

CSU Board of Trustees
Virtual Board meeting
Open Session Minutes
Monday, March 7, 2022
3:02 p.m. – 5:08 p.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee Mark Schneider, Vice-Chair
Trustee Angelique David-Secretary
Trustee Brian Clay
Trustee Essence Smart
Trustee Corey Thames

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present

President Zalduwaynaka (Z) Scott, Esq.
Teresa Bates, Executive Director of Board Relations
Natalie Covello, Chief Internal Auditor
Craig Deutsch, Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations
Dr. Carolyn Theard-Griggs, Dean, College of Education
Robin Hawkins, Associate Vice President, and Associate General Counsel
Michael Holmes, Interim Vice President of Administrative Services
Walter Pryor, Esq., Interim Vice President of Legal Affairs and General Counsel
Dr. Bernard Rowan, Associate Provost
Kevin Triskett, Deputy Director, Chicago State Foundation

1. Call to Order

Chair Andrea Zopp called the meeting to order.

Chair Zopp made the following statement: We are meeting virtually pursuant to Public Act 101-0640 and the Governor's Disaster Proclamation dated July 23, 2021, and Section 7(e) of the Open Meetings Act. As Chair, I have determined that a fully in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent due to the disaster. The March 7, 2022, meeting of the Chicago State University Board of Trustees is being conducted virtually and is hereby called 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, in physical locations in the Student Union building, Library and Cook Administration building and online.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Chair Zopp asked if there was a need to make corrections to the agenda. There were none. Chair Zopp moved to accept the agenda. Trustee Cory Thames seconded the motion. The agenda was approved with a unanimous roll call vote.

5. **Public Comment**

Chair Zopp made the following statement.

The Board will not hear presentations or entertain questions on the following topics: issues under negotiation as part of the University's collective bargaining process; statements concerning the private activities, lifestyles, beliefs of individuals employed by or associated with the University; grievances of individual students or employees or any personnel matters.

Comments were limited to 2 minutes.

Chair Zopp asked Ms. Bates to begin calling anyone who signed up to speak. Ms. Bates stated that there were no public comments.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2021, meeting. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee David -Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes

Trustee Smart – Yes

Trustee Thames - Yes

Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

7. **President's Remarks**

President Scott began by greeting the Trustees and thanking them for their service. She provided a brief report on the exciting activities happening at CSU.

President Scott shared an update from the Lt. Governor visit on January 28th. Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton along with Illinois Senator Sen. Elgie Sims Jr visited campus. They were provided with an update on CSU's efforts to increase diverse teachers, met with students in the Call Me Mister program and met with the Dean of Students.

President Scott then moved to CSU's Black History Celebration. The theme was Lifting as We Climb: Our Stories Continue. She reviewed all the activities that took place during Black History Month.

President Scott also gave her 4th State of the University Address on February 24th and thanked Chair Zopp for providing the welcome on behalf of the Board. President Scott also spoke about the Presidential Lecture Series. This series featured conversations between current Chicago State students and renowned alumni. Over 200 guests attended the lecture.

The President then moved to the renovation of the Wellness Center and ongoing COVID-19 activities. The wellness center is managed by Advocate Aurora Healthcare and all renovations were managed in house. Chicago State continues masking protocols and was able to offer financial assistance to approximately 3320 students. Chicago State continues to offer testing to students and staff.

President Scott then spoke about her meetings off-campus with various school leaders and those that manage college-going activities. President Scott also gave an update on the 95th Street Corridor study. Chicago State held 4 public engagement sessions. There were over 200 people that participated in the sessions.

President Scott gave an update on the Chicago State Foundation. Darrious Hilmon will be leaving the Foundation. She thanked him for his service.

Finally, President Scott gave an update on the upcoming Budget Hearings before the Illinois House and Senate. The CSU Administration will present before the Higher Education Appropriations Committee in the Illinois House of Representatives and will present to the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Committee.

She closed by thanking each of the trustees for their continued engagement and partnership on behalf of Chicago State University.

8. Board Reports

Academic Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Thomas Rowan III, Associate Provost, Contract Administration to give the Academic Affairs report and present one resolution.

Dr. Rowan gave updates from the Academic and Student Affairs Department. The Fall 2021, an in-person commencement ceremony was held. 179 degrees were awarded and over 150 students participated including students from 2020 whose commencement was virtual. The department is currently planning the May 2022 ceremony. The department continues to work to prepare for the HLC visit in February 2023. Finally, the department is working on transfer pathways and improve CSU's presence on Transferology, a state-wide transfer credit system.

Other highlights included faculty research, grant proposals submitted \$11,337,649 and grants received of \$49,581, and other exciting work.

At the conclusion of her report, Dr. Rowan was called to present the resolution for Professor Emeritus Status for Dr. Deborah Lynch.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for Professor Emeritus Status for Dr. Deborah Lynch.

Trustee Thames moved to approve the resolution for Professor Emeritus Status for Dr. Deborah Lynch. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee David -Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes

Trustee Smart – Yes

Trustee Thames - Yes

Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Student Trustee Report

Chair Zopp called on Student Trustee Essence Smart to give her report. The student trustee highlighted many activities that happened around campus including activities for Black History Month.

Did You Know?

Chair Zopp then called on Dr. Carolyn Theard-Griggs to present the Did You Know segment on the College of Education. Dr. Carolyn Theard-Griggs presented on Diversifying the Illinois Education Workforce and how Chicago State University feeds into the Illinois State Board of Education's Diversity Pipeline.

She highlighted CSU's programs Call Me Mister and Diverse Scholars. She also highlighted recruitment strategies that CSU uses to recruit Diverse education scholars.

Enrollment Management Report

Chair Zopp called on Kim Tran, Chief of Staff to the President to present the Enrollment Management report.

