

CSU Board of Trustees
Virtual Board meeting
Open Session Minutes
Monday, December 5, 2022
3:05 p.m. – 6:07 p.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee Mark Schneider, Vice-Chair
Trustee Brian Clay
Trustee Angelique David, Secretary
Trustee Jason Quiara
Trustee Essence Smart
Trustee Cory Thames
Trustee Cheryl Watkins

Others Present

President Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, Esq.
Teresa Bates, Executive Director of Board Relations
Jason L. Carter, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer & VP of Legal Affairs
Dennis Stark, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations
Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Interim Provost & Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dr. Devi Prasad V. Potluri, Dean, Graduate Admissions
Oscar Rodriguez, Vice President, Enrollment Management
Kim Tran, Chief of Staff

1. Call to Order

Chair Andrea Zopp called the meeting to order. The Board met virtually pursuant to Public Act 101-0640 and the Governor's Disaster Proclamation dated November 10, 2022, and Section 7(e) of the Open Meetings Act.

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 the following physical locations: the Student Union building, Library, Cook Administration building and online.

4. Approval of Agenda

Chair Zopp asked if there was a need to make corrections to the agenda. Chair Zopp moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Brian Clay seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

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 there were no public comments.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2022, meeting. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

7. **President’s Remarks**

President Scott gave an update on activities happening at Chicago State University. She mentioned that student trustee Essence Smart raised concerns regarding the food service. The administration is working to address the issues. A survey was created to get feedback and it is a high priority for her administration.

The university hosted a series of town halls for faculty and staff. The Marching Band taught everyone how to do the “Cougar Shuffle”. During each session capital construction updates were given including the pool, campus sidewalks, campus lighting and upgrades to the elevators.

Two senior positions were filled. Stetson Marshall is the new Chief Internal Auditor and Oscar Rodriguez Vice President of Enrollment.

President Scott then reported on several visitors to the campus. The university welcomed United Airlines to the campus and President Hart met with several teams, students, and departments. The university also welcomed 4-star General Daniel Hokanson, National Guard Bureau Chief and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Hokanson met with ROTC students and shared his journey, military service, and opportunities in military careers. There

was a question regarding how many students were currently in the CSU ROTC program. There are 15 students, and it is predominately army. The university is talking to the Illinois rep regarding expanding the program.

In November, CSU hosted a gathering of PBI's (Predominately Black Institutions) and their presidents in Washington D.C. to meet with federal stakeholders and share the work of PBIs. There was a question regarding the outcome of this meeting. The presidents talked about the goals of the coalition which is to introduce the existence of PBIs, increase the funding line, increase members in the coalition, and create a caucus. There was a follow-up question regarding the budget. The budget for PBIs is determined by appropriation bills and recommendations from the Department of Education.

Finally, she thanked the trustees for their continued support of Chicago State University.

8. Board Reports

Academic Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Interim Provost, to give the Academic Affairs report.

Dr. Roundtree stated that the university had a great semester and is currently in the final weeks. She gave an update on the Dual Enrollment and Dual Credit program. She thanked the College of Arts & Sciences for their work building courses. CSU is currently running a speech course at Corliss High School. They also hosted Network 17. There were 19 principals in attendance, and they were able to share about the dual program and rise academy. Several principals have reached out to CSU to come and talk to them about CSU programs.

Dr. Roundtree also gave an update on the 3rd Cohort of Rise Academy. There are 30 students and 128 students in the 2022 cohort. The retention analysis was completed, and the university had another increase of 4% of retention of students. The goal is to be closer to 80% retention the university is currently at 63% retention.

Dr. Roundtree gave an update on the HLC visit. The university received notification that their HLC team will be 4 people. A schedule needs to be created around the event. The students completed a survey and did a faculty focused group. *The Board asked if they could receive highlights of the student survey? Dr. Roundtree answered yes.*

Dr. Roundtree then presented a resolution for tenure for Dr. Elizabeth Davies. Dr. Davies has extensive experience in psychology, submitted the required credentials and met the criteria.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding tenure for Dr. Elizabeth Davies. Vice-Chair Schneider moved to approve the resolution. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee David-Yes

Trustee Quiara-Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes

Trustee Smart-Yes

Trustee Thames-Yes

Trustee Watkins-Yes

Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Graduate School Enrollment Report

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Potluri to present the Graduate School Enrollment Report. Dr. Potluri highlighted that Fall 2022 enrollment increased by 9% over Fall 2021. International student enrollment increased significantly from Fall 2021. Computer Science, Library and Information Science and Social Work increase significantly. Dr. Potluri discussed how CSU markets their graduate programs. The website, mobile app, and alumni are the largest factors. Dr. Potluri finally discussed that the biology program is trying to remove the thesis requirement to remain comparable to other universities.

Enrollment Management Report

Chair Zopp asked Kim Tran and Oscar Rodriguez to present the Enrollment Report. Mr. Rodriguez introduced himself as the new Vice President of Enrollment Management and he is excited to be a part of Chicago State University. Mr. Tran discussed that the enrollment data points continue to decline 1.1% in fall 2022 compared to 2021 but the rate of decline slowed. The largest decline at public four-year institutions within the Black student population. The decline cited factors such as economic hardship for this decline. CSU fall enrollment reflects a 1% increase in undergraduate enrollment. CSU also reclaimed 116 former CSU students.

