

Chicago State University
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Academic Library, Auditorium Room 415
September 23, 2009
7:38 a.m. – 10:09 a.m.

Board Members President

Rev. Leon D. Finney, Ph.D., Chairman
Rev. Richard L. Tolliver, Ph.D., Vice Chairman
Ms. Betsy Hill, Secretary
Mrs. Peggy a. Montes
Mr. Levon James, Student Trustee

Other Present

Mr. Mark Dunn, Attorney for the Board of Trustees
Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Altricia Wheeler, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Erma Brooks Williams, Associate to the President for the Board of Trustees & Governmental Affairs

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Verification of Meeting Notice

A quorum was verified. The meeting notice was posted as mandated by The Illinois Open Meetings Act.

4. Action Items

a. Previous Meeting Minutes

Dr. Tolliver moved to approve the previous minutes. Trustee Montes seconded the motion.

The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

b. Ghana Program Review

Dr. Finney asked to hold off the Ghana Program until later.

c. Appointment of University Treasurer

Attorney Dunn stated that the University is required to have a new treasurer appointed by statute and Dr. Justmann, who was the former treasurer, has resigned.

Trustee Tolliver moved to appoint Ms. Louis Williams as Treasurer. Trustee Montes seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

d. FY 2010 Operating Budget

Dr. Sandra Westbrooks confirmed that the budget office is requesting approval for the FY 2010 Operating Budget.

Dr. Finney acknowledged that the Finance, Facilities and Audit Committee had reviewed the budget thoroughly with the staff.

Trustee James moved to approve the 2010 operating budget. Trustee Montes seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

**Ayes: 4
Nays: 0**

e. FY 2011 Operating and Capital Budget Requests

Trustee Tolliver moved to approve the 2011 operating and capital budget. Trustee James seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

**Ayes: 4
Nays: 0**

f. Approval of Contracts over \$25,000

Dr. Finney recommended that all contracts under item f. 1 through 17 be approved.

Trustee Tolliver moved to approve all contracts. Trustee James seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

**Ayes: 4
Nays: 0**

g. Gwendolyn Brooks Collection

Dr. Westbrook explained that a request was made to generate a plan for how dollars would be generated to meet the requirements to secure the Gwendolyn Books papers. She stated a plan has been submitted for review and approval.

Dr. Finney commented that the Finance and audit committee was reluctant to move forward because they did not understand how to effectively raise the additional money of \$200,000 per year for five years.

Trustee Tolliver noted that there was a resolution that says the money will be forthcoming, but no source was identified. Trustee Tolliver recommended that a letter of understanding and strategy be submitted to the Board.

Trustee Tolliver moved to table the Gwendolyn Brooks collection until a concrete strategy is presented. Trustee Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

**Ayes: 4
Nays: 1**

5. Senior Administrator's Report

Dr. Sandra Westbrook reported on the enhancement of registration and the student loan check disbursement process. Both initiatives were successful because all student services were housed in one location and both impacted enrollment and retention. Dr. Westbrook also reported that computers were set up by Dr. Erma Brooks Williams so that students were able to communicate directly to the governor asking him to restore the MAP Award.

Dr. Westbrook noted it was because of the initiatives outlined that enrollment is up by 400 plus students and that number will be reported to IBHE. In order to retain all students, Dr. Westbrook commented that a mass request to deans, department chairs and faculty went out to identify those students who require additional academic support.

Trustee Montes commended staff and faculty in terms of some very positive feedback with the students.

Trustee Tolliver replied that the whole team should receive accolades.

6. Committee Reports

Trustee Betsy Hill reported that the Academic and Student Affairs, Personnel and Legislative Committee had nothing to further report.

Trustee Leon Finney stated that the Finance, Facilities and Audit Committee had nothing further to say.

Trustee Richard Tolliver reported that the next meeting for the Civil Service Merit Board would be in October, so there was nothing to report.

Trustee Levon James reported that registration for the first time in many years has gone back to one-stop-shop and was done in a spirit of service to the students. Trustee James also commented on the 50% cut by the MAP Grant funding. He stated it would take a strong commitment from the entire university community both on-campus and off-campus to restore these funds. Trustee James stated regarding customer service that one identity coupled with a commitment to excellence is needed to push our university forward. Regarding student health insurance, Trustee James questioned if the pink card has been reinstated, if so, why hasn't any information gone out informing students of that change.

Ghana Program Review

Trustee Finney requested Dr. Conteh to come before the Board with information regarding the trip to Washington, D.C.

Dr. Conteh commented that the trip to Washington was to launch the Text Book Teaching and Learning Program (TMLP) initiative and to also celebrate three years of what the program had achieved in Ghana, Africa. Dr. Conteh reported that CSU produced 2.5 million books, which was able to reach children and teachers within 14 deprived districts in Ghana. Dr. Conteh stated that TMLP won the Teddy Award and because of that our \$13 million grant from USAID was renewed for the next three years.

Trustee Finney responded that he was very proud of this school as it related to the Ghana project and commended Dr. Conteh and her staff. The Ghana resolution was read by Trustee Finney.

Trustee Montes moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Tolliver seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Trustee Tolliver moved to approve the adoption of the written resolution. Trustee Montes seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Trustee Finney entertained a motion to recess into executive session to discuss employment, legal and collective bargaining matters.

Trustee Tolliver moved to recess into executive session. Trustee Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Recessed into executive session at 9:05 a.m.

Reconvened to open session at 9:37 a.m.

Trustee Hill moved that the Board direct Attorney Dunn to draft an agreement, a first amendment to the presidential employment agreement, consistent with the draft that we reviewed and with any such other amendments which may be necessary and appropriate. Trustee Montes seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Trustee Tolliver moved adoption of the resolution that appears in the Board book as it related to the 457 F Plan. Trustee Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Trustee Hill moved to approve the labor agreement with Local 144 as presented in the resolution. Trustee James seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

7. Public and Employee Comments

Mr. Benji Taylor, Head Basketball Coach for the Men's Team, voiced his concern regarding paying doctors for the team's physicals.

Mr. John Orebiyi, Political Science Mayor, questioned why four weapon carrying officers were in the meeting.

Dr. Yan Searcy, President of University Faculty Senate, requested the Board to consider another meeting time besides 7:30 a.m.

Dr. Philip Beverly, Associate Professor of History, Philosophy, and Political Science, commented on the following topics: Higher Learning Commission, check disbursement, search processes, Athletics Department, Emergency management efforts, and tuition.

Ms. Dominic Westmoreland, Political Science Major, requested a detailed report of what tuition fees cover.

Mr. Ashley Valentine, Resident of Chicago State, stated that students need more accommodations and more resources put into each building.

8. Adjournment

Trustee Hill moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tolliver seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.