



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

- DATE:** Thursday, September 15, 2022, 12:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** The Wolstein Center, Gerald H. Gordon Conference Pavilion,  
West Wing and via Zoom.
- PRESENT:** Chair David M. Reynolds; Trustees Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia DePompei, Stephen F. Kirk, Lisa K. Kunkle, Alan G. Starkoff, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Student Trustees Brittany N. Sommers and Jake Wrege; Chair, CSU Foundation and Ex Officio Member Thomas E. Hopkins; Faculty Representatives Dr. Judith Ausherman and Dr. Anup Kumar; President Laura Bloomberg; and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs and Compliance Sonali B. Wilson.
- Others in attendance: Int. Provost and Sr. Vice President of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer David Jewell; Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management Jonathan Wehner; Chief of Staff, Patricia L. Franklin; Vice President of Advancement Julie Rehm; and Heather A. Link, Assistant Board Secretary.

Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order at 12:39 p.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022 annual Board meeting, the June 28, 2022 special meeting, and the August 19, 2022 special meeting and retreat. He noted for the record that at the June 28 special meeting, the Executive Committee took action related to the President's Contract and at the August 19 special meeting, the Executive Committee took action related to the contract with KeyPath Education LLC.

Trustee Kunkle moved approval of the minutes; Trustee Kirk seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a roll call.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Reynolds moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to consider personnel matters involving the contract of a public employee and for the purpose of discussing imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel. Trustee DePompei seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried.

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting and community trustees, President Bloomberg, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 12:42 p.m.

At 1:23 p.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Reynolds thanked members for their thoughtful engagement at the all-day retreat in August, where a portion of the discussion focused on governance and the possibility of adding new ad hoc and standing committees. He intends to move forward in establishing and appointing members to an ad hoc committee focused on Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI).

Chair Reynolds welcomed new members Jake Wrege (Governor appointed student trustee), and faculty representatives Dr. Anup Kumar (Professor of Communication and Faculty Senate President) and Dr. Judith Ausherman (Associate Professor in the Department of Health Science—Health and Human Performance and the elected faculty representative to the Board).

Concluding his report, Chair Reynolds acknowledged with appreciation the important work and discussions that the Board is engaged in, as well as the work of President Bloomberg and her leadership team.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Bloomberg noted that the beginning of the fall semester has been active. She thanked the faculty for helping to make it successful, noting that they have been engaged

throughout the year on projects and college realignment issues. She reported 54 new faculty members joining the university this fall.

President Bloomberg reported that Cleveland State University was ranked #1 among all public and private universities in Ohio for helping economically disadvantaged students graduate, start careers and get ahead financially, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

The president provided updates on new cabinet leadership positions including Roy Gifford (Vice President, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer), Meredith Bond (Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation and Interim Dean, College of Graduate Studies), Caryn Candisky (Executive Director for Government Affairs and Special Assistant to the President), and Patty Franklin (Chief of Staff). The president acknowledged, with thanks, the work of Int. Provost Sridhar, and highlighted that he received a 2022 Notable Immigrant Leader award from *Crain's Cleveland Business*.

President Bloomberg reported that all of the colleges have deans in place, and the work of the CSU 2.0 college realignment is an ongoing process that will likely need two-years.

Several philanthropic gifts (\$7.2 million) and grants (\$7.4 million) were highlighted. President Bloomberg, noted that Cleveland State is in and of the city, and shared that a recent collaborative community effort included CSU students helping design and build an electric 4-wheeled mountain bike, for an urban indoor bike park.

### **REPORT FROM STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Trustees Sommers and Wrege provided updates from student perspectives regarding: working with the Student Government Association on implementing CSU 2.0 efforts and successfully working with the administration on graduate assistant pay during academic break periods. It was noted that the because there are more students living in the downtown area and being on campus in the evening hours, it may be worthwhile to expand hours of available student resources (dining, etc.).

