



Stockton University

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

WEDNESDAY, May 1, 2024

AGENDA

The Meeting will open to the public at 12:00 p.m. in the Michael Jacobson Board of Trustees Room, Galloway Campus. Immediately following action on the resolution to meet in closed session, members of the public will be asked to leave the room.

The Board will reconvene for the Open Public Meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Event Room on the Galloway Campus.

Notice of Public Meeting: As required by the Open Public Meetings Act, on March 15, 2024, a notice of this Meeting and Public Hearing, the dates, times, and locations of Stockton University Board of Trustees Public Meetings were: (a) posted on the University's website, (b) sent to the Press of Atlantic City and the Daily Journal, and (c) filed with the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, Galloway Township Clerk's Office, and Atlantic County Clerk's Office.

- 1) **Call to Order and Roll Call, Trustee Valentin, Board Chair**
- 2) **Action Item:** [Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2024](#)
- 3) **Action Item:** [Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2024](#)
- 4) **Action Item:** [Resolution to Meet in Closed Session](#)

The Board will approve a resolution to meet in closed session to review and discuss personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; public safety matters, and other items exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act.

- 5) **Call to Order and Roll Call to reconvene Open Public Meeting: Trustee Valentin, Board Chair**
- 6) **Chair Report: Trustee Valentin**
- 7) **President's Report: President Bertolino**
- 8) **Information Item: Special Recognition of Outgoing Student Trustee, Shalayby Parsons: Trustee Valentin and President Bertolino**

9) Committee Reports and Discussion

- a. Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report: **Trustee Gonsalves, Chair**

Action Item: Resolution:

- [Bachelor of Science Degree in Hemp and Cannabis Business Management](#)

- b. Student Success Committee Report: **Trustee Davis, Chair**

- **Information Item:** Spring Recipients Board of Trustees Fellowships for Distinguished Students: **Dr. Ian Bouie, Director of Academic Achievement Programs**

- c. Finance and Professional Services Committee Report: **Trustee Ellis, Chair**

Action Items: Resolution:

- [Continuation of FY24 Budget into FY25](#)

Action Item: Resolution

- [FY24-FY29 Bid Waiver Contracts.](#)

Action Item: Resolution

- [FY24-FY25 Increase in Bid Waiver Contracts](#)

- d. Audit Committee Report: **Trustee Ciccone, Chair**

- e. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report: **Trustee Lozano, Chair**

- f. Advancement Committee Report: **Trustee Days, Chair**

- g. Investment Committee Report: **Trustee Keates, Chair**

12) University Policy Review: President Bertolino

Information Items: [Review of University Policies \(First Reading\)](#)

- II-22 Posthumous Degree

Action Items: Resolution: [Approval of University Policies \(Second Reading\)](#)

- VI-56 Investment Policy

13) Action Item: Resolution: [Personnel Actions](#): **President Bertolino**

14) New Business

- a. **Mission Moment:** Dual-Credit Program

15) Comments from the Board of Trustees/Public

Members of the public should limit their comments to three minutes and are not permitted to cede their time to another member of the public.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held virtually at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Adjournment

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
OPEN PUBLIC MINUTES

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Trustees Present (*via Zoom)	Trustee Nelida Valentin, Chair Trustee Nancy Davis, Co-Vice Chair Trustee Jose Lozano, Co-Vice Chair (Absent) 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 (Absent) Trustee Fotios Tjoumakaris Trustee Shalayby Parsons, Student Trustee Trustee Juan Diego Chaparro Villarreal, Student Trustee Alternate Dr. Joe Bertolino, President, and Ex Officio
Call to Order	Chair Valentin called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m.
Approval of Open Public Regular Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2023	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Days, the Board voted to approve the revised minutes of the December 6 th Board of Trustees Special Open Public Meetings.
Resolution to Meet in Closed Session	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 12:51 p.m.
Reconvene of Open Public Meeting	Trustee Valentin reconvened the Open Public Meeting at 4:38 p.m.
Chair's Remarks	Trustee Valentin opened the meeting with a warm welcome to new community members, faculty, students, and guests. She expressed excitement for the ongoing Spring Semester and mentioned several anticipated events, including President Joe's upcoming inauguration, the Foundation Scholarship Gala in April, and the rapidly approaching commencement. Trustee Valentin highlighted the hard work of everyone involved, acknowledging their crucial role in the success of these events. She then took a moment to acknowledge the trustees present, emphasizing their dedication and commitment to Stockton University's future and their support for President Joe and the university staff. Trustee Valentin reflected on the importance of the

