

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Chicago State University
9501 South King Drive
Chicago, IL 60628
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Gwendolyn Brooks Library – Auditorium, Room 415
September 16, 2019
3:14 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Board Members Present

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee McDade, Vice Chair
Trustee Mark Schneider, Secretary
Trustee Louis Carr
Trustee Mobley Smith
Trustee Brian Clay

Others Present

Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, Esq., President
Stephanie Kelly, Esq., General Counsel and Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer
Bonnie Phillips, Director of Board Relations
Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Provost and Senior Vice President
Dr. Michael Ellison, Interim Vice President of Enrollment Management
Ginger Ostro, Interim Vice President and CFO of Financial Operations
Darrious Hilmon, Executive Director of CSU Foundation

1. Call to Order

Trustee Andrea 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.

4. Singing of School Song – “Honor and Glory”

5. Approval of Agenda

Roll call was held for approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved.

Public Comment section was moved to before the Recess into Executive Session.

6. President’s Remarks – President Zaldwaynaka Scott

President Scott highlighted some of her priorities and changes for the upcoming year. She took time to thank the faculty for their work and support. The student's get to enjoy 10 to 1 faculty to student ratio. The University now has a dual enrollment program and we now have 47 students, when we only expected 20. She is enthusiastic and energetic about the work that lies ahead.

7. Reports

Academic and Student Affairs Report

Trustee Mobley Smith presided over the Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs presented the Academic Affairs Report. She stated that we had a productive summer this year.

- Students studied abroad in 4 countries; Jordan, Switzerland, Tanzania and Taiwan.
- Faculty engaged in research and other scholarly activities.
- We recently received a department of education grant for \$400,000 dollars. The grant is for equipment in our science department.
- We started our Faculty Institute. The institute will work on areas that we want to develop.
- The Student Success Program is underway.
- The Rise Academy Program – The pilot program had a 92% pass rate and they are fully engaged in the semester.
- The Dual enrollment program started and we are having good responses from the neighborhood schools.

This concluded the Academic Affair Report

Dr. Michael Ellison, Interim Vice President of Enrollment Management presented the Enrollment Management Report.

- Enrollment is at almost at 3,000 students.
- President Scott has established two new programs:
 - The Cougars Return Program, which allows students that might not have been able to attend due to running out of financial aid eligibility or who might have past due balances to re-enroll. This is a debt forgiveness program that forgives up to \$1,500; \$500 forgiven for each semester and when the graduation requirements are met.
- Another initiative helps students with housing insecurity, the President allowed 50 beds in the resident hall and 38 have been filled.
- The Admissions team is out recruiting for Spring and Fall 2020. The following high schools are interested in our dual enrollment program: Fenger Academy, Morgan Park, Harlan, Kenwood, Epic and Chicago International Charter School.
- We 47 applicants for the MBA programs.
- We are in the process of planning our open house and planning a recruiting event in Milwaukee, which President Scott will attend.

This concluded the Academic and Student Affairs Report.

Trustee Carr presided over the Financial Affairs Committee.

Ginger Ostro, Interim Vice President and CFO of Financial Operations and Administration presented the Finance and Audit Update.

Ms. Ostro stated that the Budget is nearly the same as presented in the last meeting. We have a Total Budget \$82.3 Million; \$36.9 state funding sources; \$24.1 in Tuition and Fees; \$60.1 general operating budget; \$12.9 Million in Student Fees/housing; \$8.4 in grant revenue. The budget changes in the report are fairly nominal.

Action Item: FY 2020 Operating Budget Resolution. The FY 2020 Operating Budget Resolution was voted on and approved by the Board.

This concluded the Finance and Audit Report.

Darrious Hilmon presented the Chicago State Foundation Report. He reported on his first 90 day as Executive Director.

Board Engagement:

- Earlier this morning, the Foundation's Board of Directors held its first meeting of the fiscal year.
- Our board members have been very generous with their time and talents as the Foundation develops the necessary infrastructure to meet our ambitious goals.
 - Each board committee has a charter outlining their responsibilities, meeting schedule and specific FY20 objectives
 - We have codified and approved the job qualifications and the roles and responsibilities of our Directors
 - We established and successfully tested a recruitment and vetting process for new Directors
 - And we are preparing to offer a Fund Development In-Service with one of the leading fundraising consultants in the country at our December Board Meeting.
- While it has been a heavy lift, our board members have approached this work with both a full sense of our urgent purpose and true grace, and Foundation staff has honored its commitment to come to meetings prepared, turn around meeting notes quickly and complete action items to ensure meetings are driving, not draining, productivity.

