



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

DATE: Thursday, September 23, 2021, 8:00 a.m.

PLACE: Wolstein Center, Fourth Floor, West Wing.

PRESENT: Chair David M. Reynolds, Trustees Thomas W. Adler, Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia M. DePompei, Paul J. Dolan, Lisa K. Kunkle, Alan G. Starkoff, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Trustee and CSU Foundation Chair Thomas E. Hopkins; Student Trustees Arlindo Ahmetaj and Brittany N. Sommers; Faculty Trustee Dr. Adam Sonstegard; President Harlan M. Sands; and General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Provost and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Laura Bloomberg; Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer David Jewell; Vice President of Administration and Chief of Staff, Jeanell N. Hughes; Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management Jonathan Wehner; Vice President of Advancement Dr. Julie Rehm; and Heather A. Link, Assistant Board Secretary.

Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

He announced that the first item before the board was approval of the minutes from the May 2021 Annual Board meeting and the minutes from the July 2021 Special Board meeting. Trustee Kunkle moved the minutes be approved; Trustee Adler seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

Chair Reynolds noted for the record, that actions taken at the April 2, 2021 Executive Committee meeting included the resolution approving the second amendment to the president's employment agreement.

Three new members of the Board were introduced by the Chair: governor-appointed Trustees Alan G. Starkoff and student Trustee Brittany N. Sommers, and faculty-elected representative Dr. Adam Sonstegard. Chair Reynolds commented that each member brings a

valuable and unique perspective to board deliberations and he looks forward to working together on behalf of Cleveland State University.

Chair Reynolds reminded members that the annual ethics training for the State needs to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sands started his report by bringing forth a resolution to recognize former Provost Jianping Zhu for his service and strong leadership. Moved by Trustee Adler and seconded by Trustee Whiting, the following resolution was approved by voice vote and with applause.

RESOLUTION 2021-41 RECOGNITION OF JIANPING ZHU FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, Jianping Zhu, Ph.D. was recruited to fill the position of Dean of the College of Graduate Studies, after an extensive national search in 2011, and in 2016 was appointed Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Zhu has consistently set a high standard of professionalism, academic leadership, sound judgement, and inclusiveness, while fostering a collaborative working environment for faculty and administration focused on ensuring student and institutional success; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Zhu, a consummate leader, brought dedication, stability, and open-mindedness to the University's leadership team and supported CSU initiatives that earned national recognitions in student success, research and community engagement by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), Brookings Institute and the *New York Times*, among others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Zhu provided astute and thoughtful advice to Cleveland State's Presidents, members of the Board of Trustees, and University senior staff, where his tenure as Provost is marked by numerous achievements including contributing to the development and launching of CSU's Strategic Priorities, co-leading the CSU 2.0 Academic Task Force, overseeing the successful transition to remote course delivery as a collective faculty-administration effort in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, while as chief academic officer, Dr. Zhu, oversaw the hiring of more than 200 full-time faculty, including tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty and full-time lecturers:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the President, recognizes with sincere thanks, Dr. Jianping Zhu's integrity, quiet strength, and educated and agile work while serving as Provost, and looks

forward to continued engagement with Dr. Zhu throughout his tenure and as he returns to his position as Professor in the Department of Mathematics.

The President noted that the Fall semester has begun and there is an energy on campus with new and returning students and faculty; appropriate safety precautions are being met and a peer-to-peer education program about the pandemic and vaccinations is taking place.

President Sands updated members on the University's total headcount enrollment, which shows a slight increase from last year, and is driven by an increase in graduate students, largely through the CSU Global initiative. Efforts to increase undergraduate enrollment and to propel talent growth throughout the region are underway, and include ongoing discussions and partnerships with regional organizations and community affiliates. Undergraduate first-year freshman enrollment is up (100) and can be attributed to the University's enrollment services efforts, *Say Yes to Education* students, and the success of CSU's Parker Hannifin Living Learning Community (PH LLC). The President acknowledged that the Miller Family Foundation recently provided a gift to support 15 new students to the PH LLC.

