STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

OPEN PUBLIC MINUTES

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Trustees Present (*via Zoom)	Trustee Nelida Valentin, Chair Trustee Nancy Davis, Co Vice-Chair Trustee Jose Lozano, Co Vice-Chair Trustee Michelle Keates, Secretary Trustee Raymond Ciccone Trustee Collins Days, Sr. Trustee Mady Deininger Trustee Stan Ellis Trustee Sonia Gonsalves Trustee Kristi Hanselmann *Trustee Amy Kennedy Trustee Timothy Lowry Trustee Stephanie Lutz-Koch Trustee Fotios Tjoumakaris *(absent)* Trustee Shalayby Parsons, Student Trustee Trustee Juan Diego Chaparro Villarreal, Student Trustee Alternate Dr. Joe Bertolino, President, and Ex Officio
Call to Order	Trustee Ciccone called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m.
Approval of Open Public Regular Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2023	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 19th, 2023, Board of Trustees Regular Open Public Meeting.
Approval of Open Public Special Meeting Minutes	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to approve the minutes of July 16th, July 17th, July 26th, and September 6th Board of Trustees Special Open Public Meetings.
Election of Officers	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to approve the new slate of officers. Chair – Nelida Valentin Vice Chair – Nancy Davis Vice Chair – Jose Lozano Secretary – Michelle Keates After the election of the new slate of officers, Trustee Valentin assumed the position of Board Chair and presided over the meeting.
Resolution to Meet in Closed Session	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Lozano, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 12:50 p.m.

Reconvene of Open Public Meeting	Trustee Valentin reconvened the Open Public Meeting at 3:31 p.m.
Chair's Remarks	Trustee Valentin welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared her excitement about serving as the new Chair of the Board. Trustee Valentin shared a short anecdote reflecting on her various university tours alongside her son. She remarked that all universities have a special significance because of their engaged community members. Stockton has the same special community members who are committed to serving the Stockton community. Trustee Valentin had members of the Board read aloud points from their Statement of Commitment and Responsibilities that can be found in the Board of Trustees room. Trustee Valentin recognized the outgoing Board Chair, Trustee Ray Ciccone by sharing a video highlighting his accomplishments and journey as a member of the Stockton community and the Board. After the video, she, alongside President Joe presented him with a letter from Governor Phil Murphy, as well as a plaque. Trustee Ciccone extended his thanks to everyone.
Oath of Office: Juan Diego Chaparro Villarreal	Trustee Valentin welcomed new Student Trustee, Juan Diego Chaparro Villarreal, to the Board of Trustees and, with President Joe, administered the Oath of Office. Trustee Chaparro extended gratitude to those who have played a role in his success at Stockton University.
President's Report	President Joe began his report by congratulating Trustee Valentin, Trustee Lozano, Trustee Davis, and Trustee Keates on their new leadership roles on the Board. He shared his excitement about working alongside them and continuing the momentum he and his leadership team have started. He recognized the facilities team for their hard work in ensuring the safe arrival of students. He also recognized the Students Affairs team who worked hard to coordinate the Welcome Week program. Finally, he thanked the Enrollment Management team for their ongoing recruitment efforts. President Joe shared that the University ranked number 84 among the top 100 Public National Universities, according to the 2024 US News and World Report ranking. The University ranked 26 in the area of Social Mobility. He discussed the different ways the University fulfilled the title. Retention programs such as First Osprey's, Sankofa, and TogetHER have been able to provide students with a sense of belonging. Following this, President Joe highlighted the Hispanic Heritage Month flag-raising ceremony, which was the most well-attended flag-raising ceremony to have been held. He highlighted the newest cohort of Engelberg Scholars, who are all first-generation students and have been provided with the opportunity to attend the university with the entire cost of their education covered. The donors of the program, Al and Gail Engelberg, are incredibly proud of the program, as well as the students.

