

DRAFT MINUTES

SPECIAL TELEPHONE MEETING

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, and INCLUSION

Meeting held via Telephone

December 11, 2023

Committee Trustees: Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Shari Cantor, Sanford Cloud Jr.,
Aanya Mehta, Bryan Pollard

University Senate Representative: Angela Rola

University Staff: Radenka Maric, Anne D’Alleva, Nathan Fuerst, Fany Hannon,
Jeffrey Hines, Fumiko Hoelt, Kathleen Holgerson, Judy Lopez,
Alicia McKenzie, Kelsey O’Neil, Mark Overmyer-Velazquez,
Rachel Rubin, Tadarrayl Starke, Franklin Tuitt, Daniel Weiner,
and Michael Vidal.

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne convened the Committee at 3.30 p.m.

1. Public Participation (limited to agenda items)

No members of the public signed up to address the Committee.

2. Minutes from the May 23, 2023, Special Meeting

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Mehta, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2023, Special Meeting.

3. Welcome and Introductions of Committee Members – Dr. Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne welcomed the members of the Committee, University staff, and students.

4. Bias-Incident Updates – Dr. Fany Hannon, Interim Dean of Students

Interim Dean of Students Hannon gave an update on the University’s bias-incidents.

5. ODI Updates – Dr. Franklin Tuitt, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, Office for Diversity and Inclusion

Vice President Tuitt gave an update on the Office for Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) unit.

a. DEIJ at UConn Health – Dr. Jeffrey Hines, UConn Health Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer

Associate Vice President Hines provided an update to the Committee.

6. Recent Grants Received by UConn that Benefit Students from Underrepresented Communities
 - a. Synchrony's Equity-focused Student Support Initiative Grant and Hispanic Serving Institution Grant at UConn Waterbury – Dr. Tadarrayl Starke, Associate Vice Provost
 - b. Hispanic Serving Institution Grant at UConn Waterbury – Dr. Tadarrayl Starke

Associate Vice Provost Starke updated the Committee on UConn's Synchrony's Equity-focused Student Success Initiative and the Camina Connigo "Walk with Me" Developing Hispanic-Servicing Institution grant.

- c. Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander – Serving Institution Grant at UConn Hartford – Angela Rola, Director, Asian American Cultural Center

Director Rola updated the Committee on Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander- Serving Institution grant received by UConn Hartford.

- d. Impact of these grants on the Regional Campuses – Dr. Mark Overmyer-Velazquez, Campus Dean and Chief Administrative Officer at UConn Hartford

Campus Dean Overmyer-Velazquez summated the impact of these grants for UConn's regional campuses.

7. Multiple Campus Ad Hoc Committee – Angela Rola, Director of the Asian American Cultural Center

Director Rola updated the Committee on a newly formed University Senate Multiple Campus Ad Hoc committee and its purpose.

8. Executive Session (as needed)

There was no Executive Session.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Cantor, seconded by Trustee Cloud, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Committee meeting adjourned at 5.03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonelle Reynolds, Ph.D.
Committee Secretary