



## Community College System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Holiday Inn - 172 North Main Street Concord, NH 03301

**Present:** Trustee Katharine Bogle Shields, Trustee Edwin O. Smith, Trustee Alison Stebbins, Trustee Christopher Dodge, Trustee Geoffrey Kennedy, Trustee Gregory C. Eastman, Trustee Kimberly Eckenrode, Trustee Nick Toumpas, Trustee Richard Ackerman, Trustee Sharon D. Harris, Trustee Steven H. Slovenski, Trustee Tricia H. Lucas, Trustee Will Cunningham, Trustee Darrin Daniels, Trustee John T. Stevens, Trustee Stephen J. Ellis, Trustee Tiffany Eddy, Director Deanna Jurius, Director Joseph Doiron, Director Sarah Morrissey, Director Stephen Appleby, President Alfred Williams IV (*RVCC*), President Lucille Jordan (*NCC*), Interim President Patrick Cate (*LRCC*), Interim President Melanie Robbins (*WMCC*), President Cheryl Lesser (*GBCC*), President Patrick Tompkins (*NHTI*), President Brian Bicknell (*MCC*), Chancellor Mark Rubinstein, Vice Chancellor Charles Lloyd

**Remote** (*via Zoom*): Trustee Donnalee M. Lozeau,

### Meeting Minutes:

Chair Sheilds called the meeting to order at 9:15am.

#### **Topic:** Consent Agenda

##### **Consent Agenda Items:**

The meeting agenda; approval of the 10/19/2023 (*public and non-public*), and the 12/21/2023 meeting minutes; approval of advisory board nominations for NHTI, Ali Sekou, and Amanda Savage

**Vote:** Trustee Toumpas motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, Trustee Stebbins seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Topic:** Committee Updates

##### **Committee:** Assets and Resources Committee Update

**Update:** Chief Operating Officer Fields let the group know that the property sale in Keene is still moving forward.

Human Resources Director Sawyer gave an update on the status of contract negotiations. Currently the Adjunct Faculty and Staff bargaining agreements have been settled and they are in the mediation stage with Full Time Faculty. If mediation doesn't produce a tentative agreement, they will move onto fact finding around March.

##### **Committee:** Student Success Committee

**Update:** Committee Chair Ackerman gave an update on the charter revisions the committee has been working on. He also mentioned that progress is being made both on HB 1530 with the University System of NH and the CCSNH Course Action Project.

The Student Success Committee brought forward a proposal to eliminate the biological sciences program for Board approval.



**Vote:** Trustee Smith motioned to approve the elimination of the Biological Sciences AS at River Valley Community College, Trustee Eckenrode seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Chair Ackerman also let the Board know that Great Bay Community College eliminated their Risk Management and Insurance Certificate program, but there is no action needed.

**Committee:** Finance Committee

**Update:** Trustee Stebbins let the group know that the guidelines for the FY 2025 budgets will be going out to campuses. She also made note that the general fund allocation still needs to be reviewed and revised.

Committee Chair Toumpas thanked Director Sawyer and her team for all their hard work with the contract negotiations to this point. He also expressed a need for an innovation fund to support innovation at the college and system levels. Chief Operating Officer Fields gave a brief update on the current year and previewed the coming year. He noted that the colleges did well by budgeting conservatively.

**Committee:** Audit Committee

**Update:** Committee Chair Lucas noted that we hired a system Title IX Coordinator, Holley Duprey, who is already doing well. She also noted that Director Bishop has started the required RSA 188:H survey.

**Committee:** Governance Committee

**Update:** Committee Chair Lozeau noted that the policies were sent out to committees for review and hopes that everyone can review their sections by the next Committee Day meetings.

Board Chair Shields explained that they created an ad hoc committee to nominate and review nominations for the 2024 slate of officers, that ad hoc committee was led by Trustee Lucas.

- Trustee Lucas presented the slate of officers that they were putting forward for nomination: Board Chair - Trustee Kathy Bogle Shields
- Board Vice Chair - Trustee Edwin Smith
- Board Treasurer - Trustee Alison Stebbins
- Board Secretary - Trustee Sharon Harris

**Vote:** Trustee Ackerman motioned to approve the presented slate of officers as presented by the ad hoc nomination committee, Trustee Eastman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee:** Executive Committee

**Update:** Chair Shields recognized that there is a need to revise the way the state funds are allocated throughout the system. Based on that need the Executive Committee charged the Chancellor to develop and implement a revised formula for allocation of the state funds with consideration of the current needs of the colleges and System Office but also emphasizing forward-looking consideration of opportunities to improve student access and student outcomes through strategic initiatives that leverage our statewide system to produce



statewide impact through shared solutions. This work will be completed by February 29, 2024, so that it can be incorporated into the budget development process for FY25. Much of the preliminary work has already been done by the System Office in consultation with Chief Operating Officer Fields and the Hanover Research group. They are also keeping in mind that they will need to have periodic check points to ensure the allocation is still working.

**Vote:** Trustee Smith motioned to accept the Executive Committee's charge for the Chancellor: "...to develop and implement a revised formula for allocation of the state funds with consideration of the current needs of the colleges and System Office but also emphasizing forward-looking consideration of opportunities to improve student access and student outcomes through strategic initiatives that leverage our statewide system to produce statewide impact through shared solutions. This work will be completed by February 29, 2024, so that it can be incorporated into the budget development process for FY25", Trustee Stebbins seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Topic:** Chancellor Rubinstein's Update

**Discussion:** Chancellor Rubinstein focused his update on the future of CCSNH and looking at who the students will be, what the needs and opportunities they will find in NH will be, and how CCSNH can serve NH's post-secondary educational needs. He pointed back to the presentations that the Board saw over the last 6 months about the changing landscape of higher education (*Dr. Sean Gallagher*), building better bridges with industry and throughout our system (*MCC Professor Larochelle*, and *NHTI Professor Tappin*), and NECHE (New England Commission of Higher Education (*Sister Pat O'Brien*)). All these presentations show us that we need to start adjusting to the changes occurring around us. He also noted that we will be hearing from more folks throughout the retreat, and we hope to use all the information to formulate a plan to move forward sustainably to better serve our state and students.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra A. Hoefs

Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees

