

DRAFT
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

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

October 25, 2023

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Board Chair Daniel D. Toscano.

The following Trustees participated in person: Trustees Andy F. Bessette, Charles F. Bunnell, Shari G. Cantor, Sanford Cloud, Jr., Joshua Crow, Aanya Mehta, Bryan K. Pollard, Thomas D. Ritter, Philip E. Rubin, and Daniel D. Toscano,

The following Trustees participated by video or telephone: Trustees Alexandra Daum, Mark L. Boxer, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Marilda L. Gandara, Jeanine A. Gouin, and Kevin J. O'Connor.

Trustees Bryan P. Hurlburt, Rebecca Lobo, Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, and Jonathan Dach, Governor Lamont's designee, were not in attendance.

The following University Senate Representatives attended the meeting in person: Karen Bresciano, Joanne Conover, Jeffrey McCutcheon, Angela Rola, Edward Weingart, and Michael White.

The following University Senate Representatives participated by video or telephone: Alexander Agrios, Joseph MacDougald, and D. Betsy McCoach.

The following University staff attended the meeting in person: President Radenka Maric, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Anne D'Alleva, Executive Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Geoghegan, UConn Health Interim Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Chief Executive Officer Bruce Liang, Executive Secretary to the Board Rachel Rubin, Chief of Staff Michelle Williams, UConn Health Chief of Staff Andrea Keilty, General Counsel Nicole Gelston, Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment Nathan Fuerst, Vice President for Communications Tysen Kendig, Vice President and Chief Information Officer Michael Mundrane, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer Franklin Tuit, Vice President for Global Affairs Daniel Weiner, Vice President for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship S. Pamir Alpay, Associate Vice President for Communications Michael Kirk, and Governmental Relations Senior Director Joann Lombardo.

OPEN SESSION

1. Public Participation

The following students addressed the Board on behalf of Fossil Fuel Free UConn: Lillian Adamo, Colin Rosadino, Monet Paredes, and Dylan Steer. The Board received a written statement from the Fossil Fuel Free UConn Climate Coalition.

Board Chair Toscano announced that President Maric and key members of the administration are hosting a Town Hall on Sustainability and Climate on Thursday, November 2, at 5:00 p.m. He encouraged all members of the UConn community to join this interactive forum.

Student Isabella Rubin spoke in support of Jewish students.

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2. Chairman's Report

(a) Matters Outstanding

Board Chair Toscano recognized this year's University Senate Executive Committee Chair Laura Burton, Professor and Department Head, Department of Educational Leadership.

Board Chair Toscano also announced that the Susan V. Herbst Building dedication will be held immediately following the Board meeting at 12:30 p.m. at Oak Hall. Additionally, the Dodd Prize event will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts. This year's Dodd Prize will be awarded to the Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center in Kyiv, Ukraine. The event marks the beginning of the Human Rights Summit that will hold multiple events through Friday, October 27.

(b) Minutes of the meeting of September 27, 2023

On a motion by Trustee Crow, seconded by Trustee Gandara, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 27, 2023.

(c) Consent Agenda Items:

Trustee Crow motioned, seconded by Trustee Pollard, to approve the Consent Agenda items in Attachments 1 – 16.

Vice-Chair Bessette noted that an issue was raised at the Financial Affairs Committee meeting regarding the Project Budget presented in Attachment #3. Executive Vice President Geoghegan clarified that this project could proceed as presented, but would be brought back to the Board with further clarification about the funding.

After discussion, the Board voted to approve Attachments 1 – 16.

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| (1) | Contracts and Agreements
(Trustee Ritter abstained from voting on Attachment 1.) | (Attachment 1) |
| (2) | Project Budget (Planning) for von der Mehden Recital Hall Roof Restoration | (Attachment 2) |
| (3) | Project Budget (Design) for Innovation Partnership Building Renovations for the Center for Clean Energy Engineering | (Attachment 3) |
| (4) | Project Budget (Final) for Andover Infrastructure and Software Upgrade Phases I, II, III, and IV | (Attachment 4) |
| (5) | Project Budget (Final) for Wilbur Cross Cupola Repair | (Attachment 5) |
| (6) | Project Budget (Design) for School of Nursing Building | (Attachment 6) |
| (7) | Designation of Emeritus Status | (Attachment 7) |
| (8) | Sabbatical Leave Recommendations | (Attachment 8) |
| (9) | Graduate Certificate in Plant-Based Food and Nutrition in the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources | (Attachment 9) |
| (10) | Graduate Certificate in Financial Risk Management in the School of Business | (Attachment 10) |
| (11) | Appointment of Associate Professor Fei Miao to the Pratt & Whitney Associate Professorship in Advanced Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering | (Attachment 11) |
| (12) | Appointment of Professor Xiao-Dong Zhou to the | (Attachment 12) |

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Nicholas E. Madonna Chair in Sustainability in
the College of Engineering