	<p>Board's recent discussions, all of which aim to advance the university's mission.</p> <p>In addition, she pointed out the Board's Statement of Commitments, which is displayed in the boardroom and underscores the values of mutual respect and diversity at the university. To close her remarks, Trustee Valentin emphasized that these commitments are not just formalities but are deeply integrated into the Board's core values and the university culture, and she encouraged everyone to read these commitments, displayed on the boardroom walls, to understand the Board's principles better.</p>
<p>President's Report</p>	<p>President Joe welcomed faculty, staff, and community members. He also recognized the Student Ambassadors in attendance and thanked them for their contributions.</p> <p>President Joe highlighted a few campus events that took place on campus. He first recognized the 20th Annual MLK Day of Service, which took place on January 15th. The Day of Service had 500 members of the Stockton Community in attendance. The event had over 30 projects throughout Galloway, Atlantic City, Hammonton, and Woodbine. The Day of Service provided support to the Atlantic City Rescue Mission, neighbors at local nursing homes, pediatric patients at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, and many more. President Joe also highlighted the kickoff of Stockton Maple Project's fourth season with a tree-tapping event. Additionally, President Joe touched on Black History Month, its annual flag-raising ceremony, and the various events and activities that took place throughout February.</p> <p>President Joe celebrated the success of the men's and women's basketball teams for their participation in the NJAC tournament. He recognizes student-athletes DJ Campbell, Eric Akerman, and Kayla Kass for their outstanding athletic achievements.</p> <p>President Joe shared that the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program was recognized as one of the top programs in the country by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, a national scientific and educational organization. The program is one of two in the state, with only 101 programs nationwide.</p> <p>President Joe invited the audience to his Spring Town Hall, which will take place on Tuesday, February 27th. He also encourages attendance at Discover Stockton Day, which takes place on Saturday, March 23rd. The last event President Joe highlights is his inauguration, which will take place on Friday, April 12th.</p> <p>Finally, President Joe recognized the incoming Provost, Dr. Michael Palladino. He highlighted his experience in higher education and his enthusiasm to have Dr. Palladino join the Stockton community. President Joe invited Dr. Palladino to say a few words.</p>

	<p>Dr. Palladino thanked President Joe and the Board and provided insights into his professional journey, emphasizing the milestones that have prepared him for the role. After sharing his priorities for his transition period, Dr. Palladino expressed gratitude to the Stockton community. This concluded the President’s report.</p>
<p>Academic Affairs & Planning Committee Report</p>	<p>Chair Valentin called upon Trustee Gonsalves to provide the Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report.</p> <p>Committee Chair Trustee Gonsalves began the report by presenting three resolutions for Board approval by consent agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Academic Year Calendar Fall 24 and Spring 2025 ● Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice ● Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship <p>The consent agenda resolutions were unanimously approved by the board upon a motion made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Days.</p> <p>Trustee Gonsalves continued her report by acknowledging the overview provided to the committee members by Interim Provost Dr. Marissa Levy on the vital role of faculty service within the University and the community during the committee meeting. Trustee Gonsalves shared insights into the "Get FIT @ Stockton" initiative, introduced to the committee by Dr. Alysia Mastrangelo and Dr. Mary Kientz, along with Graduate Assistants Kalyn Conway and Kayla Singer. This community-based health and wellness program aims to educate and engage community partners, focusing particularly on individuals with developmental disabilities. The initiative adopts an interprofessional education model involving Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, and Health Sciences students who work directly with clients. Following this, Trustee Gonsalves invited Interim Provost Levy to present a posthumous award for the title of Distinguished Professor to Dr. Anne Pomeroy, Professor of Philosophy.</p> <p>During her presentation, Interim Provost Levy praised Dr. Pomeroy's deep involvement at Stockton University, notably as a union leader and mentor, and her contributions to the Faculty Band. She expressed pride in recommending Dr. Pomeroy for a distinguished title, highlighting her significant impact on the community.</p> <p>Continuing her report, under the umbrella of service, Trustee Gonsalves transitioned to Dr. Norma Boakes, a professor of education, who introduced her innovative approach to integrating origami and math education during a brief presentation to the committee. This project, which she has initiated since 2007, merges arts, mathematics, and cultural history into a course that concludes with an event called the Origami Showcase. This event, scheduled for April 24th at noon in the Campus Center, will display student origami creations reflecting various thematic concepts.</p>

