

CSU Board of Trustees
Full Board Meeting and Board Retreat
Open Session Minutes
December 9, 2024
9:08 a.m.- 11:33 a.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee Angelique David, Vice-Chair
Trustee Allison Bolden
Trustee Jason Quiara
Trustee Cory Thames attended virtually via Zoom

Board Members Absent

Trustee Cheryl Watkins, Secretary

Others Present

President Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, JD
Teresa L. Bates, Executive Director of Board Relations
Sonya Miller, Vice President, Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
Dr. Sonja Feist-Price, Provost & Senior Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Nicole Latimer-Williams, Vice President of Financial Operations and Chief Financial Officer
Oscar Rodriguez, Vice President, Enrollment Management
Melanie Sillas, Executive Director, Chicago State Foundation
Dr. Monique Carroll, Vice President and Director, Intercollegiate Athletics
Dr. Edmundo Garcia-Solis, Associate Vice Provost of Grants and Research
Dr. Kristy Mardis, Associate Provost of Academic Innovation

1. Call to Order

Chair Zopp called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was verified, and a roll call was taken. Trustee Thames asked to attend the meeting virtually. His request was approved through a unanimous roll call vote.

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 seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

5. Public Comment

Ms. Bates called Pastor Doyle Landry to present his public comment. He discussed his mother's passing and fond memories of his evenings at Chicago State University. He discussed mental health. He mentioned he would like to provide a \$5000 scholarship in Chair Andrea Zopp's name. He also gave birthday greetings to Vice President Oscar Rodriguez and applauded him for his work in enrollment efforts at Chicago State University.

Ms. Bates called Dr. LaJeanine Grinnage, the CEO of Rite of Passage LLC. She wanted to introduce herself. For 10 years, she has been consulting on college readiness and support. She would like to interact with students and offer her services, possibly developing a partnership with Chicago State University.

6. Approval of Minutes

Chair Zopp moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 9, 2024. Trustee David seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David -Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

7. President's Remarks

President Scott welcomed the Board to the last meeting of the calendar year. The President reflected on the following highlights:

- Several federal government officials visited the campus, including Mayor Brandon Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Administration for U.S. Health and Human Services Cheryl Campbell, the Undersecretary of the Department of Education James Kvaal, Illinois State Representative Brad Fitz, and Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Dr. Stacy Dixon.
- President Scott talked about the funding formula commission. President Scott served on the commission, and the work was completed in February. The bill will have a significant impact on the State of Illinois.
- The Metra Board of Directors has approved a contract for the rehabilitation of a Metra station located on the CSU campus. Coordination between Chicago State University and Metra has begun. The station will be rehabbed, and a new parking lot will be added.
- President Scott discussed the CSU Gala, which was a great success. She thanked Executive Director Melanie Sillas and John Robak, chair of the CSU Foundation Board, for their work.
- President Scott thanked her team and highlighted their exemplary work and accolades over the year.

8. Board Reports

Academic Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Sonja Feist-Price, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, to give the Academic Affairs report. Dr. Feist Price discussed the following:

- Development of new academic programs, including 4+1 programs in Computer Science leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science, a Doctor of Philosophy Degree for the School of Pharmacy, and a Bachelor's Degree in Cyber Security. The goal is to achieve Carnegie Classification of Research 2 (R2) status.
- The Career Center hosted the Career Fair, which over 170 students attended. An internship fair will be held in January, and another career fair will be held in the Spring.
- The return of homecoming, which included athletic competitions, a concert, and an NPHC step show
- Finally, she discussed her trip to Turkiye, where she fostered new academic partnerships.