	President Joe brought attention to Osprey's Give, the upcoming annual day of giving, and this year's theme which is gratitude. He encouraged members of the community to participate, as he, along with others, will be providing matching gifts. President Joe spoke about his opportunities to meet with state government leaders and discuss the work taking place at Stockton, and also remarking on the many Stockton graduates who continue to reside and work in New Jersey, resulting in many Stockton graduates being the future of New Jersey. President Joe shared that the strategic and business plan for the Atlantic City Campus will begin to be developed shortly. He expressed his hope to provide more details at his State of the University Address on Thursday, October 12th at 4:30 p.m. Finally, President Joe acknowledged the students who volunteered to provide support for the Board meeting. These students include Admissions Ambassadors, Talons, and members of the Stockton Music Union.
Academic Affairs & Planning Committee Report	Chair Valentin called upon Trustee Gonsalves to provide the Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report. Committee Chair Trustee Gonsalves began her report by providing a summary of the meeting. The discussion highlighted generative AI and students' experiences and perspectives on generative AI. Dr. Siecienski, Professor of Religion discussed his new book, *Beards, Azymes, and Purgatory.* Mr. Alex Marino, Director of Academic Operations in Atlantic City provided data from the Live-Work-Learn Program. Students who participated in the program were invited to discuss their experiences and provide feedback on the program. Interim Provost and Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Marissa Levy, shared the updated Academic Affairs priorities, which include Student Success, Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity, Academic Program & Curriculum Efficiency, Streamlining, and Enrollment Management.
Student Success Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Davis began her report by thanking everyone for their attendance. She mentioned highlights from the committee meeting. Students attended the meeting and shared their successes at Stockton and the importance of encouraging students to be successful. She invited Dr. Christopher Catching, Vice President of Student Affairs, to speak. Dr. Catching extended his thanks and proceeded to share a summary of the committee meeting. At the meeting, Dr. Ana Edmonson, Assistant Vice President of Student Transition Access and Retention, and Candace Mitchell, Director of Student Transition Programs, facilitated the conversation. Students were also in attendance and provided insight into the importance of New Student Programs, many of which take place during Welcome Week. Dr. Catching followed

	with a video that highlighted the variety of summer transition programs. Dr. Robert Heinrich, Vice President for Enrollment Management, provided an update on the following enrollment data: • Summer 2023 Enrollment decreased due to the smaller overall enrollment in Spring 2023. • Fall 2023 first-time student enrollment decreased by 2%, transfer student enrollment decreased by 10%, and graduate student enrollment increased by 3%. • Fall 2023 headcount decreased by 3% and FTE decreased by 2%. • Diversity of the student body in total enrollment has increased by 1%. • 3rd-semester retention rates for first-time cohorts have been at 78% since Fall 2020. Trustee Davis thanked Dr. Heinrich and concluded her report.
Finance and Professional Services Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Ellis began by presenting three resolutions for Board consideration. The first two resolutions were on the consent agenda: • FY25 Capital Budget Submission • Reorganization of the National Aerospace Research and Technology Park, Inc. **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Days, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda resolutions.** Trustee Ellis presented one resolution to the Board: • FY24-FY28 Bid Waiver Contracts o Collaborative Safety, LLC – 1 year - $131,250 o Modern Campus USA, Inc. – 5 years - $275,600 **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Davis, the Board unanimously approved the resolution.** Trustee Ellis provided a review of the University's finances. In FY23, the University had an operating surplus before capital of $2,922,446 and total capital expenditures of $13,356,942. There was a drawdown of available cash and investments of $10,434,496. FY24 operations and capital spending through August 31st showed 37% of the operating revenue budget was realized, and 49% of the operating expense budget was realized. Trustee Ellis also shared that capital expenditures (including encumbrances) totaled $3,255,510. Finally, he shared that the University is forecasting a FY24 deficit of $14,980,853. Trustee Ellis presented two bid waivers that were approved by the Executive Committee:

	• Bid Waiver Contract: National Equipment Solutions – 5 years - $276,925 • Increase in Bid Waiver Contract: Cayuse Topco, Inc. – the additional amount requested was $29,100, which makes the new recommended contract total $333,100.
Audit Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Lozano reported that the Audit Committee last met with the University's internal and external auditors on August 22, 2023. He shared that Baker Tilly has continued to make progress on current internal audits and the enterprise risk management project. He also shared that the University's external auditor, Grant Thornton, completed their audit planning and interim fieldwork. From September to November, they will conduct year-end fieldwork procedures and present their audit results at the next Audit Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, November 27.
Buildings and Grounds Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Ciccone called upon Senior Vice President of Facilities and Operations, Don Hudson, to provide updates from the meeting. Mr. Hudson presented a resolution to the Board for the naming of the Stockton University Atlantic City Phase II Residential Building. **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Valentin, the Board unanimously approved the naming of "Parkview Hall."** Mr. Hudson presented a second resolution: Consent to the Assignment of Bacharach Institute Lease to AtlantiCare Health Systems, Inc. **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Ciccone, the Board approved the resolution.** He continued his report by providing a few informational items: • The Facilities Department completed a parking lot renovation at the Rothenberg building in Atlantic City over the Summer months. • The Facilities Department completed a new mail room operation in Kesselman Hall and is providing office space for the new Chelsea Economic Development Corporation. • The Facilities Department partnered with Student Affairs in the completion of a Meditation room in lower F-Wing. • A committee is in the process of being formed for the new Learning Commons and Classroom Renovation projects. • The Open Pavilion project at the North Athletic Complex is being suspended to re-evaluate priorities on projects going forward.
Advancement Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Days began his report by sharing information on the University's ongoing fundraising, engagement, and marketing efforts. The committee welcomed Rob Shaw, President and Managing Partner of PE&G who provided an executive summary

