

MINUTES**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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

December 11, 2024

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Board Chair Daniel D. Toscano.

The following Trustees participated in person: Trustees Andy F. Bessette, Mark L. Boxer (part of the meeting), Charles F. Bunnell, Shari G. Cantor, Sanford Cloud, Jr., Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Sean K. Dunn, Jeanine A. Gouin, Joy A. Hamer, Daniel H. O'Keefe (part of the meeting), Thomas D. Ritter, and Daniel D. Toscano.

Also in attendance was Jonathan Dach, Governor Lamont's designee on the Board.

The following Trustees participated virtually: Trustees Marilda L. Gandara, Bryan K. Pollard (part of the meeting), Philip E. Rubin, and Charlene Russell-Tucker (part of the meeting).

Trustees Bryan P. Hurlburt, Rebecca Lobo, and Kevin J. O'Connor, were not in attendance.

The following University Senate Representatives attended the meeting in person: Timothy Folta, Tina McCarthy, D. Betsy McCoach, Edward Weingart, and Michael White.

The following University Senate Representatives attended the meeting virtually: Karen Bresciano, Micah Heumann, and Lisa Park Boush.

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 Health Affairs and Chief Executive Officer for UConn Health Andrew Agwunobi, Executive Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Geoghegan, Athletic Director David Benedict, Executive Secretary to the Board Rachel Rubin, Vice President for Global Affairs Daniel Weiner, Vice President for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship S. Pamir Alpay, Interim Vice President for Communications Michael Kirk, Chief of Staff Michelle Williams, Deputy Chief of Staff Philip Hunt, Governmental Relations Senior Director Joann Lombardo, Governmental Relations Director Gail Garber, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Institutional Research Reka Wrynn, Senior Associate University Counsel Jonathan Heinlein, Deputy General Counsel Nathan LaVallee, Interim Associate Vice President for University Planning, Design and Construction Robert Corbett, Director of Regional Partnership Jennifer Smith, and Dr. Brandon Murray.

Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment Nathan Fuerst and General Counsel Nicole Gelston attended the meeting virtually.

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

Jody Gordon, Senior Managing Consultant, The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), attended the meeting virtually.

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OPEN SESSION

1. Public Participation

Graduate Assistant and President of the Graduate Employee Union Grace Easterly, Graduate Assistant Lincoln Hirn, and Graduate Students Urvi Kaul, Sage Montana, and Claire Nieder expressed concerns about student fee increases.

Professor Rosa Helena Chinchilla commented about the proposed program closures.

2. Chairman's Report

(a) Matters Outstanding

Board Chair Toscano acknowledged Dean John Elliott's service as Dean of the School of Business for the past decade and welcomed him back to the faculty.

(b) Board Recognition

Board Chair Toscano acknowledged Vice-Chair Sanford Cloud's legacy, dedication, and countless service to the UConn Board of Trustees and to the UConn Health Board of Directors for nearly twenty years. He also expressed his gratitude for his guidance and friendship.

On a motion by Trustee Boxer, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted to approve the resolution for outgoing Trustee Sanford Cloud, Jr.

Vice-Chair Cloud abstained.

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne then introduced a naming opportunity. On a motion by Trustee Bunnell, seconded by Trustee Boxer, the Board voted unanimously to add a naming recommendation to the agenda.

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne stated that both the Institutional Advancement Committee and the UConn Health Facilities Naming Committee unanimously support the recommendation to name the 16 Munson Road HR Training Room (P4002) as The Sanford ("Sandy") Cloud, Jr. Board Room on the campus of the UConn Health Center.

Trustee Bunnell motioned, seconded by Trustee Boxer, to approve the naming recommendation in Trustee Cloud's honor.

Vice-Chair Dennis-LaVigne noted that Trustee Sandy Cloud leaves a legacy exemplifying dignity, perseverance and dedication to health and education. Several Trustees acknowledged Trustee Cloud as a respectful colleague and staunch advocate for the Hartford community, UConn and UConn Health.

Dr. Agwunobi also expressed his gratitude to Vice-Chair Cloud.

After discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Vice-Chair Cloud abstained.

Vice-Chair Cloud expressed his gratitude for the naming honor and for serving as a member of the Board of Trustees and as Chair of the UConn Health Board of Directors for the last thirteen years and serving for nearly twenty years as a member of the UConn Health Board of Directors.

(c) Minutes of the Meeting of October 30, 2024

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Boxer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 30, 2024.

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(d) Consent Agenda Items:

On a motion by Trustee Gouin, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda items.

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| (1) | Contracts and Agreements
(Trustee Ritter abstained from voting on Attachment 1.) | (Attachment 1) |
| (2) | Authorization to Execute Firm Electricity Purchase Contracts Resulting from Competitive Pricing Solicitation | (Attachment 2) |
| (3) | Cooperation Agreement with Wilhusky Housing LLC Concerning Development of Site B of Off-Campus Student Housing Known as The Hub on North Eagleville Road | (Attachment 3) |
| (4) | Purchase, Master Lease, Sublease and Escrow Agreement of 1201 Washington Boulevard in Stamford for Student Housing at UConn Stamford | (Attachment 4) |
| (5) | Purchase of 44 Lake Street, Coventry, CT | (Attachment 5) |
| (6) | Project Budget (Design) for Reflection Garden | (Attachment 6) |
| (7) | Project Budget (Final) for UConn Hartford Café | (Attachment 7) |
| (8) | Project Budget (Final) for Northwest Residential Area – Thermal Comfort Improvements | (Attachment 8) |
| (9) | Project Budget (Final) for Whitney Road Steam Improvements E-8 to Q-8 | (Attachment 9) |
| (10) | Project Budget (Final) for Coventry Boathouse | (Attachment 10) |
| (11) | Project Budget (Revised Final) for Homer Babbidge Library Stairs and Doors | (Attachment 11) |
| (12) | Project Budget (Planning) for the UConn Health Torrington Clinic Practice Relocation | (Attachment 12) |
| (13) | Project Budget (Design) for the UConn Health Interventional Radiology Equipment Replacement and Renovation | (Attachment 13) |
| (14) | Project Budget (Final) for the UConn Health Hybrid OR #2 Fit-Out | (Attachment 14) |
| (15) | Project Budget (Revised Final) for the UConn Health New England Sickle Cell Institute Renovation | (Attachment 15) |
| (16) | Tenure at Hire | (Attachment 16) |
| (17) | Designation of Emeritus Status | (Attachment 17) |
| (18) | Sabbatical Leave Recommendations | (Attachment 18) |
| (19) | Master of Science in Supply Chain Management in the School of Business | (Attachment 19) |
| (20) | Appointment of Dr. Song Han to the Pratt & Whitney Associate Professorship in Advanced Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering
(Trustee Pollard abstained from voting on Attachment 20.) | (Attachment 20) |

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- (21) Program Closure: Graduate Certificate in Global Health (Attachment 21)
- (22) Program Closure: Graduate Certificate in Obesity Prevention and Weight Management (Attachment 22)
- (23) Program Closure: Master of Arts in Politics and Popular Culture (Attachment 23)
- (24) Naming Recommendation for the Stuart F. Smith Reading Room (School of Law) (Attachment 24)
- (25) Proposed Student Trustee Election Committee By-Laws (Attachment 25)
- (26) Annual Reports of Endowed Chairs (UConn Health) (Attachment 26)

3. President's Report

(a) Informational Item:

- (1) Memorandum of Agreement For Collaboration Regarding Educational Services, Research, and Economic Development By and Between The University of Connecticut and the Eastern Pequot, Golden Hill Paugussett, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, the Mohegan Tribe, and the Schaghticoke (Attachment 27)

President Maric and Provost D'Alleva recognized the importance of the Memorandum of Agreement as a means to strengthen wide-ranging collaborations in academic and research strategic priorities, community service, cultural enrichment, and the recruitment and retention of Native American and Indigenous students, faculty and staff.

Chairman of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Rodney Butler and Chairwoman of the Mohegan Tribe Council of Elders Elizabeth "Beth" Regan gave brief remarks about this new partnership.