Operational Infrastructure

- In my first 90 days, we have made substantial progress towards viable and sustainable operations that will allow us to proactively steward new donations.
- Critical business and financial operations policies including Gift Acceptance, Donor Privacy and Document Retention are all on file.
- Operating practices around office management, gift acknowledgement and customer service have been adopted by Foundation staff.
- We are in the midst of a data clean and database migration in preparation for end-of-year donor solicitation.
- And I am receiving monthly reports on the Foundation's financial position.

Fund Development

- In my first 90 days, a substantial portion of the Foundation's work has been outward-facing.

- I have had partnership meetings with Corporations and Foundations including:
 - AT&T
 - Walgreens - who, following our meeting, donated \$3,500 in support of our newly opened campus food pantry
 - BP America
 - Dell
 - The Polk Brothers Foundation

- Internally, the Foundation is completing intensive work with the Provost and College Deans to prepare comprehensive Program Information Forms (PIF's) and 'true-cost' budgets for signature student engagement programming we intend to take to market in pursuit of funding support
- We are also working with community partners including:
 - Chicago International Charter School (CICS) on an "adopt a high school" project to provide a dual enrollment option and scholarship opportunities for students who face multiple barriers to college entry
 - The Tie That Binds Ministry, a community group who raised more than \$13,000 to establish a scholarship in the College of Pharmacy
 - TAGers - supporting in the relaunch of one of the University's long-standing, premiere volunteer fundraising groups.
 - Gwendolyn Brooks Advisory Board - providing strategic planning support
 - The CTC/CSU Alumni Association, who have added more than 30 new members in the past 90 days and who held their first membership meeting in three years on Saturday morning ...and will host its first annual awards reception in more than three years on Thursday November 14th in the Cordell Reed Student Union Atrium.

Scholarships

- While I know the Foundation's performance is ultimately judged against our fundraising goals, the real joy of this work is the privilege of investing that money back into our student scholars.
- Since July 1, 2019, the Foundation has awarded nearly \$80K in scholarships.
- We are in the midst of auditing each of the more than 100 restricted funds currently managed by the Foundation...revising guidelines for the creation of Endowments and Restricted Accounts.
- I am happy to report that the Foundation is moving forward rooted in professionalism, best-practice and an uncompromising committed to excellence, transparency and integrity each and every day.

This concluded the Foundation Update.

8. Public and Employee Comment

Professor Debra Lynch, Chapter President of University Professionals of Illinois, which is the Union that represents faculty and staff at Chicago State University:

There are serious problems on campus; low morale of the faculty and staff on campus. A focus group was held to get a sense of many of the faculty and staffs feelings here are the University. This is a sampling of some of the young and seasoned faculty and reflects the feelings and concerns of many of our members

- We have reached a boiling point.

- There is no respect or advocacy for faculty from the administration, they take advantage of us due to our deep care for our students.
- I cannot justify staying here under these working conditions.
- I am angry about the expectations and the obstacles.
- I have been here over 20 years and I feel there is a complete and total lack of respect for faculty and the work they do, and a lack of shared governance, which is incredible demoralization.
- My career here has been wasted and I feel burned out and hopeless.

Professor Lynch urged the Board of Trustees to address the issues that many of our faculty and staff are concerned about, because we know that what is at stake here is more than faculty and staff but students and the quality of education.

Renard Singleton, 21-year Veteran of the United State Marine Corps, Graduate student, and Student Government President for the past 2 years:

On Behalf of the Student Government Association, I am here to express our concerns about the precipitous and impulsive doings of the administration of this University. Over the past year there have been several meetings with the faculty, staff, and administration, a State of the University address, and an investiture. On these occasions the presence and participation of The Student Government Association and our student body was requested. Yet, the SGA and the student body have request on several occasions to have a town hall meeting with our President and the administration, to no avail. What college, school, or university have students ever been last? The students of this school will not be silenced, disregarded, dismissed or ignored. The Interim Provost and administration is now trying to shut down the SGA leadership. The constitution policies and procedures SGA stands for are not being volleyed in the state of open conversation, administration is trying to silence the leaders. This is not the first time and will not be the last time administration has tried to interfere with SGA policies.