### **REPORT FROM FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Trustees Ausherman and Kumar shared faculty perspectives including that the college realignment is ongoing, some faculty have felt disengaged over the implementation process, and that faculty appreciate the tone of the leadership while the process is followed and continues.

Trustee Kumar reported that he spoke to Faculty Senate about enrollment concerns and asked them to continue to focus on student success; he also announced that Dr. Mekki Bayachou (Chemistry) was elected Senate Vice President.

### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Committee Chair Kirk reported that the Committee met earlier in the day and considered one item for action - the approval of an honorary degree for Kid Leo. The committee approved this resolution and it is on the consent agenda for approval by the full board.

He noted that the committee started its initial discussion of the bylaws, board structure and potential revisions to the bylaws, and that the committee will meet again in October to continue those discussions.

### **FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair Kunkle reported that the Financial Affairs Committee met earlier in the morning and received several updates, including a financial update from Vice President Jewell, an enrollment update from Vice President Wehner, and an update from CSU's Director of Internal Audit. She noted that the committee reviewed several items for action, which are included on the consent agenda for approval by the full board.

The Committee also met in executive session, which resulted in one item of new business—the approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police; this additional item will also be considered on the consent agenda, Chair Kunkle reported.

### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Committee Chair Cosgrove reported that the Committee met earlier in the day, and received updates from Int. Provost Sridhar and considered several items for action which are included on the consent agenda.

The committee also took part in a robust discussion on two items. Dr. Cockrell presented an update on DEI and Engaged Learning; and President Bloomberg, Chief of Staff Franklin and Dean Lee Fisher led a discussion regarding the law school name.

Chair Cosgrove restated that no decisions were made regarding the law school name and that the committee will further review the materials, discuss the President's recommendation at its

next meeting, and then make the committee's recommendation to the full board. The board office will also share the materials with the full board so that all board members have time to review the materials in advance of the November meeting.

Chair Cosgrove reported the Committee also met in executive session.

### **REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION**

CSU Foundation Chair Hopkins reported that FY22 was the University's best year ever for fundraising (\$21.7 million) and thanked trustees for their support. He noted that the Foundation is enthusiastic about promoting CSU 2.0 in the funding community, and that ideas within the plan help to communicate specific needs.

Vice President Rehm reported that campaign planning work has begun; the Foundation has secured a consulting partner to help determine the appropriate size and design of a plan (CCS Fundraising).

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Reynolds stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda, and as a result of the committee meetings held earlier in the day, there is an additional item on the agenda. He asked if there were any items that Board members wished to discuss; there were none.

Chair Reynolds asked for a motion to approve the items included on the Consent Agenda. Trustee Kirk moved, and Trustee Kunkle seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Approval of Honorary Degree Candidate; Award of Rank and Tenure for Stephanie Brooks; Award of Rank and Tenure for Andrew Kersten; Award of Rank and Tenure for Michael Johnson; Approval of Policy 3344-02-09: Campus Free Speech; Approval of ODHE Report on Course and Program Review; Approval of FY 2023 Internal Audit Plan; Continuation of the Managed PC Lifecycle Program; Request to Delegate Authority for Associate of the University Status; Accepting Gifts and Pledges, 4th Quarter, FY22, April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022; and Approval of Fraternal Order of Police/Ohio Labor Council, Inc. Collective Bargaining Agreement.

A roll call vote was taken by the Board Secretary. Voting in the affirmative were Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The consent agenda was approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022-52**  
**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE CANDIDATE**

**WHEREAS**, individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Cleveland State University, the Greater Cleveland area, and/or society are nominated to receive an honorary degree from the University; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Lawrence James “Kid Leo” Travagliante became one of the top disc jockeys (DJ) nationally and introduced many leading rock and roll musicians through his work as a DJ and later as an executive for Columbia Records; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Travagliante played a major role in bringing the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame to Cleveland and he began his DJ career at Cleveland State in 1968; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2004 Kid Leo has been Program Director for Little Steven's Underground Garage, a channel on Sirius XM Radio that was developed by Little Steven Van Zandt, in 2021 he was promoted to General Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, the nominees are reviewed and accepted by the University Honorary Degree Committee and recommended to the Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees for further consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Graduation, Convocation, and Assembly Committee of the Faculty Senate fully supports Mr. Travagliante's nomination for an honorary degree; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governance Committee has reviewed the candidate for an honorary degree at its last committee meetings and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves Mr. Lawrence James “Kid Leo” Travagliante for an honorary degree, based on his acceptance.