4. University Senate Report

Senate Executive Committee Chair, Dr. Laura Burton

5. Academic Affairs Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities
- (b) Presentation: Fall 2024 Report on Review of Programs with Low-Completion Rates (Attachment 28)
Presenter: Anne D'Alleva, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

6. Financial Affairs Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities
- (b) Presentation: FY25 UConn and UConn Health Budget Update (Attachment 29)
Presenter: Jeffrey Geoghegan, Executive Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer

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(c) Items requiring Board discussion and approval:

On a motion by Board Chair Toscano, seconded by Trustee Cantor, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Academic Year 2025/26 Student Fees for the University of Connecticut, Storrs and Regional Campuses in Attachment 30.

- (1) Academic Year 2025/26 Student Fees for the University of Connecticut, Storrs and Regional Campuses (Attachment 30)

On a motion by Trustee Cantor, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the School of Dental Medicine Tuition and Fees Rates for the Academic Years 2026 and 2027 in Attachment 31.

- (2) School of Dental Medicine Tuition and Fees Rates for the Academic Years 2026 and 2027 (Attachment 31)

7. UConn Health Report

- (a) Report on UConn Health activities

8. Joint Audit and Compliance Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

There was no activity to report.

9. Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

- (b) Item requiring Board discussion and approval:

On a motion by Board Chair Toscano, seconded by Trustee Bessette, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Four (4) Proposed Easements with Wilhusky Housing LLC Concerning Development of Site B of Off-Campus Student Housing Known as The Hub on North Eagleville Road in Attachment 32.

- (1) Four (4) Proposed Easements with Wilhusky Housing LLC Concerning Development of Site B of Off-Campus Student Housing Known as The Hub on North Eagleville Road (Attachment 32)

10. Student Life Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

Deputy Chief of Staff Hunt gave a brief overview of a strategic enrollment management plan and introduced AACRAO Senior Managing Consultant Gordon who outlined a process to provide leadership in academic and enrollment services. The University's goal is to maintain and advance successful recruitment, retention, and successful graduation rates for students.

Several Trustees offered options and insight to further this venture.

President Maric addressed concerns related to student graduation rates.

Board Chair Toscano asked that the University Senate Representatives provide feedback prior to the end of the process in early Spring.

11. Institutional Advancement Committee Report

- (a) Report on Committee activities

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12. Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
13. Committee on Compensation Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
14. Committee for Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Report
 - (a) Report on Committee activities
15. Other Business

Trustee O’Keefe commented late in the meeting on Consent Agenda Item #7 - Project Budget (Final) for the UConn Hartford Café. He raised concerns regarding the potential impact on local Hartford restaurants. Provost D’Alleva discussed the necessity of affordable options for the students and described the arrangement in place at the Stamford Campus. She indicated that her office was in discussion with the Hartford Mayor’s office on this topic. University Senate Representative White confirmed that funding for this project would come from funding generated from student meal plans from the Storrs and Stamford Campuses.

16. Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Cloud, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 12:05 p.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. Commercial or financial information given in confidence, not required by statute [CGS Section 1-210(b)(5)(B)].

The following Trustees were in attendance: Bessette, Bunnell, Cantor, Cloud, Dennis-LaVigne, Dunn, Gandara, Gouin, Hamer, O’Keefe (part of the meeting), Ritter, Rubin, and Toscano.

Governor Lamont’s designee, Jonathan Dach, was also in attendance for the entire Executive Session.

The following staff were in attendance for the entire Executive Session: Maric, Alpay, D’Alleva, Fuerst, Gelston, Geoghegan, Heinlein, Hunt, Kirk, LaVallee, Rubin, and Williams.

The following University staff were in attendance for part of the Executive Session: Benedict, Corbett, Garber, Lombardo, Murray, Smith, and Wrynn.

UConn Foundation President Yancey attended part of the Executive Session.

The Executive Session ended at 2:35 p.m., and the Board returned to Open Session at 2:36 p.m.

17. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Ritter, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The Board meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan K. Pollard
Secretary