
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Trustees Present:

Jessica Gomez, Chair
Tim Hasty
Rose McClure

Jill Mason
Kelley Minty Morris
Nagi Naganathan, President

Michele Vitali
Fred Ziari

Trustees Unable to Attend:

Jeremy Brown
Lisa Graham

Kathleen Hill
Vince Jones, Vice Chair

Mike Starr
Paul Stewart

University Staff and Faculty Present:

David Groff, General Counsel
Adria Paschal, Senior Executive Assistant to the President

1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum

Chair Gomez called the meeting to order at 8:51am. The Board Secretary called roll and a quorum was declared.

2. Reports – none

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the May 27, 2021 Meeting

Trustee Minty Morris moved to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting. Trustee McClure seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Action Items

4.1 Approval of the 2022 Meeting Calendar

Chair Gomez reviewed the dates proposed in the agenda report and confirmed the meetings can still be hybrid to permit remote participation. Trustee Mason stated she could attend the June 2nd meeting virtually. The Board Secretary will confirm dates with those trustees not in attendance today.

Trustee Minty Morris moved to approve the 2022 meeting calendar to include the following dates:

- January 27 (Thursday) – Wilsonville
- April 7 (Thursday) – Klamath Falls

- June 2 (Thursday) – Klamath Falls
- July 21 and 22 (Thursday and Friday) – Board Retreat - location TBD
- November 17 (Thursday) - Wilsonville

Trustee Hasty seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Approval of Peer Comparators for Accreditation

President Naganathan explained the peer institution comparator list is a 2020 requirement of the NorthWest Commission on Colleges and Universities for accreditation purposes and will also be used for other data reporting requirements and will not be used for salary comparisons. The last list was prepared in 2010 by the Oregon University System and did not take into account institution size or programing. The peer comparator study was in 2019. He explained the process and criteria used to identify the comparators. He stated the list should be reviewed every 5 years, taking into account the accreditation cycle.

Trustee Ziari moved to approve the following list of comparator institutions for accreditation and reporting purposes and direct staff to review the list within five years:

Fairmont State University	Fairmont	WV
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Weatherford	OK
University of South Carolina-Upstate	Spartanburg	SC
Midwestern State University	Wichita Falls	TX
Montana Tech of the University of Montana	Butte	MT
Shawnee State University	Portsmouth	OH
Bemidji State University	Bemidji	MN
Nicholls State University	Thibodaux	LA
Missouri Western State University	Saint Joseph	MO
Rogers State University	Claremore	OK

Trustee Mason seconded the motion. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Approval of a Resolution on Bond Issuance for a Student Residence Hall

President Naganathan reminded trustees that earlier this year the Board approved staff to request to participate in the Oregon public bonds program and to request \$55 million in Article XI-F bonds to support the construction of a student residence hall project on the Klamath Falls campus. The legislature authorized bonding in the amount of \$55.6 million. Discussion took place regarding the cost of construction, the need for contingency to cover any inflationary costs and/or changes in design, the future of the original housing structure, remaining debt on the Village housing, and the planning process and timeline for the new residence hall. **Trustee McClure** stated the perception on campus is that the university is continuing to go into debt for all of the construction projects and staff furloughed to help balance the budget. **President Naganathan** clarified that the university is not going into debt; the bonds for Cornett renovation, CEET construction and Boivin Hall renovation are paid for in full by the state; the Rec Center and track project are funded through bonds paid for by auxiliary funds (not general funds), as will

the residence hall project, and the Doctorate in Physical Therapy program and related facilities are part of general fund academic investment. **Trustee Ziari** stressed the need to effectively communicate the various funding sources and repayment requirements to stakeholders. **President Naganathan** stated the Facilities Planning Commission will also review the residence hall project and other stakeholders will also be involved. **Chair Gomez** stated she is comfortable moving forward without further review by the Finance and Facilities committee; she spoke with Vice Chair Jones, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, and because the data and figures have not changed since the committee's review of the project in April, he is supportive of moving forward with no further review at this time.

Trustee Ziari moved to approve Resolution 21-01 attesting that sufficient revenue exists to support repayment of Article XI-F(1) Bonds for the construction of a new student housing facility on the Klamath Falls campus, and moved to authorize the President or his designee to utilize funds in excess of \$1 million from reserves or the Quasi-Endowment to fund initial project planning and related capital costs prior to bond issuance, if necessary, acknowledging those funds would be repaid when bonds are sold and the State of Oregon reimburses Oregon Tech.

Trustee Minty Morris seconded the motion. Trustee Ziari requested routine reports to the Board on this project. With all trustees present voting aye, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Trustee Recruitment

Chair Gomez explained that four trustees whose terms are up on June 30, 2022 can be reappointed and one trustee's term is up on June 30, 2023. Currently there are 13 trustees. Eight trustees will roll off on June 30, 2022. Replacement trustees need to be identified by the November 18, 2021 board meeting to ensure the recommendations will be considered by the Governor and Senate in the spring of 2022. There was consensus to create a plan to request the Governor's office consider holding over some trustees by not filling the positions. **Chair Gomez** will work with board secretary to address this issue and report back to the board.

6. Other Matters

7. **Public Comment** – No public comment. The Board Secretary noted a letter was submitted to the trustees from student Aleksandr Shevtsov.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Fox
Board Secretary

RETREAT

The Board of Trustees met for a retreat starting at 10:30am and viewed the AGB Webinar “Public Institutions: Is It Time for a Strategy “Refresh”? Annual ethics and Title IX training were postponed to the November 18, 2021 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD

The Board met in Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(f) and (i) and ORS 40.225 Rule 503 to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection and to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.