- (13) Reappointment of Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor Diane J. Burgess to the Pfizer Distinguished Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology in the School of Pharmacy (Attachment 13)
- (14) Reappointment of Professor Marie A. Smith to the Dr. Henry A. Palmer Professorship in Community Pharmacy Practice in the School of Pharmacy (Attachment 14)
- (15) Establishment of the Vergnano Endowed Chair for Inclusion (Attachment 15)
- (16) Modification of the Nicholas E. Madonna Chair in Cyber-Physical Systems in the College of Engineering (Attachment 16)

(d) Election of Board Secretary and Committee Vice-Chairs

Upon the nomination by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Cloud, the Board voted to appoint Trustee Pollard as Secretary to the Board.

(Trustee Pollard abstained from voting.)

Chairman Toscano 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.

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

Academic Affairs – Trustee Gouin
Buildings, Grounds & Environment – Trustee Gandara
Construction Management Oversight – Trustee Gandara
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Trustee Dennis-LaVigne
Compensation – Trustee Bunnell
Financial Affairs – Trustee Bessette
Institutional Advancement – Trustee Dennis-LaVigne
Joint Audit & Compliance (UConn & UConn Health) – Trustee Boxer
Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation – Trustee Rubin
Student Life – Trustee Cantor
UConn Health Board of Directors – Trustee Cloud
Liaison to the Division of Athletics – Trustee O’Connor

On a motion by Trustee Crow, seconded by Trustee Ritter, 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

Board Chair Toscano read the following statement:

We as a Board reinforce the administration’s statements and unequivocally condemn antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of hatred and discrimination. Our hope is that as an institution of higher education, members of the UConn community can engage in constructive and productive dialogue with others in a way that is thoughtful and respectful even when it comes to the most volatile of issues, and to seek out and see the common humanity in others even those we may passionately disagree with.

4. Academic Affairs Committee Report

(a) Report on Committee activities

5. Financial Affairs Committee Report

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- (a) Report on Committee activities
 - (b) Presentation: Budget Update (Attachment 17)
Presenter: Jeffrey Geoghegan, Executive Vice President
for Finance and Chief Financial Officer
6. UConn Health Report
 - (a) Report on UConn Health activities
There was no Report on Committee 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
There was no 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
 - (b) Presentation: Health Promoting University
Presenters: Karen McComb, Director, and Emily Pagano, Assistant Director
Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) Health Promotion & Community
Impact
 11. Institutional Advancement Committee Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
 12. Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
There was no 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

Vice-Chair Rubin read the Draft Board Statement on Sustainability and Climate:

The University community has rightly determined that the growing climate crisis is one of the gravest threats to humanity that this and future generation must face and collectively address to help avert global catastrophe. We are already seeing the dire consequences of a warming planet. UConn and every research university

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has a critical role to play in helping to combat this crisis and build a far more sustainable future.

The Board of Trustees strongly supports the University's strategic focus on this challenge; the alignment of resources to advance research and scholarship in fields related to climate, sustainability, and clean energy; the activism shown by members of our community to help devote maximum attention to this issue; and UConn's outgoing efforts to ensure our own campuses are remade over time into models of sustainability.

The University's dual focus is both inward facing and outward looking; internally the Carbon Reduction Working Group, previous related efforts, and administrative units within the institution are working together to ensure UConn achieves carbon neutrality on its campuses by 2030, with the ultimate goal of being zero carbon by 2040.

Simultaneously, the University is aggressively supporting and investing in faculty and research that falls into the category of climate and sustainability across schools, colleges, departments, centers, and institutes. The Board is proud of the University's foresight, strategic thinking, and determination to be agents of change and progress in this all-important effort and will do all it can to help UConn meet this challenge.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Rubin, seconded by Trustee Crow, the Board voted unanimously to add to the agenda the Draft Board Statement on Sustainability and Climate.

Board Chair Toscano credited the evolution of this statement, in part, to student activism and commitment to progress and community alignment on reaching carbon neutrality in the near future. Several Trustees spoke in support of the proposed statement.

On a motion by Trustee Crow, seconded by Trustee Mehta, the Board voted unanimously to endorse the draft statement.

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 Bunnell, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 11:00 a.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 [CGS Section 1-210(b)(1)].

The following Trustees were in attendance: Bessette, Boxer, Bunnell, Cantor, Cloud, Crow, Daum, Dennis-LaVigne, Gandara, Gouin, Mehta, O'Connor, Pollard, Ritter, Rubin, and Toscano.

The following University staff were in attendance for the Executive Session: Maric, D'Alleva, Gelston, Geoghegan, Keilty, Kendig, Kirk, Liang, Lombardo, Rubin, and Williams.

The Executive Session ended at 11:58 a.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 11:59 a.m.

17. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Bessette, seconded by Trustee Cloud, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Board meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bryan K. Pollard
Secretary