Mr. Tran announced the addition of Bill Sliwa as the Interim Vice President of Enrollment Management. He also discussed strategies that Mr. Sliwa implemented that focus on two parallel tracks: immediate impacts for the summer and fall 2022 semesters and setting the foundation for the fall 2023 recruitment cycle, which begins in September 2022. The national search for a permanent VP of Enrollment began and qualified candidates will be evaluated on a rolling basis by March 25.

Mr. Tran also discussed updates to the Enrollment Management strategies, transfer student recruitment numbers, new partnerships, and grants that support enrollment growth. Currently the below strategic approaches are being applied

1. Combining a data-driven focus and the leveraging of relationships to inform recruitment activities *Conducted a targeted "name buy" to increase the recruitment pool for admissions messaging*
2. Prioritizing an increase in enrollment yield through redirecting marketing and financial aid messaging *Brought on a firm that specializes in rapid communications to increase capacity for a "hard" sell of the university in alignment with brand and audience preferences*
3. Balancing in-person and virtual recruitment events and information sessions to reach wider audiences *Planning on-campus admissions days with City Colleges and new prospective student audiences (South Suburbs, Aurora)*
4. Promoting access to available financial aid resources *Highlighting specific financial aid amounts awarded to each student in their admissions acceptance letters*
5. Enhancing the customer service experience of prospective and current students based on engagement feedback through focus groups and surveys *Planning systematic student orientation activities to ease students' transition into college that can be tailored to different audiences (STEM, transfers only, etc.)*

Finance and Audit Report

As Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Trustee Schneider called on Craig Duetsch, Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations to present reports and one resolution.

Mr. Duetsch presented the Financials for the six months ending December 31, 2021, an update on current contractual obligations over \$10K and four resolutions.

Mr. Duetsch was called to present the resolution for **the Campus Master Plan**. The company chosen is Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM). The maximum cost will not exceed \$350,000.

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for the Campus Master Plan. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution for the Campus Master Plan. Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee McDade -Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes

Trustee Smart – Yes

Trustee Thames - Yes

Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Schneider asked Mr. Duetsch to present his next resolution. Mr. Duetsch presented the resolution to approve the Tuition Discount to Chicago Park District (CPD) employees for Recreation Certificate resolution.

CSU and CPD have partnered on several collaborations from sharing gymnastics/tumbling equipment and program space in the JDC to the recent contractual agreement for swim instruction (required course) at West Pullman Park for the Physical Education and Recreation majors in the department.

CSU Recreation faculty frequently visits and presents at CPD Professional Development workshops for staff at the invitation of their Workforce Development Department. Various CPD Administrators also serve as Recreation Advisory Board members and provide internship and volunteer opportunities for CSU students.

Other institutions that offer CPD employees tuition discounts include DePaul University, Roosevelt University and Capella University.

CSU is interested in maintaining and building this CPD partnership and competing with other institutions to provide recreation education throughout the Chicago metropolitan area.

The College of Education, therefore, seeks Board approval to offer a 30% discount tuition rate per credit hour to CPD employees interested in taking courses needed for the 20 Hour Recreation Certificate Program

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for the Tuition Discount to Chicago Park District Employees for Recreation Certificate. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution for the Chicago Park District Tuition Discount. Trustee Thames seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee McDade -Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes

Trustee Smart – Yes

Trustee Thames - Yes

Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Schneider asked Mr. Duetsch to present his next resolution. Mr. Duetsch presented the resolution to approve the Tuition Increase Resolution.

Chicago State University (CSU) has not raised tuition in many years. The last tuition rate increases for the undergraduate and graduate levels were in Fall 2019 (FY2020) and Fall 2018 (FY2019), respectively. The professional (Pharmacy) tuition has been flat for over six (6) years.

The tuition at CSU has been one of the lowest among the twelve (12) Illinois public university campuses. In the current fiscal year, 2022, CSU has the lowest tuition for undergraduates in the Chicago area

among the public universities. The graduate tuition at CSU is the second lowest while Pharmacy tuition is lowest among the public universities in the State.

CSU proposes a two percent (2%) increase per credit hour to be effective in Fall 2022 (FY2023)

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for the Tuition Increase. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution for tuition increase. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee McDade -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Schneider asked Mr. Duetsch to present his final resolution. Mr. Duetsch presented the resolution to approve the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 743 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 743 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution for tuition increase. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee McDade -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

The Finance and Audit Report ended, and the meeting was turned over to Chair Andrea Zopp.

Internal Audit Charter

Chair Zopp called the internal auditor Natalie Covello to present her resolution. Ms. Covello stated the Internal Audit Charter states the Purpose, authority, and responsibility of the internal audit activity.

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the Internal Audit Charter review. Trustee Schneider moved to approve the resolution concerning the Internal Audit Charter. Trustee David 2nd the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee McDade -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

CSU Foundation

Chair Zopp called on Kevin Triskett of the Chicago State Foundation, to give a status update on the Chicago State Foundation.

Mr. Triskett stated that Darrious Hilmon left the CSU Foundation and Mr. Triskett was named the Interim Executive Director. His updates included Board of Directors accolades and their Corporate/Foundation Engagement pipeline,

Chair Zopp called for a motion to move into the Executive session. Trustee Thames moved for the Trustees to move into Executive Session. Trustee Schneider seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Return to Open Session

Chair Zopp called for a motion to move into Open session. Trustee David made the motion and Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

The Board had items that required action in open session.

Discussion of the University President Contract. The contract will be for four years. Chair Zopp went over the particulars of the President's Contract.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to accept the President Scott's new contract. Trustee David moved to accept the contract and Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Zopp called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Schneider moved to adjourn the meeting; Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames - Yes
Chair Zopp -Yes

The March 7, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.