

Bridgewater State University
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 9, 2022
Hybrid Via Zoom
Dunn Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Durgin, Caulfield (Virtual), Kopellas, Giles, Oliari (Virtual), MacCormack, Prince (Virtual) and Turchon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustees Alexander and Longo

ALSO PRESENT: President Clark; EVP and Provost Ismaili; Chief of Staff Leuenberger; Vice Presidents Gentlewarrior, Jason, Jean, Molife, Powers, Oravec, Shropshire, Zuromski; Special Advisor deMacedo

Under the order suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, as declared on March 12, 2020 by Governor Baker, having been complied with, and a quorum of the Board virtually present, the Board of Trustees held a zoom meeting on June 9, 2022 with Chairman Durgin presiding.

Chairman Durgin called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. He asked the Trustees if it would be acceptable to dispense with a roll call after each action item as long as the vote is unanimous.

On motion duly made and seconded via a roll call vote, Trustee Giles-yes, Trustee Kopellas-yes, Trustee MacCormack-yes, Trustee Oliari-yes, Trustee Prince-yes, Trustee Turchon-yes, Trustee Caulfield-yes, Trustee Durgin-yes, it was that the Board of Trustees dispense with a roll call vote for each unanimous vote for the duration of this meeting.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Kopellas) it was to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on April 12, 2022. (Attachment)

**CHAIRMAN'S
REPORT**

Chairman Durgin welcomed Dr. Cindy Kane's graduate students to the meeting and recognized the retirement and lengthy service of David

Wilson who was a true, valued colleague for all. Lastly, Chairman Durgin solemnly acknowledged the passing of Trustee Longo's mother.

Student Voice

Trustee Kopellas updates: the Orientation Training session began for first-year students; seniors are looking forward to receiving their degrees in May and they acknowledged Chairman Durgin's years of service.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Clark expressed his appreciation and thanks to Dave Wilson. His updates follow: a reception was held to recognize recent retirees; Vice President Molife will be the next provost at MassArt and thanked her for 20 years of service; Dean Porter-Utley will be moving on to Fitchburg State University; recognized Dr. Maria Hegbloom in her new role with the MSCA; offered congratulations to Dr. Lee Torda as the next Chapter President for the MSCA; retroactive salary increases have been distributed and he thanked Vice President Powers for her team's tremendous efforts; union contract negotiations are taking place for the fall opening in regards to the pandemic; recognized Dr. Chris Frazer as 15,907 COVID tests were provided this past year; 96.8% of employees have been vaccinated; secured a national science grant for \$3M to support a national model to recruit and retain cohorts of faculty of color; and the Mandela Fellows will be here next week.

29 Who Shine Recipient

Chief of Staff Leuenberger noted one student is nominated from each of the 29 institutions for the state's recognition of 29 Who Shine. BSU student, Mr. Joshua Joseph, was recommended by several nominees. His mentor is David Rumrill. All congratulated Mr. Joseph for this recognition.

Wellness Presentation

Dr. Chris Frazer, Executive Director for Wellness, presented on Mental Health.

(See attachment)

Vice President Oravec recognized Dr. Marybeth Lamb for receiving the 2021-22 National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Cushman & Wakefield Athletics Director of the Year Award.

ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS

EXECUTIVE

Board of Trustees Budget

The recommended budget for the Board of Trustees is to be level funded.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the Board of Trustees Budget for FY2023 as recommended by the Executive Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated June 2, 2022.

(Attachment)

Letter of Intent for BS in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics

Provost Ismaili spoke about the request for a new B.S. in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics. The department has worked well in developing the letter of intent. He offered his thanks to Dr. Li, Department of Computer Science and Dean Porter-Utley.

Vice President Zuromski stated it has been an honor to collaborate with faculty and deans on this opportunity for our students.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Kopellas) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Board of Higher Education (BHE) for a new B.S. degree in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics at Bridgewater State University as recommended by the Executive Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated June 2, 2022.

(Attachment)

Contract Approval for Presidio Technology Capital, LLC

Vice President Shropshire recognized this is a major contract which was procured under a state contract. Time was spent to negotiate great rates. The current infrastructure is quite old and is no longer supported by the vendor.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a contract with Presidio Technology Capital, LLC as recommended by the Executive Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated June 2, 2022.

