

**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MINUTES**

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

April 17, 2024

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Board Chair Daniel D. Toscano.

The following Trustees participated in person: Trustees Charles F. Bunnell, Shari G. Cantor, Sanford Cloud, Jr., Joshua Crow, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne (part of the meeting), Marilda Gandara, Jeanine A. Gouin, Aanya Mehta, Bryan K. Pollard, Thomas D. Ritter, Philip E. Rubin, Daniel D. Toscano, and Jonathan Dach, Governor Lamont's designee.

The following Trustees participated virtually: Trustees Andy F. Bessette, Mark L. Boxer (part of the meeting), and Daniel O'Keefe (part of the meeting),

Trustees Bryan P. Hurlburt, 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: Karen Bresciano, Joanne Conover, D. Betsy McCoach, Jeffrey McCutcheon, Angela Rola, and Edward Weingart.

University Senate Representative Alexander Agrios attended the meeting virtually.

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, Chief of Staff Michelle Williams, General Counsel Nicole Gelston, Vice President for Communications Tysen Kendig, Vice President and Chief Information Officer Michael Mundrane, Vice President for Global Affairs Daniel Weiner, Vice President for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship S. Pamir Alpay, Interim Associate Vice President for Facilities Operations Stanley Nolan, Associate Vice President for Communications Michael Kirk, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Institutional Research Reka Wrynn, and UConn Health Chief of Staff Andrea Keilty.

The following University staff attended the meeting virtually: UConn Health Interim Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Chief Executive Officer Bruce Liang, Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment Nathan Fuerst, Governmental Relations Senior Director Joann Lombardo, and Executive Secretary to the Board Rachel Rubin.

UConn Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer Amy Yancey attended the meeting in person.

**OPEN SESSION**

1. Public Participation

Zachary Boudah, Undergraduate Student and President of the Associate Student Government at the Avery Point Campus spoke briefly about several amendments to the *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut* that he has proposed to increase regional campus student participation on Board of Trustees and University Senate committees.

Professor Frederick Biggs raised concerns about contracting with the Huron Consulting Group.

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Graduate Students Farnoush Baghestani and Claire Nieder, along with faculty members Clare Costley King'oo, Mary Beth Allen, and Bradley Simpson addressed concerns about the impact of the proposed budget reductions on academic departments.

2. Chairman's Report

(a) Matters Outstanding

Board Chair Toscano congratulated the Men's Basketball Team for winning their 6th NCAA Championship.

Board Chair Toscano acknowledged the retirement of Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School Kent Holsinger. Dr. Holsinger's career spans almost 40 years at UConn and is highlighted by his contributions to graduate education and his commitment to supporting and enhancing the graduate student experience.

(b) Minutes of the meetings of February 28, and March 20, 2024

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 28, 2024.

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Pollard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2024.

(c) Consent Agenda Items:

On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Bessette, the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda items, excluding Contract #14, Newman Architects, PC, in Attachment 1.

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|-----|--|----------------|
| (1) | Contracts and Agreements<br><br>(Trustee Ritter abstained from voting on Attachment 1. Trustee Bessette abstained from voting on Lease #2, Capital Regional Development Authority, in Attachment 1.) | (Attachment 1) |
| (2) | Project Budget (Final) for Field House – Old Rec Center Renovation   | (Attachment 2) |
| (3) | Project Budget (Final) for XL Center – Academic Space Renovation   | (Attachment 3) |
| (4) | Project Budget (Final) for Buckley Hall Remediation and Refurbishment  | (Attachment 4) |
| (5) | Project Budget (Final) for Sprague Hall Remediation and Refurbishment  | (Attachment 5) |
| (6) | Project Budget (Final) for von der Mehden Recital Hall Roof Restoration  | (Attachment 6) |
| (7) | Project Budget (Final) for Gampel Pavilion Enhancements  | (Attachment 7) |
| (8) | Project Budget (Final) for Garrigus Suites Environmental Systems Upgrade   | (Attachment 8) |
| (9) | Promotion and Tenure   | (Attachment 9) |

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- (10) Tenure at Hire (Attachment 10)
- (11) Sabbatical Leave Recommendations (Attachment 11)
- (12) Appointment of Professor Jeffrey R. McCutcheon as the General Electric Endowed Professor in Advanced Manufacturing in the College of Engineering (Attachment 12)
- (13) Renaming the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering (Attachment 13)
- (14) Master of Social Responsibility and Impact on Business in the School of Business (Attachment 14)
- (15) Suspension of the Mandatory Workforce COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (Attachment 15)
- (d) Informational Items:
  - (1) Proposed Changes to the *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut* (Attachment 16)
    - (a) Article V – Committees of the Board of Trustees
    - (b) Article VIII – The University Administration
    - (c) Article IX – The University Senate
- 3. President’s Report
  - (a) Item requiring Board discussion and approval:
 

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Honorary Degree nominations for this year’s Commencement Ceremonies.

    - (1) Honorary Degrees (Attachment 17)
- 4. University Senate Report  
Senate Executive Committee Chair, Dr. Laura Burton
- 5. Academic Affairs Committee Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
  - (b) Item requiring Board discussion and approval:
 

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Innovation Faculty Hires and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Initiative in Attachment 18.

    - (1) Innovation Faculty Hires and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Initiative (Attachment 18)  
(CGS Section 10a-104c, *An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements, Transportation and Other Purposes, Establishing the Community Investment Fund 2030 Board, Authorizing State Grant Commitments for School Building Projects and Making Revisions to the School Building Project Statutes.*)

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- (c) Community Engagement Presentation  
Presenter: Eboni Nelson, Dean  
School of Law

Dean Nelson discussed several community engaged programs and partnerships. She introduced Law School student Enrique Ramirez who provided personal accounts of the critical programs offered at the School of Law.

6. Financial Affairs Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities
- (b) Presentation: Fiscal Year 25 Budget Update  
Presenter: Jeffrey Geoghegan, Executive Vice President  
for Finance and Chief Financial Officer
- (c) Item requiring Board discussion and approval:

On a motion by Trustee Mehta, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Student Fees for the University of Connecticut, Storrs and Regional Campuses in Attachment 19.

- (1) Fiscal Year 2025 Student Fees for the University of Connecticut, Storrs and Regional Campuses (Attachment 19)

7. UConn Health Report

- (a) Report on UConn Health activities

8. Joint Audit and Compliance Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

9. Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

10. Construction Management Oversight Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities  
There was no Report on Committee activities.

11. Student Life Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

12. Institutional Advancement Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities  
There was no Report on Committee activities.

13. Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities  
There was no Report on Committee activities.

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14. Committee on Compensation Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities
15. Committee for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Report
  - (a) Report on Committee activities  
There was no Report on Committee activities.
16. Other Business
17. Executive Session anticipated

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Crow, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 11:40 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)]; and
2. Discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health or dismissal of a public officer or employee, provided that such individual may require that discussion be held at an open meeting [CGS Section 1-200(6)(A)].

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

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

The following University staff were in attendance for part of the Executive Session: Alpay, Fuerst, Keilty, Lombardo, and Wrynn.

UConn Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer Yancey was in attendance for part of the Executive Session.

The Executive Session ended at 12:57 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 12:59 p.m.

18. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Pollard, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Board meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan K. Pollard  
Secretary