	<p>Additionally, Trustee Gonsalves reported on three new MBA pathways programs: Bachelor of Science in eSports to the MBA in eSports Management, Bachelor of Science in Public Health to the MBA in Healthcare Administration and Leadership, and Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences to the MBA in Healthcare Administration and Leadership.</p> <p>Lastly, two new Master of Public Health pathway programs were announced: Bachelor of Science in Public Health to Master in Public Health and Bachelor of Science and Health Sciences to the Masters in Public Health. A new minor in Archaeology was also introduced. Trustee Gonsalves concluded her report by expressing enthusiasm for these initiatives and looks forward to sharing further updates at the May meeting.</p>
<p>Student Success Committee Report</p>	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Davis began her report by extending her gratitude to the Board, as well as members of the Stockton Community. She shared the discussions that took place at the Student Success meeting, which focused on maintaining good retention of Stockton Students. Trustee Davis made note of the different readings discussed, which included the different strategies the University of South Florida practices to improve its Student Affairs and Student Success record.</p> <p>Student Trustee Juan Chaparro and three other students attended the committee meeting to share their experiences at Stockton and their love for Stockton. Trustee Davis discussed the importance of maintaining this energy. Finally, she invited Dr. Catching to elaborate on her points and share information regarding the partnership with the EAB Navigate360.</p> <p>Dr. Catching echoed Trustee Davis' thanks to participants in the Student Student Success Committee's conversation. And followed with information regarding EAB Navigate, a student success management system. Dr. Edmondson, Assistant Vice President for Student Transitions, Access and Retention Programs, and Elvis Gyan, Director of the Center for Academic Advising, were acknowledged for their efforts to implement the initiative, which will take place in the coming months.</p> <p>EAB Navigate is significant because its data analytics technology allows for the creation of different strategies to support students. Dr. Catching concluded his report and invited Dr. Robert Heinrich, Vice President for Enrollment Management, to present a spring enrollment update.</p> <p>Dr. Heinrich presented the final enrollment report for the Spring 2024 semester. He began by thanking the partners who have contributed to the achievements for the Spring 2024 semester.</p> <p>Dr. Heinrich reported a 3% increase in new students overall compared to the Spring of 2023. There was a decline in new transfer</p>

	<p>students, but there was strong growth in first-year students by 50, which is doubled from last year. Dr. Heinrich also celebrated the surpassing of the goal of 423 students by 12, which was a significant milestone for the University.</p> <p>Dr. Heinrich also addressed the decline in overall student numbers but highlighted a positive trend in the transition ratio for continuing students from Fall to Spring. During the last three years, both undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the fall returned for the spring. Dr. Heinrich shares that Academic Affairs and Student Affairs will be working to ensure students persist and return in the Fall.</p> <p>Dr. Heinrich informed those in attendance about upcoming events. These include the Dual-Credit Recognition Dinner, Sneak Peek Stockton Week, Discover Stockton Day, and Experience Stockton Day. Finally, Dr. Heinrich recognized Dr. Michael Law and the Faculty Senate for their support in gathering several courses from faculty members, allowing students to shadow courses during Sneak Peek Stockton Week.</p>
<p>Finance and Professional Services Committee Report</p>	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Ellis initiated his report by outlining three resolutions for Board consideration.</p> <p>Trustee Ellis presented the first resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Amendment to FY24 Operating & Capital Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Housing 4 Geothermal Project, \$2,400,000 ○ Academic Classroom Technology Project, \$554,917 <p>The board unanimously approved the resolution upon a motion made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Davis.</p> <p>Trustee Ellis presented the second resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FY25-FY27 Bid Waiver Contract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ OCLC Inc. (3-year waiver, \$185,000) <p>The board unanimously approved the resolution upon a motion made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Lowry.</p> <p>Trustee Ellis presented the third and final resolution for Board consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FY24 Increase in Bid Waiver Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trane US, Inc. (FY24, \$40,000) ○ PCK Media (FY24, \$22,500) <p>The board unanimously approved the resolution upon a motion made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Tjoumakaris.</p> <p>Continuing his report, Trustee Ellis reviewed the FY24 operational and capital spend through January 31, 2024, noting that as of January 31st, 84% of the operating revenue forecast was realized, while 76% of the operating expense forecast was realized. The capital expenditures, including encumbrances, totaled \$4.1 million. There was a projected operating and capital deficit of \$11.6 million;</p>

	<p>however, there is cash available to cover the forecasted deficit without needing to tap into the investment reserve.</p> <p>Looking ahead to Fiscal Year 25, the Committee's preliminary discussions highlighted several challenges, including enrollment both recruitment and retention, state support, and macroeconomic factors such as inflation and interest rates. The ongoing needs for physical infrastructure and deferred maintenance were also emphasized. The Chief Financial Officer has already begun developing the FY25 budget, exploring cost saving strategies and alternative revenue streams.</p> <p>The university community will be kept informed through ongoing communications and presentations to the Faculty, Staff, and Student Senates. Additionally, President Joe will provide further insights at a town hall meeting scheduled for February 27th.</p> <p>Trustee Ellis also announced that the 2024 Annual Tuition Hearing will be held on April 17th. This hearing, which will be spearheaded by the Finance and Professional Services Committee, will allow the Board of Trustees to gather feedback directly from the community regarding changes to tuition and fee rates. The proposed tuition, fees, room, and board increases will be presented for Board approval at a special meeting on June 26th.</p>
<p>Audit Committee Report</p>	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Ciccone reported that the Audit Committee last met in November. He explained that the Committee oversees matters related to both external and internal audits.</p> <p>Baker Tilly, the University's outsourced internal audit function, continues to make progress on the current internal audits and the Enterprise Risk Management project. Grant Thornton, the external auditor, completed the University's FY2023 Financial Statement and Uniform Guidance audits. The statements were issued on February 8th and included a clean or unmodified audit opinion.</p> <p>Finally, Trustee Ciccone thanked Jennifer Potter, Vice President for Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer, and her department for maintaining the University's financial records.</p>
<p>Buildings and Grounds Committee Report</p>	<p>As Committee Chair Trustee Lozano was not in attendance, Trustee Hanselmann, Vice-Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, shared the report.</p> <p>Trustee Hanselmann summarized the key points during the last Building and Grounds Committee meeting. She first addressed the replacement of the water tank, which is an essential project because it provides about 300,000 gallons of potable water for the campus. The budget for the project is between \$1 and \$1.2 million, and it hopes to be completed over the summer.</p> <p>Trustee Hanselmann transitioned to the Atlantic City Feasibility Study and shared the \$1 million grant acquired to explore Phase III in</p>

	<p>Atlantic City. The task force is collaborating with consulting firms Elysian, Brailsford and Dunlavey to assess the feasibility of expanding the Atlantic City campus.</p> <p>Trustee Hanselmann discussed the next major project: the Library Learning Commons expansion, which is being funded by a bond from the state at about \$19.5 million. The project is set to begin in January 2025 and is intended to reopen in September 2026. During this time, the University plans to place study spaces throughout the academic spine and quiet spaces in vacant classrooms during certain times. Library services will be available in the C/D atrium.</p> <p>Finally, Trustee Hanselmann shared the \$1.8 million grant received to provide technology upgrades to classrooms in A, B, C, and D wings, as well as the Alton Auditorium and the C/D Wing Atrium. Trustee Hanselmann calls on Don Hudson, Senior Vice President for Facilities and Operations, to elaborate on the details shared.</p> <p>Mr. Hudson shared that the Building and Grounds Committee meeting was great. He dives into the discussion regarding the library and highlights the collaborative efforts of faculty, staff, students, and community members. Mr. Hudson also shares information on how to receive activity regarding the project, which can be accessed through the Facilities and Operations, Library, and Provost’s website. Finally, Hudson reiterates the timeline of the project and thanks the audience.</p>
<p>Advancement Committee Report</p>	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Days called on Dan Nugent, Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of the University Foundation, to provide the Advancement Committee report.</p> <p>Mr. Nugent reflected on the success of the recent Advancement Committee meeting and expressed gratitude to key participants: Sue Werner, Executive Director of Development; Geoff Pettifer, AVP for University Relations and Marketing; and Craig Stambaugh from Student Affairs. The meeting highlighted collaborative efforts across university departments to dismantle barriers to student success, focusing on initiatives like the Student Relief Fund, housing essentials, and food security programs.</p> <p>A standout moment from the meeting, according to Mr. Nugent, was the testimony of a young alumna who benefited from the Student Relief Fund. She was identified proactively by Student Affairs after reaching the requisite number of credits but not filing for graduation due to a financial barrier. After applying for and receiving aid from the Student Relief Fund, she shared her transformative experience with the committee, highlighting how the fund significantly altered her life. She was initially skeptical about the assistance being offered but came to realize the impact of such support on her academic journey.</p> <p>Mr. Nugent thanked the alumna for her heartfelt presentation and acknowledged the contributions of all who support these vital efforts,</p>

	<p>whether through their roles within the university or as donors. Concluding the report, Dan took the opportunity to mention the upcoming benefit gala on April 20th at the Hard Rock, another significant initiative by the Foundation to support students through scholarships.</p>
Investment Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Keates reported that the Investment Committee last met on February 6th with Wells Fargo and Windmark to review investment performance through December 31, 2023. Trustee Keates shared that the University’s total portfolio balance was \$111,844,507, with a gain on investments totaling \$5,053,894. Wells Fargo reported a return of 4.89%, while Windmark reported a return of 4.68%.</p> <p>Trustee Keates highlighted the growth of the University’s investment portfolio, homing in on its increase from \$48M in January 2016 to \$112,311,628 by the end of January 2024. The increase was achieved all while completing Phase I and II in Atlantic City, adding 2 additional buildings to the academic quad, and the various capital projects on the Galloway campus, including the Multi-Cultural Center.</p> <p>Trustee Keates described the Committee’s in-depth review of the University’s existing investment policy and procedure. She shared that the updated investment policy statement being presented today for the Board’s first reading includes all elements of a clearly defined investment policy for nonprofits. She explained that the policy was expanded to address the following key areas: rebalancing, spending policy, risk management, monitoring and review, environmental, social, and governance and socially responsible investing considerations, and diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice. Trustee Keates thanked everyone involved in the collaborative process, particularly the contributions of Jennifer Potter, Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Trustee Stan Ellis, Chair of the Finance and Professional Services Committee, and Jon Heckscher, SVP, Director of Fixed Income and Institutional Strategy of Fiduciary Trust International.</p>
University Policies	<p>President Bertolino presented the Board with the following policy as an informational item for a first reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VI-56 Investment Policy <p>President Bertolino presented the Board with the following policies for second reading and Board approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VI-57.5 Post-Issuance Tax Exempt Bond Compliance ● VI-100 Protection of Minors Policy <p>The board unanimously approved the resolution upon a motion made by Trustee Gonsalves and seconded by Trustee Davis.</p>
Personnel Actions Resolution	<p>President Bertolino presented the Board with the Personnel Actions Resolution.</p>