Mr. Tran also discussed the university's partnership with Discover and Amazon. As a partner of the Discover College Commitment CSU will provide undergraduate opportunities for local Discover Employees. CSU is the sole Illinois institution in the partnership and the admissions team will be hosting weekly office hours at the Discover Chatham Call Center for Spring 2023.

CSU also has a partnership with Amazon Career Choice. Amazon is working with several community colleges and universities in the area. CSU is scheduled to host admissions information sessions in preparation for the Spring 2023 semester.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Essence Smart gave a report on end of semester activities. She also gave a summary of National Pan-Hellenic council activities throughout the semester.

Finance and Audit Report

As Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Trustee Schneider called on Dennis Stark, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations to present the report and 3 resolutions.

Mr. Stark presented the financial report. There is an increase of about \$13M, the bulk of this was in fixed assets. There are also increases in account receivables and account payables. He also went over the statement of expenses and revenues. The bottom line is the university is \$600K greater than the year before.

President Scott explained the three resolutions. The first resolution asks for a 5% increase in tuition and fees. The second resolution changes the structure of credit hours for full time and part time students. The 3rd resolution asks for a change in the athletic fee.

Trustee Watkins asked given the enrollment report and students citing economic hardships as one of the reasons they are not in school why is the university requesting an increase? A: Only new students would receive the increase in tuition, also many of CSU's students are Pell & MAP grant eligible. The university challenge is inflation, staff costs, capital improvement costs, and it is difficult for the university to keep pace. Overall, the tuition increase should add an additional \$500K.

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for the 5% tuition increase. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution. Trustee David seconded the Motion.

*Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-No
Trustee Zopp -Yes*

The motion passed: Ayes 7 Nays 1

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for a change in the structure of the calculation of fees per credit hour. Trustee David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the Motion.

*Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-No
Trustee Zopp -Yes*

The motion passed: Ayes 7 Nays 1

Chair Schneider requested that it would be helpful for the Board to have high level breakouts of line items as the budget is being prepared. He would like to know what level of enrollment is necessary for the university to be sustainable.

Chair Schneider called for a motion to approve the resolution for an increase in the athletic fee. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution. Trustee David seconded the Motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -No
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-No
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed: Ayes 6 Nays 2

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

CSU Foundation

Chair Zopp called on Melanie Sillas, Executive Director, CSU Foundation to present an update on the CSU Foundation. Ms. Sillas gave an overview of fundraising. She also updated the foundation's Giving Tuesday efforts. She gave an update on the Gen Gala. There were 370 attendees and \$375,610 was raised. They will be moving to an indoor space next year; the space is also larger.

Chair Zopp moved to move into Executive Session. Trustee Thames seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Return to Open Session

Chair Zopp moved to move into Open session. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

The Board had items that required action in open session.

Chair Zopp moved to approve the Minutes Lawfully Closed Resolution. Trustee David seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Trustee Schneider moved to approve the 2023 meeting dates (March 6, April 24, June 26, September 18, and December 4) listed on the agenda. Trustee Quiara seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Chair Zopp, called on Jason Carter, Vice President, and General Counsel, to present the election of officers.

Election of Officers

Mr. Carter called for a motion to open the nominations for Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Schneider moved to open nominations for Chair of Trustees. Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed as follows: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter asked if there are any nominations for Chair. Trustee Schneider nominated Trustee Zopp for Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Carter called for a motion to close the nominations for Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Watkins moved to close the nominations for Chair of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mr. Carter asked Ms. Bates to call the roll for the election of Andrea Zopp as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter stated that with 8 ayes and 0 nays, Trustee Andrea Zopp was duly elected Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Carter called for a motion to open the nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Chair Zopp moved to open the nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Quiara seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter asked if there are any nominations for Vice Chair. Chair Zopp nominated Trustee Schneider for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Carter called for a motion to close the nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Chair Zopp moved to close the nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Watkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mr. Carter asked Ms. Bates to call the roll for the election of Trustee Schneider as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter stated that with 8 ayes and 0 nays, Trustee Schneider was duly elected Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Carter called for a motion to open the nominations for Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Chair Zopp moved to open the nominations for Secretary of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Thames seconded the motion.

Trustee Clay -Yes

Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames – Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter asked if there are any nominations for Secretary. Chair Zopp nominated Trustee David for Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Carter called for a motion to close the nominations for Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Watkins moved to close the nominations for Secretary of the Board of Trustees. Chair Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Mr. Carter asked Ms. Bates to call the roll for the election of Trustee David as Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 8 Nays 0

Mr. Carter stated with 8 ayes and 0 nays, Trustee Angelique David was duly elected Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Chair Zopp thanked the trustees for their diligence and dedication throughout the year and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

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

Trustee Clay -Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes

Trustee Schneider -Yes
Trustee Smart – Yes
Trustee Thames – Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The December 5, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.