The President called on Provost Bloomberg to explain the University's COVID-19 mitigation plan, including vaccine requirements in the residence halls, indoor masking, student safety ambassadors, and air bi-polar ionization purification systems in high volume buildings. She also noted weekly coordination and communication with the county and city public health officials.

The *Knowledge is Contagious* education campaign including peer-to-peer, social media, and other campus messaging has begun and provides the University community with the information they may need to get the COVID-19 vaccination, without issuing a University mandate, the provost reported.

President Sands updated the Board on the CSU 2.0 plan, noting plans for enrollment growth and increasing enrollment capacity, three college reconfigurations, and investments in faculty and staff.

He updated Trustees on a planned "CSU Career Connector" space on Euclid Avenue, focusing on student internships, co-ops and post-graduation jobs for undergraduate and graduate students, and in partnership with Case Western Reserve University and the Greater Cleveland Partnership.

President Sands introduced four new leaders at Cleveland State: Dr. Laura Bloomberg, Sr. Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost; David Jewell, Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell, Vice President of Community Engagement, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; and Dr. Timothy McKnight, Executive Director of Pathways to Practice.

Dr. Joshladd “CK” Kwai, Director, Center for International Services and Programs (CISP), was called upon to provide a brief update on CSU Global international students and the services provided by his center. He introduced two graduate students, Mr. Shrikant N. Satle (computer science) and Mr. Mostafa Omar (computer software engineering), who spoke about their experiences at Cleveland State.

Provost Bloomberg spoke about annual faculty recognitions, noting that seven faculty awards were given in 2020 and included a monetary prize. Two of the faculty recipients were introduced: Dr. Julia Phillips, Director of Doctoral Studies in the College of Education and Human Services, received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Service; and Dr. Chandrasekhar “Chandra” R. Kothapalli, Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical & Biomedical Engineering, received the Distinguished Faculty Award for Research.

President Sands called on Student Government Association president, Martin Barnard, to provide an update on upcoming plans. Mr. Barnard reported plans for new engagement opportunities with Athletics and a multi-cultural festival in partnership with CISP. He noted that the SGA has gone through their process of allocating funds to approved student groups and initiatives this year.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee Chair Cosgrove reported on the September 2, 2021 meeting, that included an overview of 43 new faculty who have been hired since 2020. The Committee also received updates on enrollment and retention efforts, and the CSU 2.0 growth plan, as well as a presentation on CSU’s Summer Bridge Academy and the Parker Hannifin Living Learning Community.

The Committee approved and is recommending two items for action that are included in the consent agenda, he reported.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee Chair Kunkle reported on the September 2, 2021 meeting, noting that the Committee approved and is recommending for full board approval the FY22 and FY23 university budget, which is on the consent agenda. She thanked CFO Jewell for providing background to the budget and additional comparative information.

REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION

CSU Foundation Chair Hopkins provided a brief introduction of the Foundation's mission and work to the new Trustees. He reported a focus on identifying specific, targeted appeals for the University, and how the Radiance fundraiser can help to address them.

Vice President of Advancement Rehm was called on to present the FY22 first-quarter fundraising reports; she reported a good start to the year and looking forward to opening the student call center to help with alumni outreach and the annual fund.

She noted that the FY21 fundraising goal was exceeded (\$13.15 million), and that the Foundation has set an attainment goal of \$15 million for the current year.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Reynolds stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda. He asked if there were any items that Board members wished to discuss; there were none.

Trustee Adler moved, and Trustee Whiting seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Award of Rank and Tenure to Dr. Laura Bloomberg; Award of Rank and Tenure to Dr. Chelsea Monty-Bromer; Approval of FY 2022 and FY 2023 Budget; and Accepting Gift and Pledges, 4th Quarter, FY21.

