# UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### **MINUTES**

University of Connecticut Wilbur Cross Building North Reading Room 233 Glenbrook Road Storrs, Connecticut September 28, 2022

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m. by Board Chair Daniel D. Toscano.

The following Trustees participated in person: Trustees Andy F. Bessette, Shari G. Cantor, Sanford Cloud, Jr., Joshua Crow, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Damani R. Douglas, Marilda L. Gandara, Jeanine A. Gouin, Bryan K. Pollard, Thomas D. Ritter, Philip E. Rubin, Daniel D. Toscano, and Paul Mounds, Jr., Governor Lamont's designee.

The following Trustees participated by video or telephone: Trustees Mark L. Boxer and Charles F. Bunnell.

Trustees Bryan P. Hurlburt, David Lehman, Rebecca Lobo, Kevin J. O'Connor, and Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, were not in attendance.

The following University Senate Representatives attended the meeting in person: Joanne Conover, Anji Seth, Edward Weingart, and Sebastian Wogenstein.

University Senate Representative Karen Bresciano participated by video.

The following University staff attended the meeting in person: Interim President Radenka Maric, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Anne D'Alleva, UConn Health Interim Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Chief Executive Officer Bruce Liang, Interim Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Lloyd Blanchard, Executive Secretary to the Board Rachel Rubin, University Chief of Staff and General Counsel Nicole Gelston, Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Gilbert, Vice President for Communications Tysen Kendig, Vice President and Chief Information Officer Michael Mundrane, Vice President for Global Affairs Daniel Weiner, Associate Vice President for Communications Michael Kirk, Associate Vice President, Master Planner and Chief Architect Laura Cruickshank, Senior Associate University Counsel Nathan LaVallee, Associate University Counsel Jonathan Heinlein, Associate Professor Daniel Schwartz, Director of the Center for Open Research Resources and Equipment, and Dr. Brandon Murray.

Vice President for Enrollment Planning and Management Nathan Fuerst attended the meeting by video.

UConn Foundation President and CEO Jake Lemon also attended the meeting in person.

#### **OPEN SESSION**

#### 1. Public Participation

Mason Holland, Undergraduate Student (USG) President, spoke in support of increased resources for the University's cultural centers.

Sydney Collins, USG Director and USG representative on the Board of Trustees Student Life Committee, discussed safe spaces on campus, support for the University's cultural centers, and decarbonization.

Undergraduate Students Noah Liguori-Bills, Nicola Wilk, Maggie Singman, Holly Garfield, Thomas Bonitz, and Nicolas Lombardo, spoke in support of environmental sustainability and the status of the President's Working Group on Sustainability and the Environment.

Former student Phoebe Liou and Dr. Aaron Lewis, Founder, The Scribe's Institute, expressed concerns about student COVID-19 policies.

Ezequiel Valencia conveyed concerns about the lack of diverse courses that foster creative educational opportunities in relation to the current job market.

In addition, several students provided written comments to the Board by e-mail.

## 2. Chairman's Report

#### (a) Matters outstanding

On a motion by Trustee Ritter, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Board voted to unanimously to add to the agenda the appointment of University President and to designate Board Chair Toscano as the Board's representative in the negotiation of the terms and conditions of the presidential appointment.

During discussion, Board members who attended the meeting in person made comments in support of the search committee's recommendation to appoint Dr. Radenka Maric as the University's 17th President.

On behalf of Governor Lamont, President of the Board of Trustees, Paul Mounds, Jr., thanked all the members of the search committee and expressed support for Dr. Maric and her vision for the University.

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Cloud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Radenka Maric as UConn's President.

University Senate Representative Wogenstein expressed enthusiastic support for the appointment of President Maric. He also noted the union coalition letter sent to the Board asking for more transparency and input for the union in the search process. He hoped for improved relationships between the Board, the University Senate, and the faculty going forward.

Mr. Mounds confirmed with Board Chair Toscano that all signatories on the UConn Labor Coalition letter to the Board were members of the presidential advisory committee.

Board Chair Toscano acknowledged the resignation of University Senate Representative David Yalof, who recently accepted an administrative position at William and Mary. Professor Joseph MacDougald from the School of Law School will replace him on the Institutional Advancement Committee, effective September 23.

(b) Minutes of the meeting of August 3, 2022

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Gouin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 3, 2022.

(c) Consent Agenda Items:

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Gandara, the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda items.

(1) Contracts and Agreements

(Attachment 1)

(Trustee Ritter abstained from voting on Attachment 1. Trustee Bessette abstained from voting on Item #4 in Attachment 1.)

