# STOCKTON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

## OPEN PUBLIC MINUTES December 9, 2020

Trustees	Mr. Raymond R. Ciccone, CPA, Chair
Present via	Mr. Andy Dolce, Vice Chair
Zoom	Dr. Nancy Davis
	Ms. Mady Deininger
	Mr. Stanley M. Ellis
	Mr. Leo B. Schoffer, Esq.
	Ms. Meg Worthington
	Mr. Tyler Rodriguez, Student Trustee
	Dr. Harvey Kesselman, President and Ex Officio
	Ms. Nelida Valentin, Secretary
Absent	Mr. Jaiden Chavis, Student Trustee Alternate
Call to Order	Chair Ciccone called the meeting to order at 12:19 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, via Zoom. On December 2, 2020, a special notice of this meeting announcing the change of location, as required by the Open Public Meeting Act,
	was (a) posted on the University's Website; (b) forwarded to the Bursar's Office at the University, the editors of the <i>Press of Atlantic City, the Daily Journal</i> ; and (c) filed with the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, the Galloway Township Clerk's Office, and the Atlantic County Clerk's Office.
Approval of Open Public Regular Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2020	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Ellis, the Board voted to adopt the minutes of the September 23, 2020 Open Public Meeting.
Resolution to Meet in Closed Session	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Worthington and seconded by Trustee Valentin the Board voted to meet in closed session at 12:43 p.m.
Reconvene of Open Public Meeting	Chair Ciccone reconvened the Open Public meeting at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.
Chair's Remarks	Trustee Ciccone informed the audience that Stockton University had a low number of instances of the coronavirus and acknowledged the leadership provided by President Kesselman.

## President's Report

Before President Kesselman gave his report, he asked everyone in attendance to please have a moment of silence for Trustee Michael Jacobson, who passed away in October.

President Kesselman read and presented a resolution renaming the Stockton University Board of Trustees Room to the Michael Jacobson Board of Trustees Room and naming Michael Jacobson as Trustee Emeritus. Following the reading of the resolution, President Kesselman called on Sara Jacobson and her family to offersome words to the Stockton University community.

The Jacobson family expressed gratitude to the University for honoring Trustee Michael Jacobson for renaming the Stockton University Board of Trustees Room to the Michael Jacobson Board of Trustees Room, and for naming Michael Jacobson Trustee Emeritus.

Chair Ciccone asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Dolce and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board voted to adopt the resolution.

Chair Ciccone offered time for trustees to share words of acknowledgment for Trustee Jacobson's outstanding work. Several trustees expressed their deep appreciation and personal and professional memories of Trustee Jacobson.

Lastly, President Kesselman called on Scott Huston to share a video created by Ken Tompkins and Tom Kinsella recognizing of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the original groundbreaking for Stockton University.

## Academic Affairs & Planning Committee Report (AA&P)

Trustee Davis called on Susan Davenport, Interim Provost, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff. She highlighted the proposed changes to the Spring 2021 Semester calendar including:

- To start the Spring 2021 Semester a week later, Jan. 25th
- To cancel classes on President's Day, Feb.15th
- To eliminate Spring Break week during Mar.14-21st
- To end the Spring Semester as planned on May 7th
- To host Commencement on the week of May 10th (tentatively)

A resolution to revise the Academic Year calendar for Spring 2021 was presented.

Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Dolce and seconded by Trustee Davis, the Board voted to adopt the resolution.

In addition:

- Assistant Professors of Theater, David Reiser and Aaron Moss presented the ways they are incorporating diversify initiatives in their curriculum.
- Donnetrice Allison, Director of Strategic Initiatives talked about general education reform to increase opportunities for more courses on race and racism. Additional information will be provided during the May Board of Trustees Meeting.

Lastly, Trustee Davis thanked Susan Davenport for her report and to the faculty for making the fall semester a success. Trustee Davis mentioned how excited she was to hear about the addition of anti-racism courses.