RESOLUTION 2021-42

AWARD OF RANK AND TENURE TO DR. LAURA BLOOMBERG

WHEREAS, a national search was conducted to fill the position of Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Laura Bloomberg, Dean and Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the credentials of Dr. Bloomberg have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the Department of Urban Studies, the Chair, the Dean, the Provost and the President; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bloomberg has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Professor as set forth in Article 12.9 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Laura Bloomberg in the Department of Urban Studies.

RESOLUTION 2021-43

AWARD OF RANK AND TENURE TO DR. CHELSEA MONTY-BROMER

WHEREAS, an external search was conducted to fill the position of the Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering in the Washkewicz College of Engineering at Cleveland State University; and

WHEREAS, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Monty-Bromer, University of Akron; and

WHEREAS, the credentials of Dr. Monty-Bromer have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, the department PRC, the Chair, the Dean, the Provost and the President; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Monty-Bromer has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Associate Professor as set forth in Article 12.10 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement:

WHEREAS, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee reviewed the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Monty-Bromer 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 award of tenure at the rank of Associate Professor to Dr. Monty-Bromer in the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering.

RESOLUTION 2021-44

APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY FY2022 & FY2023 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the University traditionally presents its annual budget for approval in advance of the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1; and

WHEREAS, the timing of the state's passage of its FY2022 & FY2023 biennial budget prohibited this traditional presentation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved a resolution granting authority to expend funds from its current unrestricted Operating Budget, General Fee Budget and Auxiliary Business Units budget for the period beginning July 1, 2021 until a final budget is presented to the Board at their September 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Affairs Committee has reviewed the recommended FY2022 and FY2023 budget as presented by the Administration and recommends to the full board for approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the University's recommended FY2022 and FY2023 budget, as follows:

**CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
PROPOSED FY22 AND FY23 UNIVERSITY UNRESTRICTED BUDGET
(\$ in Thousands)**

	FY22 Proposed Budget	FY23 Proposed Budget	Sum FY22/FY23 Proposed Budget
OPERATING BUDGET			
Revenue	\$ 275,584	\$ 271,469	\$ 547,054
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>270,811</u>	<u>269,678</u>	<u>540,488</u>
Balance	\$ 4,773	\$ 1,792	\$ 6,565
GENERAL FEE BUDGET			
Revenue	\$ 22,283	\$ 22,689	\$ 44,972
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>22,613</u>	<u>22,546</u>	<u>45,160</u>
Balance	\$ (330)	\$ 143	\$ (187)
AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES BUDGET			
Revenue	\$ 19,197	\$ 19,410	\$ 38,607
Expenditures & Transfers	<u>18,095</u>	<u>17,824</u>	<u>35,919</u>
Balance	\$ 1,103	\$ 1,585	\$ 2,688
TOTAL UNIVERSITY UNRESTRICTED BUDGET			
Revenue	\$ 317,065	\$ 313,568	\$ 630,633
Expenditures	<u>311,519</u>	<u>310,048</u>	<u>621,567</u>
Balance	<u>\$ 5,546</u>	<u>\$ 3,520</u>	<u>\$ 9,066</u>

RESOLUTION 2021-45

**ACCEPTING GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS
4TH QUARTER, FY 2021
APRIL 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2021**

RESOLVED, that the gifts and pledge payments totaling \$4,435,837 received by the Cleveland State University Foundation during the period April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee DePompei moved to adjourn into Executive Session to for the purpose of discussing imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel; to consider personnel matters involving the employment, compensation and contracts of public employees; to

discuss collective bargaining matters; to consider real estate matters; and to discuss trade secret information required by law to be kept confidential. Trustee Cosgrove seconded the motion.

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

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting trustees, the community trustee, President Sands, Provost Bloomberg, CFO Jewell, Chief of Staff Hughes, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 9:37 a.m.

At 10:41 a.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Reynolds asked if there was any other unfinished business, hearing none, he thanked everyone for participating. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 18, 2021

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

APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 18, 2021

David M. Reynolds
Chair, Board of Trustees