	<p>The Personnel Actions Resolution was unanimously adopted by the board upon a motion duly made by Trustee Ciccone and seconded by Trustee Days.</p>
<p>Board Comments and Comments from the Public</p>	<p>Dr. Arnaldo Cordero-Roman, Associate Professor Emeritus of Spanish, representing Unidos, shared an overview of Unidos' journey. It highlighted its establishment in 2018, which garnered exposure with well-attended panel discussions and lectures, as well as the publication of Palante, the Unideos newsletter. He retired in 2022, serving as the last elected president of Unidos.</p> <p>Dr. Cordero-Roman shared Unidos's relaunch efforts, which are comprised of three founding members and three original affiliated associates: Yubi Peña from Student Affairs, Madeline Perez from Arts and Humanities, Roberto Castillo from the Center of Teaching and Learning Design, Rosa Perez-Maldonado, the Assistant Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and Merydawilda Colon, the Executive Director of the Office of Student Engagement. Dr. Cordero-Roman recognized the diversity of the Board of Trustees and thanked them for their support.</p> <p>Finally, Dr. Cordero-Roman shared Unidos' immediate goals, which include revising its constitution and enhancing its logo. He also shared Unidos' core mission, which revolves around recruitment, retention, mentorship, networking, leadership, and professional advancement. Dr. Cordero-Roman concluded his public comment by expressing gratitude to members of the Board for their contributions and support.</p> <p>Following Dr. Cordero-Roman's public comment, Trustee Chaparro shared his experience of meeting Dr. Cordero-Roman while searching for a speaker for the Hispanic Heritage Month Flag Raising ceremony. Prior to meeting Dr. Cordero-Roman, he was unaware of Unidos and its mission. Trustee Chaparro shared that Dr. Cordero-Roman introduced him to the various faculty and staff members at the University. He emphasized the work of Unidos and its benefits for students who have similar backgrounds. Trustee Chaparro recognizes Unidos for their dedication to maintaining an environment for Hispanic workers at Stockton.</p> <p>Interim Provost Levy reports new hires and title changes in the Division of Academic Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Kimberly Dickerson, Interim Dean, School of Education ● Roland Regos, Interim Assistant Dean, School of Education ● Dr. Alfred Mueller, Assistant Dean, William T. Daly School of General Studies ● Michael Palladino, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs <p>Michael Angulo, Vice President for Personnel, Labor & Government Relations, introduced and welcomed Amy Swan, Director of Government Relations. Miss Swan has over 20 years of experience in</p>

	<p>the legislature, working on policy, legislation, community outreach, and government relations.</p> <p>Dr. Peter Baratta, Chief Officer for Strategic Planning and Effectiveness, welcomed Jenny McNamara to the Institutional Research team as an Institutional Research Specialist.</p> <p>Dr. Michael Law, Associate Professor of Biology and Faculty Senate President, welcomed Dr. Michael Palladino on behalf of the faculty. He also thanks President Joe and Dr. Sass for working with faculty to foster a culture of dignity, respect, kindness, compassion, and civility.</p> <p>Dr. Monica Amadio and Dr. Christy Goodnight thanked the Board for encouraging the entrepreneurship program. Dr. Amadio recognized three outstanding students in the program: Jaylen Newton, Raheem Brown, and Gia Taylor.</p>
<p>New Business: Mission Moment</p>	<p>President Joe highlighted the Mission Moment, honoring the late Dr. Juanita High, who was deeply connected to Stockton University for over 40 years in roles such as Affirmative Action Director and Special Assistant to the President. Dr. High also contributed to the Foundation Board of Directors and the Council of Black Faculty and Staff and established the Dr. Juanita High Distinguished Student Book Award. She was recognized as a Trailblazer by the Stockton University Black Alumni Association and featured in a public mural titled Education Trailblazers by the Atlantic City Arts Foundation Mural Arts Project. President Joe invited Detty Maidanove-Exantus, a Stockton University junior majoring in political science, to provide remarks on how Dr. High’s lasting impact has affected her Stockton Journey.</p> <p>In her remarks, Ms. Maidanove-Exantus reflected on Dr. Juanita High’s significant contributions to education and social equity. Highlighting her role as the first Executive Director of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund, Dr. High is celebrated for her commitment to making education accessible to underrepresented students. In closing, Detty highlighted how Dr. High’s work helped her, a first-generation college student, overcome educational barriers and how every individual should commit themselves to carrying forth her legacy of empowerment and inclusion.</p> <p>Following Detty, Dr. Beverly Vaughn, Professor of Music, delivered an emotional tribute to Dr. Juanita High, affectionately referred to as Jua. She drew a parallel between her father, a bricklayer, and Dr. High’s foundational role at Stockton University, emphasizing her profound influence on the institution’s growth. Reflecting on her impact, particularly in Atlantic City and New Jersey, Dr. Vaughn highlighted her lasting contributions to the community.</p> <p>In closing her remarks, Dr. Vaughn presented a resolution authored by Dr. Patricia Reid-Merritt, on behalf of the Council of Black Faculty and Staff to the Campus Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and</p>