(2)	Annual Report of the Endowed Chair Program Entitled "Aetna English Chair of Writing"	(Attachment 2)
(3)	FY22 Capital Expenditures	(Attachment 3)
(4)	Project Budget (Design) for Jones Annex Renovation	(Attachment 4)
(5)	Project Budget (Revised Design) for South Campus Infrastructure	(Attachment 5)
(6)	Project Budget (Final) for the UConn Health 16 Munson Road Parking Lot Paving	(Attachment 6)
(7)	Project Budget (Final) for the UConn Health Psychiatry Seclusion Suite and Nurse Station Security Renovation	(Attachment 7)
(8)	Project Budget (Revised Final) for the UConn Health Replace Buildings F and H Hot Water Tanks	(Attachment 8)
(9)	Tenure at Hire	(Attachment 9)
(10)	Designation of Emeritus Status	(Attachment 10)
(11)	Sabbatical Leave Recommendations	(Attachment 11)
(12)	Naming Recommendation for the Toscano Family Ice Forum	(Attachment 12)
	(Board Chair Toscano abstained from voting on Attachment 12.)	
(13)	Naming Recommendation for the Thaddeus R. Sobieski Linebacker Room	(Attachment 13)
(14)	Naming of Ray Reid Field	(Attachment 14)
(15)	Naming Recommendation for the Timothy J. Curt and Dona M. Bissonnette Classroom (School of Business)	(Attachment 15)
(16)	Naming Recommendation for the Suresh and Vidya Nair (Attachment 16) Classroom (School of Business)	
(17)	Naming Recommendation for the Thomas O'Brien Classroom (School of Business)	(Attachment 17)
(18)	Annual Reports of Endowed Chairs (UConn Health)	(Attachment 18)
Election of Board Secretary and Committee Vice-Chairs		

(d)

Upon the nomination by Trustee Gouin, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Board voted to reappoint Trustee Dennis-LaVigne as Secretary to the Board. Chairman Toscano also recommended that Trustee Dennis-LaVigne continue as the Vice-Chair who shall act as the Chair of the Board in case of the absence or incapacity of the Chair.

(Trustee Dennis-LaVigne abstained from voting.)

Chairman Toscano confirmed the continuation of the current Vice-Chairs as noted below:

Academic Affairs - Trustee Gouin

Buildings, Grounds & Environment and Construction Management Oversight – Trustee Gandara

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Institutional Advancement – Trustee Dennis-LaVigne Compensation – Trustee Bunnell

Financial Affairs – Trustee Bessette

Joint Audit & Compliance – Trustee Boxer

UConn Health Board of Directors - Trustee Cloud

Research, Entrepreneurship & Innovation – Trustee Rubin

Student Life - Trustee Cantor

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Douglas, the Board voted unanimously to reappoint all the current Vice-Chairs to standing Board Committees and Trustee O'Connor as the liaison to the Division of Athletics.

- 3. President's Report
- 4. Academic Affairs Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
  - (b) Community Engagement Presentation

Presenter: Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor Sandra M. Chafouleas Department of Educational Psychology

- 5. Financial Affairs Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 6. UConn Health Report
  - (a) Report on UConn Health activities
- 7. Joint Audit and Compliance Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities

There was no Report on Committee activities.

- 8. Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 9. Construction Management Oversight Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities

There was no Report on Committee activities.

- 10. Student Life Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 11. Institutional Advancement Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 12. Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 13. Committee on Compensation Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities

There was no Report on Committee activities.

- 14. Committee for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
- 15. Other business

No Other business was presented to the Board.

16. Executive Session anticipated

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Gandara, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 12:15 p.m. regarding:

- 1. Preliminary drafts or notes provided the public agency has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure [pursuant to Connecticut General Statute (CGS) Section 1-210(b)(1)]; and
- 2. Commercial or financial information given in confidence, not required by statute [CGS Section 1-210(b)(5)(B)].

The following Trustees were in attendance: Bessette, Boxer, Cantor, Cloud, Crow, Dennis-LaVigne, Douglas, Gandara, Gouin, Pollard, Ritter, Rubin, Toscano, and Mounds.

The following University staff were in attendance for the entire Executive Session: Maric, D'Alleva, Blanchard, Rubin, Gelston, Kendig, Kirk, LaVallee, and Heinlein.

The following University staff were in attendance for part of the Executive Session: Cruickshank, Schwartz, and Murray.

Mr. Lemon was also in attendance for part of the Executive Session.

The Executive Session ended at 1:14 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 1:15 p.m.

17. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Board meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Dennis-LaVigne Secretary