	of the results from the University's first comprehensive alumni attitude survey. The data will be utilized by URM, the Alumni Relations Department, and others throughout the campus. The full results from the survey will be shared with the Stockton community. Trustee Days invited Sue Werner, Executive Director of Development, to speak. Sue Werner shared information on the University's Sixth Annual Osprey's Give and emphasized the importance of engaging in the one-day event. She applauded Sydney Perkins, Associate Director of Development, for leading the charge.
Investment Committee Report	Committee Chair Trustee Keates provided an update from the Investment Committee. As of June 30th, the University's total portfolio balance was $106,892,316. The return on investments for FY23 was a gain of $7,423,951. Windmark's return was 6.96% and Wells Fargo's return was 8.93%. As of August 31st, the University's total portfolio balance was $107,163,422, with a return on the investments for the first two months of FY24 of $271,632. The next meeting of the Investment Committee will be held on November 8, 2023.
University Policies	President Bertolino presented the Board with the following policies as informational items for a first reading: • I-6 Accreditation • VI-91 Identity Theft Prevention Program President Bertolino presented the Board with the following policies for second reading and Board approval: • I-102 Emergency Operations and Reporting • Vi-85 Use of University-Owned Tools and Equipment **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the revised policies.**
Personnel Actions Resolution	President Bertolino presented the Board with the Personnel Actions Resolution. **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Lozano and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board unanimously adopted the Personnel Actions Resolution.**
Board Comments and Comments from the Public	Trustee Deininger first addressed Trustee Ciccone and thanked him for his continuous dedication and commitment as Board Chair. She also commended Trustee Ciccone's family for their support. Trustee Deininger extended a warm welcome to Trustee Valentin in her new role as Board Chair. Finally, Trustee Deininger commended Don Hudson and his team for their commitment to maintaining the University's appearance.

	Trustee Keates echoed the comments of Trustee Deininger. She expressed her gratitude for being able to serve under Trustee Ciccone's leadership. She congratulated Trustee Valentin on her new role as Board Chair and expressed her excitement about working with her. Trustee Davis dittoed the two previous comments. And encouraged the Board members and staff to continue to radiate their love for the University. Dr. Levy began her remarks by making note of the renewed partnership between Enrollment Management and Academic Affairs to initiate Roster Verification. Roster Verification is utilized to track student eligibility for financial aid. She shared that more than 98% of rosters have been verified and extended thanks to Dr. Amy Beth Glass, Dr. Claudine Keenan, Dr. Robert Heinrich, Chris Connors, and Jovina Bermudez for their partnership in revising the process, as well as the ITS team and faculty. Dr. Catching welcomed new team members to the Division of Student Affairs. • Valery Jules, *Coordinator for Student Affairs Administration and Operations* • Michael Slaza, *Coordinator of Student Success Initiatives* • Candace Mitchell, *Director of Student Transition Programs* • Dr. Jamal Harrison, *Director of Student Affairs Assessment and Communications* • Kevin Shupp, *Assistant Director of Residential Education* Casey Berchtold, a graduate student at Stockton, wanted to provide additional insight on Dr. Heinrich's statement on the University's Enrollment Management efforts during the Summer months. She shared her experience working in the Office of Graduate Admissions, and extended her thanks to members of the Graduate Admissions team for their dedication to the University, which resulted in a 3% increase in graduate admissions numbers.
New Business	President Joe introduced a new segment that will be featured at each Board meeting titled *"The Mission Moment,"* which provides a glimpse of the work being done at the University that reflects the University's mission and values.
Mission Moment	Dr. Stacy Culleny, Assistant Professor of Education, and Dr. Meg White, Professor of Education, shared their work with the *Future Teachers of Color Conference* held in May 2023, an initiative that was supported by the University's Compass Fund. The conference was created because of two factors: • Over 50 schools in New Jersey do not employ a single teacher of color. • Students of color make up 57% of the student population, but only 16% of teachers are of color.

	They reached out to all K-12 school districts within Atlantic and Cape May counties, resulting in the attendance of over 100 9th and 10th-grade students on campus. The goal of the conference was to shed light on the profession of education, which many students tend to overlook. Different speakers of all colors and races were invited to represent the diverse student population. Some of these speakers included members of the NJEA, members of the Atlantic County Superintendent's Office, alumni, current students, as well as two teacher candidates. After the survey, there was data to support that the students who attended are now considering a career in education. Before the conference, 41% of survey participants said that they had never considered a profession in teaching. Following the conference, that number decreased to 25%, and the participants' interest in becoming a teacher increased to 67%. In the future, they plan to continue running the conference every other year, with the hope of bringing some of the students back. They also hope to continue their relationships with Community Partners and the NJEA.
Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting	The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. at the Galloway Campus in the Campus Center Event Room.
Adjournment	**Trustee Valentin thanked everyone for their attendance.** **Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Lozano, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.**

Approved by the Board of Trustees on December 6, 2023