	Excellence. Dr. Vaughn movingly quoted lyrics thought to be Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s favorite, symbolizing Dr. High's lasting legacy of aiding others and creating significant positive change. The mission moment concluded with committee members receiving the resolution amidst applause, celebrating Dr. High's significant and lasting impact.
Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting	The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1st, 2024, 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 Davis and seconded by Trustee Gonsalves, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on May 1, 2024

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – OPEN SESSION
MARCH 19, 2024**

BOT Members Present	Nelida Valentin (<i>Chair</i>), Nancy Davis (<i>Vice Chair</i>), Jose Lozano (<i>Vice Chair</i>), Reverend Collins Days, Sr., Madeleine Deininger, Stanley Ellis, Sonia Gonsalves, Kristi Hanselmann, Michelle Keates, Amy Kennedy, Tim Lowry, Stephanie Lutz-Kock (joined the meeting at 1:41 p.m.), Fotios Tjournakaris, and President Joe Bertolino (<i>President, Ex-Officio</i>)
Absent	Michelle Keates, Ray Ciccone, and Shalayby Parsons
Additional Guests	Terricita Sass and Brian Kowalski
Item I.	Call to Order Chair Valentin called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
Item II.	Resolution to Meet in Closed Session Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Kennedy, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 1:03 p.m.
Item III.	Adjournment Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. TERRICITA SASS
Assistant Board Secretary

BRIAN KOWALSKI, Esq.
General Counsel

Approved by the Board of Trustees on May 1, 2024.

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

MEET IN CLOSED SESSION

- WHEREAS,** the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 1975, Ch. 231) permits public bodies to exclude the public from discussion of any matter as described in subsection 7(b) of the Act, provided that the public body adopts a resolution at a public meeting indicating its intent to hold a closed session;and
- WHEREAS,** subsection 7(b) of the Act permits a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses, among other things, personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; and public safety matters, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees shall meet in closed session to discuss personnel matters, terms and conditions of collective bargaining, real estate matters, pending or anticipated litigation, public safety matters, including recommendations of the President contained in the Personnel Resolution, and other matters permitted under subsection 7(b) of the Act; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the discussion of matters discussed in closed session may, or may not, be disclosed to the public during that portion of the meeting which convenes at 12:00 p.m.

May 1, 2024

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

**TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
IN HEMP AND CANNABIS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

- WHEREAS,** the University mission statement affirms a goal to “help our students develop the capacity for continuous learning and the ability to adapt to changing circumstances in a multicultural and interdependent world;”
- WHEREAS,** Stockton graduates enter an ever-changing world where hemp and cannabis businesses represent two of the fastest growing economic engines in the United States. At its core, hemp and cannabis business management education trains future employees, owners, and consultants to identify and embrace opportunities, develop market solutions, and manage and support highly regulated hemp and cannabis businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** the Stockton University’s School of Business is uniquely prepared to deliver high-quality, interdisciplinary, evidence-based undergraduate coursework in Hemp and Cannabis Business Management and
- WHEREAS,** such a program responds to the demonstrated market demands in the states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the surrounding regions and
- WHEREAS,** the shared governance bodies of the University recommend the proposed Bachelor of Science degree in Hemp and Cannabis Business Management to the Board of Trustees for its endorsement; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees approves and authorizes the Stockton University administration to notify the New Jersey higher education community of Stockton’s intent to offer the Bachelor of Science degree in Hemp and Cannabis Business Management and, subsequent to review by the Academic Issues Committee and the New Jersey Presidents’ Council, take all necessary steps to implement the academic offering.

May 1, 2024

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

CONTINUATION OF FY24 BUDGET INTO FY25

- WHEREAS,** on July 19, 2023, the Board of Trustees of Stockton University approved the FY24 operating budget; and
- WHEREAS,** the University's Division of Administration & Finance proposes a continuation of the FY24 operating budget into FY25 until the Board of Trustees approves the FY25 operating budget which is scheduled for July 17, 2024; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and approves the continuation of the FY24 operating budget into FY25 until the FY25 operating budget is approved by the Board of Trustees.