## Student Success Committee Report

Due to Trustee Valentin's absence, Trustee Deininger reported the committee discussed the following matters:

- Refocusing the committee's purpose and strategies
- Racial Injustice Initiatives, Community Conversations, and Collection Action Series and High Impact Practices (HIP), which utilize teaching and learning practices to benefit students from different backgrounds
- Stockton's participation in the National Assessment of Campus Collegiate Climate (NACCC)
  - o Survey used to assess students' perceptions on the racial climate
  - Received a total of 604 responses
- Multi-Cultural Center Committee
- 2021 University Retention Working Group
- Update reports were given:
  - Enrollment Management by Robert Heinrich
  - Athletics and Recreation by Kevin McHugh
  - Campus Safety by Adrian Wiggins

Lastly, Trustee Deininger called on Nordia Johnson, Interim Director, Academic Achievement, who announced five recipients for the 2021 winter/spring semester Board of Trustees Distinguished Fellowship.

## Finance and Professional Services Committee Report

Trustee Ellis provided the Finance and Professional Services Committee report stating that the following budgets were reviewed:

- The Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request to the State
- The University's Operational Budget Report ending October 2020

Trustee Ellis then presented the following consent agenda resolutions:

- Appointment of Board Member to the National Aviation Research and Technology Park, Inc.
- Reappointment of Board Member to the National Aviation Research and Technology Park, Inc.
- Tuition and Fees Discounts Effective for 2021 Summer Session

Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Worthington and seconded by Trustee Davis, the Board voted to adopt the resolutions as consent agenda items.

Lastly, Trustee Ellis presented the following bid waiver resolution:

FY21 Bid Waiver Increase

Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Worthington and seconded by Trustee Schoffer, the Board voted to adopt the resolution.

## Audit Committee Report

Trustee Dolce reported the following:

- The Audit Committee last met on October 19, 2020.
- Grant Thornton, external auditors for the University, provided an audit update
  and presented the FY2020 draft financial statements. The audit was
  substantially complete and there were no findings or material misstatements
  to date. Completion was pending GASB 75 Other Post- Employment Benefits
  information from the State and Federal audit guidance relating to the
  FY2020 CARES Act expenditures. Management anticipates finalizing the
  audit in late December or early January upon receipt of open items.
- Baker Tilly, internal auditors for the University, completed the EEO audit.
   Baker Tilly provided several recommendations which will be shared with administration for consideration and implementation.

### Buildings and Grounds Committee Report

Trustee Schoffer called on Don Hudson, Vice President for Facilities & Operations to provide a summary. Don reported discussions took place on the following:

- Updates on the Master Plan
- Summer 2021 construction projects
- Internal capital request for Fiscal Year 2022
- Priority projects include:
  - Planning for the Multi-Cultural Center
  - Installation of new intersection light signals at the north entrance of the campus off Pomona Road. This project will be in partnership with Atlantic County and the cost will be split.
  - Improvements to the soccer, track, and lacrosse fields for the athletic facilities.

Trustee Schoffer thanked Don and his staff for their work.

#### Development Committee Report

Trustee Schoffer recognized Dan Nugent, Chief Development Officer and Executive Director of the University Foundation for his leadership and excellent work, including the Stockton University Foundation and the Development Committee.

Trustee Schoffer reported the Development and Alumni Relations team has continued their fundraising efforts while working on ways to gather during the COVID-19 health crisis. Since July 2020, more than 430 people have attended various Development office events.

Trustee Schoffer also reported:

- New gift commitments have exceeded \$983,000 to date in FY21.
- Major gifts from several donors are anticipated by the end of the calendar year.
  - A Planned Giving Program launched in early fall.
  - Marketing materials have been sent to alumni donors and others encouraging them to make a planned giving gift.
  - Goal is to secure one million dollars in the upcoming calendar year.
- On September 21st, over 150 golfers attended the Annual Stockton University Golf Classic and raised more than \$94,000.
  - 2021 Gala planning includes scenarios for in-person, virtual, and hybrid events. Announcements will be made during the Spring 2021 semester.
- A local family pledged to \$20,000 in matching gifts to the Stockton Student Relief Fund. Every dollar of giving through December 31<sup>st</sup>, will be matched by the donors.