Adrina Tarver, transfer student from UIC, Junior, SGA elected candidate:

Last year's elections were cancelled because of an interim dean of students interrupted our election. As a student here at CSU, I feel as though we should continue the elections. There are requirements of to be in the SGA you have to have a GPA 2.5 or 3.0 or better. As a transfer student from UIC I see that the students here want stand up for issues/concerns. I pay \$5 for parking every day and my car being damaged because of the potholes in the parking lot.

Anita Holmes, Graduate Student (Geography, GIS concentration), SGA Chief of Staff and VP:

As a student, we would like to know where all of our tuition money and increases go. On behalf of the students, especially if the students are going to have the last say in the process. We are very concerned that the administration says that students don't care about cost. Students want an open line of communication with administrators and we don't expect you to looked us in the face and lie. Trust has been broken over the year and now is the time to restore communication. Students have seen no progress as if their voices don't matter. We ask that you hold the administration accountable for their actions and unethical doings when it comes to the students.

Naquette Wilson:

It is a lack of concern for students and student's need such as the Wi-Fi going in and out, which is an easy fix. The lunchroom prices, like one swipe for \$5.00 for a slice of pizza especially when the tuition rate has gone up and you stay on campus. The CMAT department heavily needs funding, because the equipment is outdated and we are not as prepared or trained as our other counterparts when we get out into the world. The point of contact is an issue when you go into the cook administration building. The attitude, work effort and push to get things done in a timely fashion isn't there. There are some people that do their jobs efficiently but there are a lot of people who don't. Maybe having some younger people mixed with the seasoned people would help add the sense of urgency.

9. Recess into Executive Session Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act

10. Reconvene into Open Session

Action Items

a. Governing Board Regulations

Pursuant to Article 1 Section E Subsection 2 of the Chicago State University Board of Trustees Governing Board Regulations and Procedures This serves as the first reading for proposed changes to those regulations specifically the Board is requesting changes to Article 1 Board Procedures Section C Board Committees and Section E Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal of Governing Board Regulations and Procedures. The proposed changes are as follows Article 1 Section C is changed by reducing the standing committees of the Board to Finance and Audit, Civil Service Merit Board, and CSU Foundation the revision also provides the Board the authority to establish ad-hoc committees as needed the purpose of this change is to promote efficiencies in the Boards work in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The second proposed change is Article 1 Section E Subsection 6 which is change to clarify that interpretation of the Governing Board Regulations and Procedures shall be issued in writing at the Board or President's request by the University General Counsel. This serves as the first reading of the Board's proposed changes to the Governing Board regulations and procedures. The proposed revised regulations will be available in the Board of Trustee's Office and will be distributed to the Faculty Senate and the appropriate employee and student organizations. Members Faculty, staff and student body may submit their views and comments if any on the proposed changes in writing to the President for distribution to the board. The Board will seek to adopt the proposed changes at the next Board meeting which will incorporate any appropriate feedback received.

Trustee McDade motioned to approve the First Read of The Governing Board Regulations and Procedure. Trustee Clay seconded the motion.

The Motion passed as follows:

All Ayes.

Darrious Hilmon presented the resolution for the new directors to the Foundation Board

b. Appointment of New Directors to the Board of the Chicago State Foundation

The University has proposed Adon B. Navarette and Sherell G. Fuller to serve as a director of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees hereby appoints Adon B. Navarette and Sherell G. Fuller to serve on the Chicago State Foundation Board of Directors for an initial term not to exceed three years from date of appointment.

Trustee Mobley Smith motioned to approve the Appointment of New Directors to the Board of the Chicago State Foundation Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion.

The motion passed as follows:

All Ayes

c. Approval to Renew Contract for Media Planning, Buying, and Advertising

The Board of Trustees hereby approves the contract for media buying, planning and advertising services with Radio Link Media up to \$250,000 with final approval of the Scope of Work and Budget to be provided by Finance and Audit Committee of the Board.

Trustee McDade motioned to approve the Resolution for Approval to Renew Contract for Media Planning, Buying, and Advertising. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion.

The motion passed as follows:

All Ayes

11. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.