May 1, 2024

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

FY24-FY29 BID WAIVER CONTRACTS

- WHEREAS,** the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees of Stockton University finds the following purchases, contracts and agreements have met the criteria for award without public bid under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into a contract with the vendors indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendors & Categories

FY and Amount

Original Material & Supplies

Trane US Inc. (525005)

FY25-FY29: \$1,800,000

This bid waiver is for the purchase of Original Equipment Manufacturer parts provided by Trane US Inc. and for the repair, service, and maintenance of Trane HVAC control systems in Kramer Hall and on the Atlantic City campus and the Galloway campus, including all emergency service calls required to maintain equipment and building operations. The control systems must be maintained by a Trane manufacturer technician and Trane has an exclusive franchise agreement for its services. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[03]).

Utilities

Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA) (525002)

FY25-FY27: \$450,000

This bid waiver is for the supply of water to the Rothenberg Building and the Atlantic City campus. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[08]).

Insurance

**NJ State Colleges and Universities Risk Management Program
(The College of New Jersey) (525004)**

FY25: \$1,000,000

This bid waiver is for several pooled insurance policies with other State colleges and universities, and includes property coverage for the Galloway campus, executive auto liability, the State auto liability fund, athletic accident, student professional liability, and commercial crime. Stockton's policy fees are paid directly to The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) and represent an appropriate share of the premium policy costs. The payments made to TCNJ also cover Stockton's share of the salary and benefits for the NJ State College and Universities ("NJSCU") Risk Manager for oversight of the insurance policies. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[11]).

Data Processing Software

Ellucian CampusLogic, Inc. (525003)

FY25-FY29: \$828,960

This bid waiver from the Office of Financial Aid is for the use of the following CampusLogic software platforms: VirtualAdvisor, CampusCommunicator, StudentForms, ClearCost, and CampusMetrics Insights. Collectively, the software platforms aim to increase enrollment, assist

with financial aid, and maintain institutional regulatory compliance with federal and State student financial aid programs. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[19]).

Medicat Holdings LLC (525008)

FY25-FY27: \$183,335

This bid waiver from the Office of Student Affairs is for the Mediat Electronic Health Records software, a cloud-based solution utilized by the Office of Student Health Services and the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services. This software is specifically designed for campus health centers to manage health and mental health records. The system is consistent with HIPAA guidelines and supports state-required immunization compliance, electronic medical record storage, and patient scheduling and charting for both the Office of Student Health Services and the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[19]).

Anthology Inc. dba Anthology of New Jersey Inc. (525009)

FY25-FY29: \$998,000

This bid waiver from Information Technology Services is for Blackboard Learn, a web-based learning management software solution. Blackboard Learn has been an integral part of our academic infrastructure facilitating seamless communication, course management, and content delivery for our faculty, staff, and students. Its established integration within Stockton's systems minimizes disruption and ensures continuity of operations. Moreover, transitioning to an alternative platform would necessitate significant retraining efforts and result in additional costs. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[19]).

StarRez Inc. (525010)

FY25-FY27: \$330,650

This bid waiver will provide the Office of Residential Life access to StarRez, a cloud-based student housing software platform. The platform provides for extensive reporting, online housing applications, online roommate matching, meal plan selection, room selection, and core housing management. This bid waiver also includes recurring annual maintenance of the system. The StarRez system is integrated with other campus systems currently in use by the University and was initially acquired through the public bidding process. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[19]).

Contracts with Other Government Agencies

United States Postal Service (525006)

FY25-FY27: \$750,000

This bid waiver will provide the University with postal services, bulk mail, and business reply mail all managed through Post Offices located in Absecon, Atlantic City, Egg Harbor Township, Hammonton, and Pleasantville. Additionally, this bid waiver covers rental charges for postage meters located on the Galloway and Atlantic City campuses from the Postmaster General. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(b)).

Management Contracts

Follett Higher Education Group, LLC (525007)

FY25-FY29: \$4,600,000

This bid waiver will allow Stockton University faculty and staff to purchase textbooks, supplies, and educational items from the University bookstore on an as-needed basis. Additionally, this bid waiver accounts for the upfront purchases of all student regalia. The term of this bid waiver covers the remaining years of the Follett Higher Education Group's contract, which expires June 30, 2029. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[24]).

Textbooks, Subscriptions, & Other Educational Materials

National Library Relocations, Inc. (524025)

FY24-FY27: \$442,400

This bid waiver will allow National Library Relocations, Inc. (NLR) to pack, temporarily relocate, and store Stockton's library collections during the Richard E. Bjork Library renovation. Upon completion of the renovation, NLR will return the library collections and reshelve them according to project renovation plans. NLR will provide all necessary packing materials and other incidental supplies to fulfill the scope of services. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[06]).