After her report, Dr. Feist Price presented her resolution for Professor Emeritus status for Dr. Leslie Roundtree. She presented Dr. Roundtree's credentials and applauded her years of service to Chicago State University.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for Professor Emeritus for Dr. Leslie Roundtree. Trustee Jason Quiara moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 4 Nays 0

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Lavada Taylor to present a resolution for the College of Education. Dr. Taylor presented a resolution requesting a 30% discounted tuition rate per credit hour for CPS teachers and employees and teachers and employees from other school districts in Illinois. The current tuition rate is \$335.00 per credit hour; with this discounted rate, it would be \$234.50 per credit hour.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for a 30% discounted tuition rate. Trustee Angelique David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Allison Bolden gave her Student Trustee Report. She discussed the Thanksgiving Dinner, TEMBO Inductions, and the Fall 2024 Neophyte Presentation from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. She also discussed the tree-lighting ceremony. The president of SGA, Valencia Davis, gave a short presentation about homecoming and spring fest.

Intercollegiate Athletics

Chair Zopp called on Vice President Monique Carroll to report on Intercollegiate Athletics. Dr. Carroll discussed the volleyball team's winning the Northeast Conference Championship and the Women's Triathlon's first contest at North Central College. She also discussed the first sports expansion donor event and updated the Sports Expansion timeline.

Dr. Carroll then presented a resolution on approving an athletics apparel and equipment contract. The maximum expenditure would be approximately \$2M over 5 years.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve a new apparel and equipment contract resolution. Trustee Angelique David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Cory Thames seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Finance and Audit Committee

The Finance and Audit Committee met, but the resolutions were presented during other department presentations. One was presented during the Intercollegiate Athletics presentation, and the other was presented during the External Affairs presentation.

Did You Know

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Edmundo Garcia-Solis, Associate Vice Provost of Grants and Research, and Dr. Kristy Mardis, Associate Provost of Academic Innovation, to present. Dr. Garcia mentioned that there are 73 active grants as of December 2024. He noted that 54% of the grants are for research and development, 40% for training and economic growth, and 6% for financial assistance and infrastructure. Dr. Garcia highlighted advancing broadband equity through a learning grant, which improves the university bandwidth capacity by 10. Dr. Mardis highlighted several CSU summer grant programs.

External Affairs

Chair Zopp called Erin Steva, Vice President of External Affairs, to present on External Affairs. Ms. Steva gave an update on the envisioning 95th Street project. She described the different development areas that will be included in the project. She also presented a resolution to hire a project advisor, which would be renewed annually.

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to accept the resolution appointing a project advisor to initiate work on the re-envisioning 95th Street project. Trustee Angelique David moved to accept the resolution, and Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Chicago State Foundation Report

Chair Zopp called on Melanie Sillas to present on the Chicago State Foundation. Ms. Sillas announced the date for the 2025 1st Gen scholarship gala (September 26, 2025) and her fundraising goal. She also updated all corporate and foundation partnerships awarded in quarter one. She provided an update on the Foundation's chair, John C. Robak, being selected as one of Crain's 2024 Chicago Business' Notable Nonprofit Board Leaders.

Chair Zopp moved that the Board convene into Executive Session to discuss Employment Matters, Real Estate and IT Audit Matters. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-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 Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

The board took action in the executive session, which required action in the open session.

The board received a resolution regarding the purchase of real estate.

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to accept the resolution to purchase real estate. Trustee Jason Quiara moved to accept the resolution. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

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

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Chair Zopp asked for a motion to approve the 2025 Board of Trustee meeting dates (March 10, May 19, June 30, September 15, and December 8) listed on the agenda. The Board Retreat will be on Monday, September 15, 2025, immediately after the Board Meeting. All Full Board Meetings will begin at 9:00 a.m. Trustee Jason Quiara moved to approve the 2025 meeting dates. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Election of Officers

Chair Zopp called for Ms. Miller to conduct the election of board officers. Ms. Miller 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 Quaira moved to open the nominations for the election of officers. Trustee David 2nd the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Ms. Miler 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. Miller closed the nominations on the officers for the Board of Trustees and asked for a roll call vote 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 Quiara moved that the nominations be closed, and the nominated members be elected. Trustee David 2nd the motion.**

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

Chair Zopp moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Bolden-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Thames-Yes
Trustee Zopp -Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 5 Nays, 0

The December 9, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.