

DRAFT MINUTES

**University of Connecticut
Board of Trustees**

**Academic Affairs Committee
April 22, 2025
Virtual Meeting**

- Committee Trustees: Jeanine Gouin, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Sean Dunn, Bryan Pollard, Philip Rubin
- Other Trustees: Daniel Toscano
- University Senate Representatives: Karen Bresciano, D. Betsy McCoach
- University Staff: Radenka Maric, Anne D’Alleva, Daniel Bolnick, Indrajeet Chaubey, Sarah Croucher, Morgaen Donaldson, Daniele Fabris, Deanna Fitzgerald, Alain Frogley, Nathan Fuerst, Amy Gorin, Louis Hanzlik, Ofer Harel, Virginia Hettinger, Eric Loken, Rachel Rubin, Daniel Schwartz, Tadarrayl Starke, Michelle Williams, Reka Wrynn, Ji-Cheng “JC” Zhao

Vice-Chair Trustee Gouin called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Public Participation

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

2. Minutes from the February 25, 2025, Meeting (Attachment 1)

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dunn, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2025, Meeting.

3. Promotion & Tenure (Attachment 2)

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #3 to the full Board for approval.

4. Tenure at Hire (Attachment 3)

5. Designation of Emeritus Status (Attachment 4)

6. Sabbatical Leave Recommendations (Attachment 5)

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Pollard, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #4, Agenda Item #5, and Agenda Item #6 to the full Board for approval.

7. Bachelor of Science in Equine Science and Management (Attachment 6)

On a motion by Trustee Dennis-LaVigne, seconded by Trustee Rubin, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #7 to the full Board for approval.

8. Location Modification: BA in Psychological Sciences (Attachment 7)

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Pollard, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #8 to the full Board for approval.

9. Modification of Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Professor in Sustainable Energy (Attachment 8)

10. Naming Recommendation for the Alice Murray Heilig Music Chair in the School of Fine Arts (Attachment 9)

On a motion by Trustee Pollard, seconded by Trustee Dunn, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #9 and Agenda Item #10 to the full Board for approval.

11. Appointment of Professor Daniel Bolnick as the Arden Chair in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Attachment 10)

12. Appointment of Professor Virginia Hettinger to the Alan R. Bennett Honors Professorship in Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Attachment 11)

13. Appointment of Professor Louis Hanzlik to the Alice Murray Heilig Music Chair in the School of Fine Arts (Attachment 12)

14. Reappointment of Professor Daniele Fabris as the Harold S. Schwenk, Sr. Distinguished Chair in Chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Attachment 13)

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dunn, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend Agenda Item #11, Agenda Item #12, Agenda Item #13, and Agenda Item #14 to the full Board for approval.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

15. Academic Program Inventory (Attachment A)

This item was provided to the Committee as an informational item.

16. Tenure Track Reappointments (Attachment B)

This item was provided to the Committee as an informational item.

17. Planned Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering (Attachment C)

This item was provided to the Committee as an informational item.

18. Test Optional Update

Nathan Fuerst, Vice President for Student Life and Enrollment
Morgaen Donaldson, Associate Dean for Research, and Philip E. Austin
Endowed Professor of Public Policy and Educational Leadership
Eric Loken, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology

Vice President Nathan Fuerst introduced Professor Morgaen Donaldson and Professor Eric Loken to present on outcomes of the test optional pilot. There was a general discussion on the findings of a research study. This topic will be raised with the full Board of Trustees for discussion in the fall.

19. University Senate Representative Report

University Senate Representative Bresciano reported on business in the University Senate related to block transfer processes, updates to University Senate By-Laws, and concerns around supports for international students.

14. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

15. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

16. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Rubin, seconded by Trustee Dunn, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Lohrey
Secretary to the Committee