's Trustee. Trustee Reyna reported on the Chili Chat get together that he held for students to discuss their issues. He stated that it is his goal to develop a committee that helps students to develop themselves. Trustee Reyna stated that he is working to help bring to the surface the positive things that are happening at the University. He noted that he is an applicant for medical school and expressed his concerns about public health.

7. Recess into Executive Session Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act

Trustee Curtin moved to Recess into Executive Session. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

8. **Reconvene into Open Session**

The Board took action in executive session that required action in open session.

1. Action Item

a. Closed Minutes Prior to Session Minutes December 13, 2013

Mr. Langdon Neal, Esq. stated that there are two parts to the motion.

1. Seeking approval of the June 28, 2013 and September 20, executive session minutes and;

2. Requesting that those minutes remain closed at this time.

Mr. Neal stated that it is his recommendation that these minutes remain closed.

Trustee Young moved to approve the executive session minutes from June 28, 2013 and September 20, 2013 and that the minutes remain closed. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

b. Approval of Board Regulations and Bylaws

Mr. Neal stated that this amends the procedure for the election of officers for the Board of Trustees. It changes the time period for the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman to occur in the first quarter of the year and secondly, it provides for an initial two-year term for the Chairman and Vice Chairman and then on vote by the board the addition of two one-year extensions if voted on by the Trustees. Trustee Young stated that this resolution was approved previously. Mr. Neal stated that it had been approved, and at this point we are approving amending the by-laws.

Trustee Young moved to approve the Approval of Board Regulations and Bylaws. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

c. Athletic Funding Amendment to Board Regulations

Mr. Neal stated that this is the second and final reading of the resolution to increase the funding for the Athletic Department on an annual basis, with the authority of the President to recommend an increase from up to 5% of the approved budget per annum. It currently reads 1.5% would be the cap; this is no longer feasible in view of our responsibility associated with joining the WAC. This gives the President each year to recommend to the Board up to 5% of the approved budget per annum.

Trustee Young moved to approve the Athletic Funding Amendment to Board Regulations. Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

d. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreements

Mr. Patrick Cage presented for approval two negotiated collective bargaining agreements, No. 4400 (Patrolman) and No. 297 (Sergeants and Lieutenants).

Trustee Young moved to approve the two Collective Bargaining Agreements (No. 4400 and 297). Trustee Zollar seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

9. Other Matters

a. Public and Employee Comments

Mr. Dan Schumacher stated that CSU would be playing DePaul in men's basketball on Sunday. He noted that the game will be played at the Allstate Arena and will be on national television.

Mr. Gerald Chinn stated his concern about the drop in enrollment.

Ms. Taran Williams stated that no one should be afraid to bring their ideas to the forefront, because of concerns that they will be recreated.

Ms. Brittany Baily stated that she is currently the President of SGA and noted that there is a culture of fear at CSU. She stated that people are either expelled, suspended, or false charges are filed if they express or question the actions of the Administration. Ms. Baily gave documentation about her concerns to Ms. Muscadin.

Dr. Arnold stated that President Watson is doing a great job. He also reported on the importance of STEM.

Mr. Jokari Miller stated that a newspaper for the student body will be forthcoming. The newspaper is open for input or comment from the entire CSU community.

10. Adjournment

Trustee Young moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Reyna seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.