**RESOLUTION 2022-53**

**AWARD OF RANK AND TENURE TO DR. STEPHANIE BROOKS**

**WHEREAS**, an external search was conducted to fill the inaugural position of Dean of the College of Health; and

**WHEREAS**, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Stephanie Brooks, Senior Associate Dean for Health Professions & Faculty Affairs, College of Nursing and Health Professions at Drexel University; and

**WHEREAS**, the credentials of Dr. Brooks have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the School of Social Work, the Chair, the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Brooks has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Professor as set forth in Article 12.10 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee reviewed the award of rank and tenure to Dr. Stephanie Brooks at its last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Stephanie Brooks in the School of Social Work, effective the first day of August 22, 2022 full-time employment at Cleveland State University.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-54**

##### **AWARD OF TENURE TO DR. ANDREW KERSTEN**

**WHEREAS**, an external search was conducted to fill the inaugural position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; and

**WHEREAS**, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Andrew Kersten, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, at the University of Missouri-St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, the credentials of Dr. Kersten have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the Department of History, the Chair, the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Kersten has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Professor as set forth in Article 12.10 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee reviewed the award of rank and tenure to Dr. Andrew Kersten at its last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Andrew Kersten in the Department of History, effective the first day of July 1, 2022 full-time employment at Cleveland State University.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-55**

##### **AWARD OF TENURE TO DR. MICHAEL J. JOHNSON**

**WHEREAS**, an external search was conducted to fill the position of Director/Chief Nursing Officer, School of Nursing; and

**WHEREAS**, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Michael J. Johnson, Associate Professor, Director of Clinical Affairs at the School of Nursing, Nevada State College; Henderson, Nevada; and

**WHEREAS**, the credentials of Dr. Johnson have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the School of Nursing, the Dean, the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Johnson has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Professor as set forth in Article 12.10 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee reviewed the award of rank and tenure to Dr. Michael J. Johnson at its last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the award of tenure at the rank of Associate Professor to Dr. Michael Johnson in the School of Nursing, effective the first day of full-time employment at Cleveland State University.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-56**

##### **APPROVAL OF NEW CAMPUS FREE SPEECH POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, S.B. 135, now codified in Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.0215 and effective July 21, 2022, sets forth the public policy of the state of Ohio concerning campus free speech and requires the board of trustees of each Ohio institution of higher education to adopt a policy affirming several principles of campus free speech; and

**WHEREAS**, the University administration implemented an interim Campus Free Speech Policy that includes the principles of campus free speech enumerated Ohio Revised Code sections 3345.0215(A)(1) through (9) to comply with the new law, and posted the interim policy for the required 30-day comment period; and

**WHEREAS**, the new legislation further requires each institution to develop a process under which a student, student group, or faculty member may submit a complaint about an alleged violation of the campus free speech policy by an employee of the institution; which process must comply with standards adopted by the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) and provide procedures for investigation of alleged policy violations and the conduct of a fair and impartial hearing concerning the same; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee recommends approval of the Interim Campus Free Speech Policy to ensure compliance with the new legislation:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Policy, subject to any changes or revisions deemed reasonably necessary by the University General Counsel; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board delegates development of procedures for investigation and hearing of complaints concerning the new Policy to the University administration, and instructs the administration to file the new policy with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission pursuant to the University's Formulation and Issuance of Policies rule.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-57**

