

CSU Board of Trustees  
Full Board Meeting and Board Retreat  
Open Session Minutes  
March 11, 2024  
9:06 a.m.- 12:10 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair  
Trustee Angelique David, Vice-Chair  
Trustee Jason Quiara  
Trustee Cory Thames  
Trustee Cheryl Watkins, Secretary

**Board Members Absent**

Trustee James Elam

**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, Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics  
Nicole Latimer Williams, Vice President of Financial Operations and Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Molly McDonough, Associate Professor of Biology  
Erin Steva, Vice President External Affairs  
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 Thames seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

## **5. Public Comment**

There was a public comment from Pastor Doyle. He shared his concerns regarding comments from the President of the Chicago Teacher's Union. He also spoke about black mothers that would like to return to college but cannot due to financial restrictions. He would like to see Chicago State University work to help this population.

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2023, meeting. 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

## **7. President's Remarks**

President Scott welcomed everyone to campus. She provided an update on campus activities. She spoke about the following activities:

- State of the University address. There were approximately 100 people listening to the livestream. She recapped the 2023 year. She talked about rising enrollment, the new athletic conference and faculty achievements. She thanked Chair Zopp and the CSU Foundation Chair for attending the address.
- Mayor Brandon Johnson's visit to Chicago State University. The Deputy Mayor of Education Jennifer Johnson visited campus in November and this visit laid the groundwork for Mayor Johnson's visit. Opportunities to create 95<sup>th</sup> street corridor and educational opportunities for all were discussed. The mayor also met with CSU students. Due to this meeting, the mayor asked CSU to co-host a meeting on the last day of Black History month. This meeting featured 20 community colleges.
- Updates to CSU budget. Governor Pritzker asked for a 2% increase for each public university. During CSU's presentation to the legislature, they will discuss the historical underfunding of higher education and CSU's unique student needs. President Scott will be speaking at the Higher Education reception which is an added opportunity to engage with legislators.
- Finally, President Scott announced that Dr. Leslie Roundtree is retiring after 30 years of service to Chicago State University. The search committee will be meeting this week to discuss the Provost candidates.

## **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 that it was a busy spring semester. She introduced some key leadership hires.

- Dr. Erica Reaves-Director of Student Success and Retention
- Dr. Kenneth Nole-Director, Rise Academy
- April Juede, Director, Career Development
- Marion Berry-Director, Undergraduate Academic Advising and Student Support
- Adrian Mcadow-Assistant Director, African American Resource Center
- Sarah Gaines-Director, Student Activities and Conduct
- Lizette Roman-Licensed Clinical Counselor
- Honesty Thomas-Assistant Director, Counseling

Dr. Roundtree presented two honorary degree resolutions. Dr. Roundtree presented the Board with Peggy Montes and Che “Rhymefest” Smith’s credentials and accomplishments.

**Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for an honorary degree for Peggy Montes and Che “Rhymefest” Smith. Trustee Angelique David moved to approve the resolution for an honorary degree for Peggy Montes and Che “Rhymefest” Smith. Trustee Cory Thames 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. Matthew Fete provided an update on the College of Health Sciences and Pharmacy. A Public Health chair was hired. The college was busy with specialty accreditation activities. Nursing was granted accreditation with a follow up report due in 2025. The Pharm-D program was on probation, but as of June 2023 it was granted full accreditation. Dr. Fete went over passing rates. The nursing program had 100% first time pass rates for May 2023. The Pharmacy program had a first time pass rate of 65.2%. In 2022, Chicago State University had one of the lowest pass rates, and now there are 23 other programs with a pass rate between 65.2% and 65.9%. Chair Zopp thanked Dr. Fete, and everyone involved for their commitment to the students.

### ***Did You Know?***

Dr. Molly McDonough, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences presented her work in infectious diseases. She also discussed her, along with CSU students’ work with bats and the correlation to the corona virus. She also discussed her work locally including a study with the

Field Museum of Natural History which studied small mammals, their ectoparasites and associated zoonotic pathogens across three sites on Chicago's South Side.

### ***Enrollment Management***

Chair Zopp called Oscar Rodriguez to present on Enrollment Management. Mr. Rodriguez discussed the 2024-2025 FAFSA, Pell Grants and Financial Aid. He introduced the new Assistant Vice President/Director of Admissions Mr. Delonte LeFlore. He also gave updates on undergraduate applications. Fall 2024 applications are up 1340 YTD and fall 2024 admits are up 958 YTD. Mr. Rodriguez is meeting with partners to begin work on the strategic enrollment management plan.

### ***Legal Affairs***

Chair Zopp called on Robin Hawkins to present one resolution regarding Flexible Hours. Ms. Hawkins presented a resolution on Flexible Hours. The resolution detailed the types of flexible hour positions, program goals and program evaluation.

**Chair Zopp asked for a motion to approve the Flexible Hours Resolution. Trustee Angelique David moved to accept the resolution. Trustee Jason 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**

### ***Intercollegiate Athletics***

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Monique Carroll, Vice President, and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. Dr. Carroll discussed the new conference transition. She also mentioned that a fundraising specialist was hired to assist with the sports expansion fundraising.

### ***Finance and Audit Committee***

The Finance and Audit Committee met, but there was no action taken that required action in the Board meeting.

### ***External Affairs***

Chair Zopp called Ms. Erin Steva to present on External Affairs. Ms. Steva gave updates on Enrollment and Brand marketing as well as media updates. She then presented on State and Federal Government Affairs. The Governor proposed a 2% increase for public universities.

There is a congressional PBI caucus of four members of congress. The second PBI fly-in took place and 16 institutions were in attendance and there were meetings with 25 congressional offices.

### ***Administrative Services***

Chair Zopp called on Mr. Michael Holmes to give an update on capital projects. Mr. Holmes discussed the capital projects on campus currently including elevator renovation, light pole replacement and upgrades to the parking lots, roads, and walkways. Mr. Holmes introduced Jennifer Skowlund, Associate Principal, from Skidmore, Owens and Merrill. She presented the campus master plan which included an existing facility condition assessment, space needs assessment and campus planning recommendations.

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

Chair Zopp called on Melanie Sillas to present on the Chicago State Foundation. Ms. Sillas discussed the date for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual 1stGen scholarship gala (September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024) and she also discussed Corporate and Foundation Partnerships. She mentioned that CSF board member Jeanne A. Gills was listed on Crain's 2024 Notable Women in Law List and CSF board member Erin Inman was listed on Crain's 2024 Notable Women Owned-Businesses.

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

### **Return to Open Session**

**Chair Zopp moved to reconvene into Open session. 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**

The Board took no action in the executive session that required action in the Open Session.

**Chair Zopp moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Thames 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**

*The March 11, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.*