

CSU Board of Trustees
Full Board Meeting and Board Retreat
Open Session Minutes
December 4, 2023
9:10 a.m.- 11:05 a.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
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
Dr. Kelly Norman Ellis, Associate Professor of English
Melanie Sillas, Executive Director, Chicago State Foundation

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 Watkins seconded 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. There were no public comments.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2023, 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. **President’s Remarks**

President Scott welcomed everyone to campus. She discussed Chicago State University’s dedication to education equity and the coalition of Predominately Black Institutions (PBI) has grown into a Congressional PBI Caucus. Chicago State University has been the national face of PBIs, demonstrated by a campus visit from U.S. Secretary of State Miguel Cardona. In October CSU hosted a State of Equity in Higher Education Conference sponsored by CSU’s Illinois Center of Education Equity. This center will address the current crisis of Black Student Enrollment. President Scott also discussed various government officials that visited CSU’s campus. President Scott touched on her 2-year term as the Convener for Public University Presidents and Chancellors. As convener President Scott spoke on their behalf in front of the IBHE. President Scott also mentioned other important speaking engagements. Finally, President Scott discussed the 95th Street Corridor Development Plan which will include retail and entertainment for the far south side. CSU will be an anchor for this plan.

8. **Board Reports**

Academic Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Interim Provost, and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, to give the Academic Affairs report.

Dr. Roundtree mentioned how quiet the campus is because of finals and end of the semester. Dr. Roundtree presented a Professor Emeritus resolution for Dr. Patricia Steinhaus. Dr. Roundtree presented the Board with Dr. Steinhaus’ credentials and accomplishments.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for Dr. Patricia Steinhaus for Professor Emeritus. Trustee David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Watkins seconded the Motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 5 Nays 0

Dr. Roundtree presented a resolution for tenure for Dr. Mohammad Salam. Dr. Roundtree presented the Board with his credentials and accomplishments.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for faculty tenure for Dr. Mohammad Salam. Trustee Thames moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Quiara seconded the Motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 5 Nays 0

Dr. Roundtree discussed the Campus Wellness Center Contract. Dr. Roundtree informed the Board that Advocate runs the Health Center Advocate Health provides health resources to the campus. The wellness center is supported by Advocate employees (advanced practice nurse and medical assistant). The contract is for one year with an option to renew. The cost is \$384,800.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve Campus Wellness Center Contract Renewal. Trustee David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Thames 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

Dr. Roundtree presented a tuition change for Dual Enrollment Program students. Dr. Roundtree presented removing the tuition and fee payment for dual enrollment students. CSU has over 100 dual enrollment students. CSU will work with the Chicago State Foundation to raise funding for the program. The affiliated school district will be responsible for the cost of books and transportation.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the Dual Enrollment Tuition Resolution. Trustee Quiara moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Thames 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

Dr. Roundtree's final resolution concerned a new Learning Management System. This system will replace Moodle. The plan is to update and integrate the new learning management system during the spring and summer 2024, so the campus can begin using it in Fall 2024 with a complete transition in Fall 2025. Dr. Roundtree stated that the IT department has been a part of this transition.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the new Learning Management System. Trustee David moved to approve the resolution. 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

Student Trustee Report

Chair Zopp called on Student Trustee James Elam for his report. Trustee Elam thanked the Department of Student Activities for hosting events that keep the campus engaged. Trustee Elam highlighted the Spirit Day, Latino Hispanic Heritage Month, Fall Festival, Thanksgiving Dinner, and the Tree Lightening Ceremony. The career development center hosted several resume and

career building workshops. Trustee Elam also highlighted the Nu Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated in gaining 5 new brothers and the Beta Omicron Chapter of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Incorporated in gaining 3 new brothers.

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 and presented one resolution concerning Chicago State University's new conference.

Dr. Carroll presented the new conference details. Chicago State University would terminate existing agreements with the Ohio Valley Conference and the Horizon League and accept the membership invitation from the Northeast Conference for all 15 NCAA Division I sports programs beginning in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve moving Chicago State University into the Northeast Conference. Trustee Quiara moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Thames 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

President Scott congratulated Dr. Carroll. She was promoted to a Vice President and is an incredible leader. President Scott is excited about the opportunity. The Northeast Conference Universities have a commitment to equity and inclusion. This conference is the right one for Chicago State University.

