



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**DATE:** Thursday, September 17, 2020, 8:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Conducted remotely through Zoom Meeting

**PRESENT:** Chair David H. Gunning II, Trustees Thomas W. Adler, Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia M. DePompei, Stephen Kirk, Len Komoroski, Lisa K. Kunkle, and, David Reynolds; Student Trustees Arlindo Ahmetaj and Allison K. Younger; Community Board Members Robyn N. Gordon, Thomas E. Hopkins, Heather Lennox, Linda McHugh, and Joseph D. Roman; Faculty Representative Dr. Rachel K. Carnell; President Harlan M. Sands; General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Dr. Jianping Zhu, Provost; Jonathan Wehner, Vice President and Dean of Admissions, Enrollment Management and Student Success; Mr. Michael Biehl, Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Forrest Faison, Sr. Vice President of Research & Innovation and Chief Healthcare Strategy Officer; Jeanell N. Hughes, Chief Talent and Human Resources Officer; Dr. Julie M. Rehm, Vice President, University Advancement; and Heather A. Link, Assistant Board Secretary.

Chair Gunning called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum. He asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes of the July 28, 2020 Special Board meeting. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes. Moved by Trustee DePompei, and seconded by Trustee Re-iDr,ve the minuti

**Memorial Tribute to Patrick A. Sweeney**

Chair Gunning brought forth a memorial tribute resolution honoring Patrick Sweeney, a longtime and wonderful CSU ambassador, noting his generous personality and passion for education, the arts, and the greater Cleveland community. The entire Board of Trustees moved, seconded, and approved the following resolution.

**RESOLUTION 2020-42**

**MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO PATRICK A. SWEENEY**

**WHEREAS**, with a heavy heart, Cleveland State University stands with the Sweeney family and the Greater Cleveland Community in mourning the loss of the Honorable Patrick A. Sweeney, who



President Sands reported that the percentage rate of first-to-second year retention rate by cohort increased to 76.6%. He noted the increase as a success because the statistic is difficult to increase and it is a bellwether for the University's role in educational leadership and is dependent on a strong faculty.

### **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Cosgrove reported that the Committee met on September 3, and thanked Provost Zhu and Vice President Wehner for providing data on enrollment and retention. He noted that the increased number of graduate students is due, in large part, to the foresight of President Sands in connecting recruitment efforts with Global CSU, and that the Committee will continue to analyze the impact of the 2-for-1 Tuition Promise initiative on enrollment.

Mr. Cosgrove reported that the Committee received updates on the Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation process currently underway, including a site visit in 2021, and that the mandated Ohio Department of Higher Education College Completion Plan report will be presented to the Committee and full Board in November.

He finished by reporting that the Committee is recommending Board approval to award tenure at the rank of Associate Professor to Dr. Grace L. Schultz in the Department of Urban Studies, the Resolution is included on the Consent Agenda.

### **REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Kirk recapped the Financial Affairs Committee meeting held on September 1, noting that the Committee reviewed the CSU financial scorecard including “monthly days of cash on hand” and “debt service to total expenditures”. The Committee also received a verbal report on leases and the East 13<sup>th</sup> Street Building.

Mr. Kirk reported that the Committee is recommending Board approval for the proposed revisions to CSU Purchasing Policies, which is included on the Consent Agenda.

Chair Gunning thanked Mr. Kirk for the report and reminded trustees that while the University is currently in good financial standing, there may be less resources available next year and future financial challenges will need to be addressed.

**REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION**

Trustee Hopkins reported that details of FY21 attainment and annual giving are included



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revised Purchasing Policies, and further instructs the University Administration to file the revised Policies with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after the thirty-day comment period at which time said policies shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

**RESOLUTION 2020-45**

**ACCEPTED AND PASSED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 AT 10:00 AM IN THE BOARD ROOM, CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, CLEVELAND, OHIO.**



**NEW BUSINESS**

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED NOVEMBER 19, 2020**

Sonali B. Wilson  
General Counsel and  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**APPROVED NOVEMBER 19, 2020**

David H. Gunning II  
Chair, Board of Trustees