

CSU Board of Trustees  
Full Board Meeting and Board Retreat  
Open Session Minutes  
September 18, 2023  
9:12 a.m.-2:12 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair  
Trustee Angelique David, Secretary  
Trustee James Elam  
Trustee Jason Quiara  
Trustee Cory Thames  
Trustee Cheryl Watkins

**Others Present**

President Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, JD.  
Teresa Bates, Executive Director of Board Relations  
Robin Hawkins, Associate Vice President & Senior Associate General Counsel  
Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Interim Provost & Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Dr. V. Potluri, Associate Provost, Graduate and Professional Studies and Global Engagement  
Oscar Rodriguez, Vice President Enrollment Management  
Dr. Monique Carroll, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics  
Nicole Latimer Williams, Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations  
Erin Steva, Vice President External Affairs  
Melanie Sillas, Executive Director, Chicago State Foundation  
Michael Holmes, Vice President, Administrative Services

**1. Call to Order**

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

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Quiara 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

**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 called Larry Huggins to speak. Larry Huggins spoke in support of Chicago State University’s athletic expansion, mainly football. He thought it was the right thing to add and hopes that if approved, the team will one day play in the Chicago Football Classic.

## 6. Approval of Minutes

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2023, meeting. Trustee Quiara seconded the motion.

*Trustee David -Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2023, Special Board meeting. Trustee David seconded the motion.

*Trustee David -Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2023, Special Board meeting. Trustee David seconded the motion.

*Trustee David -Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0

## **7. Board Reports**

### ***Academic Affairs***

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

Dr. Roundtree presented on the success of the summer camps. There are 8 students studying abroad and she hopes to expand that program. There are 10 new faculty members. Dr. Roundtree highlighted different grants and accomplishments made by the faculty. Dr. Roundtree also talked about two upcoming partnerships with the City Colleges of Chicago.

### ***Graduate School Enrollment Update***

Chair Zopp then asked Dr. V. Potluri to present an update on the Graduate School Enrollment. Dr. Potluri mentioned that domestic graduate students were down, but International students made up for the decline. Doctoral students also saw a slight decline. Dr. Potluri was excited that the Graduate School is now able to give scholarships to returning students. Each scholarship will be \$1000.

### ***Student Trustee Report***

Chair Zopp then called on Student Trustee James Elam for his report. Trustee Elam is excited to be the new Student Trustee. He also wants to encourage students to attend the Board Meetings and if they need help to use the services that Chicago State University provides.

### ***Enrollment Management Report***

Chair Zopp asked Oscar Rodriguez, Vice President Enrollment Management to present the Enrollment Report. Mr. Rodriguez gave the current enrollment numbers for Fall 2023. First year freshmen increased 21%, and transfer increased 23%. Mr. Rodriguez also gave the profiles of the Fall 2023 undergraduate entering class. Mr. Rodriguez then gave an update on administrative projects. Admissions is on boarding a new lead generation partner and extending the contract for the Admissions marketing partner. Finally, Mr. Rodriguez gave the status of applications. There are 372 first year freshman applications, transfer will open on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The office of admissions has participated in 86 college fairs and 67 high school visits as of September 8, 2023.

### ***Finance and Audit Report***

As Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Chair David called on Nicole Latimer Williams, Chief Financial Officer, and Vice President of Financial Operations to present three resolutions.

Ms. Williams presented the resolution to approve the FY2024 Final Operating Budget.

**Chair David called for a motion to approve the resolution for the FY2024 Final Operating Budget. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Quiara seconded the Motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

Chair David asked Ms. Williams to present her next resolution. Ms. Williams presented the resolution to approve the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology resolution.

**Chair David called for a motion to approve the resolution Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology. Trustee Zopp moved to approve the resolution for the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology. Trustee Watkins seconded the motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-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.

### ***Intercollegiate Athletics***

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Monique Carroll, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. Dr. Carroll gave an overview of new hires, promotions, and athletic accomplishments.

- Whitley Bradley-Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Success
- Danielle Miller-Associate Athletic Director for Sports Medicine
- Joshua Reyes-Women's Soccer Head Coach
- James Johnson-Assistant Athletic Director or Strength and Conditioning

Dr. Carroll also spoke about the accomplishments of Volleyball (Best Start in Division I History), Women's Soccer (Opened the Season 1-0 for the first time in history) and Men's Soccer (Matched season win total from last year). She also announced the highest ranked basketball recruits in CSU History Matt and Ryan Bewley.

Dr. Carroll presented on the Sports Expansion. She gave the timeline and thanked the Exploratory Committee for their work. The exploratory committee unanimously agreed to recommend the formation of Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) Football, women's swimming, and women's triathlon at Chicago State University. She went over various highlights from the recommendation and fundraising projections. She stated that after approval from the board women's triathlon will be added in Fall 2024 and she would like to announce the public fundraising campaign for sports expansion,

**Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for the Sports Expansion by adding Women's Triathlon. Trustee Watkins moved to approve the resolution. Trustee David seconded the Motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

Chair David asked Dr. Carroll to present her next resolution. Dr. Carroll presented the resolution to fund Sports Expansion into football.

**Chair David called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding funding of the Sports Expansion. Trustee Thames moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Quiara seconded the motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

### ***Chicago State Foundation Report***

Chair Zopp called on Melanie Sillas to present on the Chicago State Foundation. Ms. Sillas updated the Board on planning for the 1<sup>st</sup> Gen Scholarship Gala. She also updated the board on Corporate and Foundation Partnerships and the Pipeline. Ms. Sillas also updated the board on awards that the CSF Board of Directors received. John C. Robak received the 2023 Person of Vision Eversight award and Michel Harris received the 2023 Business Leader of Color Chicago

United award. Finally, Ms. Sillas updated the Board on new staff. Barb Tieder is the Deputy Director; Max Kuecker is the Director of Major Gifts and Willie Ng is the Program Coordinator.

**Chair Zopp then moved that the Board convene into Executive Session. Trustee David seconded the motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

**Return to Open Session**

**Chair Zopp moved to reconvene into Open session. Trustee Watkins seconded the motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

**The retreat portion of the meeting began with updates from the following departments.**

- Chicago State University Police-Chief Dewayne Betts  
Chief Betts gave his safety plan and goals. These include 9-foot blue light emergency towers, CSU PD body worn cameras, campus camera projects and an upgrade to the dispatch office.
- External Affairs-Erin Steva, Vice President of External Affairs  
Ms. Steva gave an update on the 95<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor project along with an update on the Predominately Black Institution (PBI) Coalition.
- Academic Affairs-D. Leslie Roundtree, Provost, and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Dr. LaVada Taylor gave an update on the Child Development Center and highlights from the College of Education.
- Administrative Services-Michael Holmes, Vice President of Administrative Services

Mr. Holmes gave an update on the campus construction projects.

**Chair Zopp moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Elam seconded the motion.**

*Trustee David-Yes*  
*Trustee Elam-Yes*  
*Trustee Quiara-Yes*  
*Trustee Thames-Yes*  
*Trustee Watkins-Yes*  
*Trustee Zopp -Yes*

**The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 6 Nays 0**

The September 18, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting and retreat adjourned at 2:12 p.m.