Did You Know?

Chair Zopp then called on Dr. Kelly Norman Ellis to present the Did You Know segment. Dr. Ellis introduced herself. She has taught at Chicago State University for 25 years. She went over her academic accomplishments. She described how she uses poetry to instruct students. She recited two poems for the Board of Trustees.

Finance and Audit Committee

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 two resolutions.

Ms. Latimer-Williams presented a resolution concerning utilizing a staffing contract for the IT Department. There are critical projects that require additional staffing and specialized expertise. The procurement of the servers, security products, and professional services/staffing will be from an Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC) vendor. The budget request for the staffing and professional services is \$2.6 million dollars over a 3-year contract period.

Chair David called for a motion to approve the resolution for IT Staffing. Trustee Thames moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Zopp 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. Latimer-Williams presented a resolution concerning Chicago State University's contract with their campus food service vendor, Love's Leafy Bean. The university is seeking an additional 90-day contract to give time to send out an RFP and select a permanent vendor. The estimated cost is \$631,500. Trustee David asked about the feedback received concerning the interim vendor. The transition was a bit rough, but the campus is moving forward in a way that is productive for all. The plan is Love's Leafy Bean will respond to the RFP.

Chair David called for a motion to approve the Emergency Food Vendor Resolution. Trustee Thames moved to approve the emergency food vendor resolution. Trustee Zopp 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.

Chicago State Foundation Report

Chair Zopp called on Melanie Sillas to present on the Chicago State Foundation. Ms. Sillas updated the Board on the Foundation’s strategic plan. Ms. Sillas updated the Board on the final numbers from the 1stGEN Scholarship Gala. There were 400 guests and the CSU Foundation raised \$581,038. The 5th Annual 1stGEN Gala will be Friday, September 27th, 2024. Ms. Sillas also updated the Board on the Engagement Pipeline. Ms. Sillas thanked the VIVO Foundation, Allstate, Verizon, Circle of Service Foundation and AT&T for their generous support. She concluded her report discussing the street naming for Former CSU Trustee Rev. Dr. Leon Finney Jr. The street is S. Harper Avenue and E. 63rd Street.

Ms. Sillas presented a resolution recommending Andre Baker and Jason Mercer as Directors to the Board of The Chicago State Foundation.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve Andre Baker and Jason Mercer as Board of Directors for the Chicago State Foundation. Trustee David moved to approve the resolution. 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

Chair Zopp then moved that the Board convene into Executive Session to discuss Employment and Internal Audit Matters. Trustee Thames 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 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

The Board took action in the executive session that required action in the Open Session.

Chair Zopp called on Robin Hawkins, Associate Vice President, and Senior Associate General Counsel to discuss the amendment of the Governing Board Rules and Regulations. This amendment would give the President emergency decision making privileges.

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to approve the amendment of the Governing Board Rules and Regulations. Trustee David approved the motion. 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

Chair Zopp moved to approve the Minutes Lawfully Closed Resolution. 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

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to approve the 2024 Board of Trustee Meeting Dates. Trustee Thames moved to approve the 2024 meeting dates (March 11, June 24, September 9, and December 9) listed on the agenda. The Board Retreat will be

Monday, September 9, 2024, immediately after the Board Meeting. All Full Board Meetings will begin at 9:00 a.m. 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, called on Robin Hawkins, Associate Vice President, and Senior Associate General Counsel, to present the election of officers.

Election of Officers

Ms. Hawkins called for a motion to open the nominations for Chair of the Board of Trustees, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees and Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Thames moved to open the nominations for the election of officers. Trustee Watkins 2nd 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

Ms. Hawkins then asked for nominations for each of the open positions.

Trustee Angelique David nominated Chair Andrea Zopp for Chair of the Board of Trustees.

There were no other nominations.

Chair Andrea Zopp nominated Trustee Angelique David for Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

There were no other nominations.

Chair Andrea Zopp nominated Trustee Cheryl Watkins for Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

There were no other nominations.

Ms. Hawkins closed the nominations on the officers for the Board of Trustees and asked for roll call for a motion for the election of Andrea Zopp as Chair of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Angelique David as Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees and Trustee Cheryl Watkins for Secretary of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Thames moved that the nominations be closed, and the nominated members be elected. Trustee Quiara 2nd 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 adjourn the meeting. Trustee Thames 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 December 4, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.