

Bridgewater State University
Board of Trustees Meeting
April 12, 2022
Virtual Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Alexander, Durgin, Caulfield, Kopellas, Giles, Longo, Oliari, MacCormack, Prince and Turchon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: President Clark; EVP and Provost Ismaili; Chief of Staff Leuenberger; Vice Presidents Gentlewarrior, Jason, Jean, Molife, Powers, Oravec, Shropshire, Zuromski; Special Advisor deMacedo

Under the order suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, as declared on March 12, 2020 by Governor Baker, having been complied with, and a quorum of the Board virtually present, the Board of Trustees held a zoom meeting on April 12, 2022 with Chairman Durgin presiding.

Chairman Durgin called the meeting to order at 4:40pm. He asked the Trustees if it would be acceptable to dispense with a roll call after each action item as long as the vote is unanimous.

On motion duly made and seconded via a roll call vote, Trustee Alexander-yes, Trustee Giles-yes, Trustee Kopellas-yes, Trustee MacCormack-yes, Trustee Oliari-yes, Trustee Prince-yes, Trustee Turchon-yes, Trustee Caulfield-yes, Trustee Longo-yes, Trustee Durgin-yes, it was

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

that the Board of Trustees dispense with a roll call vote for each unanimous vote for the duration of this meeting.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on February 22, 2022.
(Attachment)

**CHAIRMAN'S
REPORT**

Chairman Durgin welcomed Dean Boehm's graduate students to the Meeting and he acknowledged Irina Seceleanu as the outgoing MSCA Chapter President and wished her well

Student Voice

Trustee Kopellas introduced SGA student attendees. Student energy on campus is very high. Students are preparing for registration for next year.

**PRESIDENT'S
REPORT**

President Clark is hopeful that a new Trustee will soon be appointed to the Board. He offered his congratulations to Dr. Maria Hegbloom who was elected as the statewide president of the MSCA. President Clark thanked Dr. Irina Seceleanu for her service in the role as chapter president of the MSCA this past year.

- *The House budget comes out tomorrow. Some of the funds received (\$5.1M) will be used for improvements for the Library.
- *A Photonics celebration was held today.
- *Funding from the Government (\$2M) was received for cyber security. They are in the process of submitting another funding request for 2023.
- *A request was submitted for 2 new airplanes.
- *Funding for employee retroactive salaries should be funded soon.
- *On April 28, the Commissioner is coming to campus to talk about the process for strategic planning 2.0.
- *NECHE accreditation is continuing. The campus community is providing feedback. Chair of NECHE will be on campus to meet with him soon.

Provost Ismaili was pleased to introduced Dr. Fernanda Ferreira, professor, Global Languages and Literature, who was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the AATSP, the premier teacher-scholar organization in her field. Her evaluations show she has had a great impact on students.

Executive Director Jill Beckwith recognized student, Carrie Provost, who is the Newman Civic Fellowship recipient. BSU is a member institution of Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. Fellows are nominated by their president on the basis of their potential for public leadership. Campus Compact builds democracy through civic education and community development. The Newman Civic Fellowship recognizes and supports community-committed students who are changemakers and public problem-solvers at Campus Compact member institutions.

**ACTION/INFORMATION
ITEMS****EXECUTIVE**CAM HVAC & Construction Contract

A contract was submitted for approval for work to be completed in Hart Hall.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Oliari) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the contract with CAM HVAC & Construction, Inc. as recommended by the Executive Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated April 7, 2022.

(Attachment)

Fall COVID Planning

Chairman Durgin noted the committee received an update for Fall COVID planning. The campus is prepared to pivot as needed. Additional updates will be provided in June. He expressed enormous gratitude to the campus community throughout the past two years.

IT Security Initiatives

Chairman Durgin noted Vice President Zuromski and Director Dave Marion provided an update on security initiatives and how the campus operates to protect itself against any attack that may come. He acknowledged IT has a great team in place.

(Attachment)

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Promotions to Rank of Full Professor

Committee Chair MacCormack is encouraged by the commitment of our faculty. Provost Ismaili read the names of the 15 candidates.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Alexander) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the candidates for Promotion to Rank of Full Professor as recommended by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated March 22, 2022.

(Attachment)

Tenure Recommendations

Committee Chair MacCormack stated the tenure recommendations contained a wide variety of disciplines and offered her congratulations for this honor and for their deep commitment to students. Provost Ismaili read the names of the 14 candidates. He was very pleased that nothing slowed down during COVID; they did a terrific job in pivoting to an online format and kept great focus on their teaching.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Alexander) it was that the Board of Trustees approve the Tenure Recommendations as recommended by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated March 22, 2022.

(Attachment)

New Student Transitions/Orientation Presentation

A presentation was given by Christina McCauley, director for Student Engagement, at the committee meeting. She spoke about the changes being made for our new students coming to campus and preparing them for the Fall semester. Registration will be conducted on a one-on-one basis.

(Attachment)

President Clark stated they recently held Admitted Students Day with over 350 prospective students. The entire campus came out to welcome them and two-thirds have already deposited. He offered his congratulations for all who participated.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONSOperations Update – Maxwell Library

Committee Chair Longo noted the work at the Library continues and solutions have been put in place. Vice President Jason stated projects from the report from Pennoni have been organized. Dehumidification units will be in place for this upcoming summer; they are looking at the possibility of new windows and are committed to the work that needs to be done.

Residence Hall Rent Schedule – AY2022-23

The Residence Hall Rent Schedule was brought as an information item.

(Attachment)

FY2023 Budget

Vice President Shropshire noted they are waiting to see what the House appropriation budget looks like. They are conservatively budgeting. Registration and enrollment numbers will start to come in soon. Residence hall deposits are going well. Divisional budget review has taken place.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND DIVERSITYAn Overview of Equity-Mindedness: A Senior Leadership Workshop and Discussion

Committee Chair MacCormack stated time was used at the committee meeting for training the Trustees to ensure we understand what we are talking about with diversity, equity and equity-mindedness.

We have responsibility to put equity mindedness into each of the Board committees. At the retreat in June, they can pursue additional training and discussion.

PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW AND COMPENSATION

Committee Report

Chairman Durgin stated the Board is required annually to submit a performance review of the president. The committee met to discuss the evaluation process. President Clark will provide a self-evaluation and Chairman Durgin will write a draft letter for the Board's approval. The committee will meet in June, and the evaluation will be brought to the Board for approval at the June 9th Board meeting and then submitted to the DHE.

**OTHER
BUSINESS**

None

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Longo) it was that the meeting be adjourned (5:40 pm).

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret A. Caulfield, Esq.*Margaret A. Caulfield, Esq.
SecretaryMinutes prepared by:
Tracey Keif