## Investment Trustee Worthington reported: Committee Report The Investment Committee met on November 12th, with the University's investment advisors and received a summary of the University's investment performance, asset allocation, and various strategies for moving forward. As of September 30, 2020, the portfolio balance was \$95.3 million, a gain of \$4.5 million in the third guarter of the calendar year. President Kesselman presented the Board with six policies as a First Reading. University **Policies** President Kesselman will recommend these policies for Board approval at the February 24, 2021 meeting: II-85 Use of University Communication Systems/Tools VI-11.4 Employees Who Are Candidates for Public Office **Tuition Waiver for Senior Citizens** VI-53 VI-54 **Tuition Waiver for National Guard Members** VI-55 Tuition Waiver for Unemployed Persons – Job Training Program VI-28 Policy Prohibiting Discrimination in the Workplace Next, President Kesselman recommended Board approval of the following three policies, following their Second Reading: I-67 Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodation VI-45 Refunds Upon Withdrawal Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board voted to adopt the resolution. President Kesselman called on Susan Davenport to provide a summary report on policies & procedures. Susan reported the University currently has approximately 300 policies and procedures. The goal is to review ten to twelve policies and procedures each month and to make sure they are updated every three years. Lastly, Susan thanked the Policy Management Team for doing a wonderful job reviewing over 100 policies and procedures so far this year. Personnel President Kesselman announced the Board's review of the Personnel Actions Actions Resolution, which was posted on the University's website for review. Resolution Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Worthington, the Board voted to adopt the resolution.

#### Board Comments/ Comments from the Public

Trustee Ciccone thanked Trustee Stanley Ellis, Trustee Leo Schoffer and Susan Davenport for their contributions to the Board.

Trustee Dolce congratulated President Kesselman and his team for their commitment and dedication during this year's challenges bought on by COVID-19.

Trustee Worthington shared a tribute to the staff.

Trustee Davis echoed Trustee Worthington on the work the University has accomplished and thanked the faculty and students for their amazing job during these difficult times.

Trustee Deininger thanked the entire Stockton community.

Susan Davenport announced and congratulated the following faculty members on their promotions: Adam Aguiar, Associate Professor of Biology; Benjamin Agyare, Assistant Professor of Physics; Aleksondra Hultquist, Associate Professor of Critical Thinking and First-Year Studies; William Quain, Professor of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies; Michael Rodriguez, Professor of Political Science; Ekaterina Sedia, Professor of Biology; Amee Shah, Professor of Health Science; and Edward Siecienski, Professor of Religion.

In addition, the following faculty members have received emeritus status and will be recognized at the Spring Commencement: Deb Figart, Distinguished Professor of Economics; Diane Holtzman, Associate Professor of Business Studies, Marketing; Ellen Mutari, Professor of Economics; Sipra Pal, Associate Professor ofPhysics; Lisa Rosner, Distinguished Professor of History, and Joseph Rubenstein, Professor of Anthropology.

Jennifer Potter welcomed Robert Yufer, Procurement Manager to the Division of Finance. She also congratulated Chris Howard, Director of Procurement, Contacting and Risk Management, and Diane Garrison, Executive Director of Budget, Fiscal Planning and Campus Services, on their promotions.

Peter Baratta introduced Nicole Suprun as the new Executive Assistant to the Chief Planning Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff.

Christopher Catching announced the following promotions: Haley Baum, Dean of Students; Marques Johnson, Director, Residential Education and Student Services; Brian Pluchino, Associate Director, Residential Facilities and Retention; and Nordia Johnson, Director of Academic Achievement Program.

Deb Figart thanked everyone for her Emeritus status.

Numerous students attending via Zoom shared their concerns about the changes to the 2020-21 Academic Year calendar. The Board acknowledged the students' concerns and indicated additional information will be provided to the students and the Stockton University community. A town hall meeting will be scheduled to follow up on all the students concerns.

Next	The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at
Regularly	4:30 p.m. in the Michael Jacobson Board of Trustees room on the Galloway campus.
Scheduled	
Meeting	
Adjournment	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee
	Schoffer, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.