##### **APPROVAL OF ODHE REPORT ON COURSE AND PROGRAM REVIEW**

**WHEREAS**, Amended Substitute HB64 requires that the boards of trustees of each state institution of higher education evaluate all courses and programs based on enrollment and student performance at their respective institutions every three years; and

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University has conducted a review of 1345 courses, identified 111 courses that meet the chancellor's definition of low enrollment, and taken appropriate actions to reduce the number of low enrollment courses; and

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University has conducted a review of 72 undergraduate programs of which 23 were identified as low enrolling as well as 77 graduate programs of which 36 were identified as low enrolling, and has taken appropriate actions to closely examine these specific low enrollment programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University has been collaborating with other institutions in the region to share courses and offer joint programs and will continue to explore such opportunities to optimize the use of State resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee reviewed the Course and Program Review Report at its last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Cleveland State University Course and Program Review Report for submittal to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-58**

##### **APPROVAL OF THE FY2023 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the University's Office of Internal Audit delivered and discussed the FY 2023 Annual Plan with the Vice President of Business Affairs and Finance and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vice President of Business Affairs and Finance recommends that the full Board accept the Annual Plan as submitted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby accepts the FY 2023 Office of Internal Audit's Annual Plan as submitted.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-59**

#### **CONTINUATION OF THE MANAGED PC LIFECYCLE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the University on an annual basis spends \$1.2 to \$1.5 million dollars on the purchase of PCs (personal computers) and presently has a structured procedure to manage the acquisition of university PCs and pre-delivery services; and

**WHEREAS**, the University has identified and participates in an existing State contract, for pricing on standard configuration PCs, equipment warranty and installation/management; and

**WHEREAS**, the University is eligible to purchase under this agreement through certified resellers, securing preferred pricing and services with no purchasing obligation on behalf of the university; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Chief Information Officer to issue a blanket purchase order not to exceed \$1,500,000 for each fiscal year going forward, provided the amount is appropriated and budgeted each year, to facilitate the purchase and tracking of PC equipment in standard configurations and services as directed by the university.

### **RESOLUTION 2022-60**

#### **REQUEST TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY FOR ASSOCIATE OF THE UNIVERSITY STATUS**

**WHEREAS**, Professional Staff Personnel Policies provide for the granting of Associate of the University status to Professional Staff members upon their retirement with a showing of distinguished service to the University; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 26, 2004, the Board of Trustees expanded the Associate of the University status to retiring distinguished classified staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the administration requests authority to administer the Associate of the University program; and

**WHEREAS**, the administration will report annually at the September meeting a list of all recipients from the previous fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee reviewed the delegation of administration for the Associate of the University program at its last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves that the authority to implement the Associate of the University program be delegated to the administration; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all retired professional and classified staff retiring January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2022 remain eligible for consideration for Associate of the University status, and thereafter eligibility revert to retirement within the preceding calendar year.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-61**

##### **ACCEPTING GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS 4TH QUARTER, FY 2022 April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022**

**RESOLVED**, that the gifts and pledge payments totaling \$4,741,048 received by the Cleveland State University Foundation during the period April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 are hereby accepted with thanks; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President is hereby directed to use these gifts subject to their terms and conditions.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-62**

##### **APPROVAL OF FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE/OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the University and the Fraternal Order of Police/Ohio Labor Council, Inc. (FOP-Police) have reached a revised final tentative agreement for a 1-year extension and 3-year successor collective bargaining agreement for University Law Enforcement Officers extending from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the membership of FOP-Police voted to ratify the 1-year extension and 3-year successor tentative agreements on June 14, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee reviewed this matter at their last committee meeting and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the delegation of authority to the University's administration to execute and implement the successor collective bargaining agreement between Cleveland State University and the Fraternal Order of Police/Ohio Labor Council, Inc. for a 1-year extension and 3-year period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

Sonali B. Wilson  
General Counsel and  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

David M. Reynolds  
Chairman, Board of Trustees