(Attachment)

Strategic Planning Update

An update was provided at the Executive Committee meeting.
(Attachment)

President's Accrued Vacation and Sick Time

The report was provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

President's Expenses and Upcoming Travel

The report was provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

FINANCE AND OPERATIONSContinuation Budget for FY2023

Vice President Shropshire stated where the state budget is not finalized, the request is for an approval of a continuation budget.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Kopellas) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the Continuation Budget for FY2023 in the amount of \$58,748,805 (prorated expenditure level for 3.5 months) as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.
(Attachment)

FY2022/Q3 Trust Fund Report

Vice President Shropshire noted the guidelines require the Board to approve the trust funds quarterly. The report shows additional revenue due to higher than expected occupancy in the residence halls.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Kopellas) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2022/Q3 Trust Fund Report as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.
(Attachment)

Student Fee Schedule for AY2022-23 Budget

President Clark is grateful for the House and Senate budget as BSU received an increase this year. Student fees have not been increased in two years. The state funding does not adequately cover collective bargaining costs. The FY23 budget is an investment budget even

though there are 1,000 less students and about \$12M less in our budget due to the pandemic, enrollment decline, etc.; however, a balanced budget has been brought forward. Vice President Shropshire stated the CPI has risen 10.3% and inflationary impacts forces the increase of student fees. The state has provided an increase in financial aid which is helpful.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Kopellas, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a 2.97% total increase in mandatory student tuition and fees for academic year 2022-2023 as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.

(Attachment)

Contract Approval for Blackboard

Vice President Shropshire stated a full RFP process was conducted which resulted in Blackboard as a finalist. BSU's professors and students mainly use this tool.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a contract with Blackboard as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.

(Attachment)

Contract Approval for Ruffalo Noel Levitz LLC

Vice President Shropshire said there was an extensive RFP process to assist with enrollment strategies. Ruffalo is a national enrollment firm and this contract will cover innovative enrollment strategies. The goal is to drive enrollment in the admissions process and establish a long-term pipeline.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a contract with Ruffalo Noel Levitz LLC as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.

(Attachment)

FY2022/Q3 Contracts Report

The quarterly contracts report was provided as an information item.

(Attachment)

FY2022/Q3 Budget Report

The quarterly budget report was provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

Capital Projects Update

The capital projects update was provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENTFY2022/Q3 Alumni and Development Dashboard Report

Committee Chair Turchon acknowledged and appreciates a major gift from a late Trustee, David Jenkins (\$300+K). The endowment investments ended with over \$61.3M and total assets stand at \$69.2M. CDO Oliver noted cumulative giving for quarter 3 is \$4.5M+; currently the total endowment is at \$5.5M+ as of June 4th.

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, MacCormack) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2022/Q3 Alumni and Development Dashboard Report as recommended by the Alumni and Development Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated May 19, 2022.
(Attachment)

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

Foundation Update

Updates: a new director of planned giving was recently hired and renovations for 161 Summer Street are on budget and on time.

Alumni Update

'Bear Essential' is holding a clothing drive for our students and will assist with resume writing and provide a professional photo. Also, the new Alma Mater lyrics have been finalized.

PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW AND COMPENSATIONPresidential Review for AY2021-2022

Chairman Durgin noted the Board conducts an evaluation each year and the president's self-assessment was presented. Chairman Durgin has been proud to serve with President Clark. President Clark is very pleased with the accomplishments from this past year.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Kopellas) it was that the Board of Trustees accepts President Clark's Self-Assessment and Chairman Durgin's cover letter as recommended by the Presidential Review and Compensation Committee for the 2021-2022 academic year.
(Attachment)

President Clark's Salary Recommendation

Chairman Durgin stated BSU's president's compensation is woefully undercompensated. The Board is recommending an increase consistent with moving the salary to a medium salary as compared to our peer institutions.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Giles) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a recommendation to the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education that a merit and equity increase be granted to President Clark per the recommendation from the Presidential Review and Compensation Committee as noted in the attached letter from Chairman Durgin.
(Attachment)

NOMINATINGSlate of Board Officers for AY2022-2023

Committee Chair Durgin noted a few nominations were received and he was pleased to bring forward the officers for the coming year.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Kopellas) it was that the Nominating Committee approve the motion to forward the names of the following slate of Board Officers for AY2022-23 for approval by the Board of Trustees at its June meeting.
(Attachment)

Trustee MacCormack – Chairperson
Trustee Caulfield – Vice Chairperson
Trustee Longo – Secretary

**OTHER
BUSINESS**

Vice Chairperson MacCormack and President Clark acknowledged Chairman Durgin's lengthy service and leadership to the Board of Trustees and BSU which has been exemplary. He will be missed and wished him well.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Longo) it was that the meeting be adjourned (7:55 pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Longo

Scott Longo
Secretary

Minutes prepared by:
Tracey Keif