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

FY24-FY25 INCREASE IN BID WAIVER CONTRACTS

- WHEREAS,** the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees of Stockton University has previously approved waivers of public bidding for the below named vendors; and
- WHEREAS,** the contracts with the below named vendors must be increased to accomplish the purposes of the bid waivers as specified below; and
- WHEREAS,** the increase in the contracts with the below named vendors requires the approval of the Board of Trustees; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President’s designee to enter into a contract with the vendors indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendors & Categories

Original Materials & Supplies

FY and Amount

Ideal Institute of Technology dba Ideal Education (524022)

Additional Amount Requested FY24-FY25: \$ 575,000
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY24: 200,000
New Recommended Contract Total FY24-FY25: \$775,000

This bid waiver increase is required as the scope of work has expanded based on the operational needs of the grant-funded project, Job Opportunities for Building Success. Ideal has taken on the responsibilities of arranging and facilitating paid internships and permanent employment placement for the program participants. Ideal has assumed case management responsibilities for participants, provides financial literacy coaching and career support services, and continues to gather and report the data required by the Department of Labor. The grant term has been extended to December 31, 2024. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[03]).

Educational Supplies/Books

Follett Higher Educational Group LLC (522017)

Additional Amount Requested FY24: \$ 125,000
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY22-FY24: 625,000
New Recommended Contract Total FY22-FY24: \$750,000

This bid waiver increase is required to cover the increased cost of educational items, supplies, and textbooks purchased by faculty and staff for University needs. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[21]).

May 1, 2024



MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe Bertolino, President
FROM: Terricita Sass, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff
DATE: May 1, 2024
SUBJECT: Recommendation to Revise/Delete University Policy

I am requesting a revision of the following policy as recommended by policy administrators:

- II-22 Posthumous Degree

I recommend that the Board of Trustees conduct a First Reading of the policy at the May 1, 2024, meeting, followed by approval of the recommendation for a Second Reading and a vote on the policy at the July 17, 2024, meeting of the Board.

Policy II-22: Posthumous Degree

Summary of Key Changes

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- Updated wording
- Faculty Senate edited criteria and process for requesting a posthumous degree
- Added cross-reference to Procedure 3930 Student Death Notification

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY



POLICY

Posthumous Degree

Policy Administrator: Provost
Authority: N.J.S.A. 18A:64:6
Effective Date: November 19, 1982; November 10, 2009; February 16, 2011; TBD
Index Cross-References: Procedure 3930 Student Death Notification
Policy File Number: II-22
Approved By: Board of Trustees

A degree may be awarded posthumously under the following conditions:

1. A deceased student is eligible for a posthumous degree if they have completed a minimum of 50% of their degree program and are in good standing.
2. A family member of the deceased student or other interested party may complete the posthumous degree form on the Registrar's website.
3. If a deceased student has completed less than 50% of their degree program or is not in good standing, the program faculty may be petitioned for posthumous degree conferral. This includes the program faculty agreeing to waive remaining degree requirements. The Provost has the final authority to review eligibility, waive any remaining degree requirements and confer the posthumous degree.
4. The posthumous degree may be noted in the commencement program but not on the diploma. A deceased student's next of kin will be afforded a choice as to whether they want the conferral listed in the commencement program.

Review History:

	Date
Policy Administrator	01/22/2022
AA Leadership	08/15/2022
Faculty Senate	02/16/2024
Divisional Executive	03/05/2024
Counsel	03/25/2024
Cabinet	04/04/2024
President	04/04/2024
Board of Trustees	

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF ACTION FOR UNIVERSITY POLICY

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the policies of Stockton University; and

WHEREAS, the policies of the University continue to be reviewed by appropriate offices and individuals, with updates and revisions proposed as needed; and

WHEREAS, the proposed development of policies of the University have been further reviewed utilizing input from interested parties; and

WHEREAS, the review of policies resulted in a recommendation to adopt the following updated policies on Second Reading:

- VI-56 Investment Policy

The Board of Trustees previously completed a First Reading of these policies; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the adoption of these policies as recommended on Second Reading.

May 1, 2024

Policy VI-56: Investment Policy

Summary of Key Changes

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- The Investment Policy and Investment Procedure were combined into one Investment Policy Statement and reorganized.
- Sections were added to address:
 - Rebalancing,
 - Spending Policy,
 - Risk Management,
 - Monitoring and Review,
 - Environmental, Social and Governance and Socially Responsible Investing Considerations, and
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice.
- Repetitive language was eliminated.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY



POLICY

Investment Policy

Policy Administrator: Vice President for Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Authority: N.J.S.A. 18A: 3B-6.g; 18A:64-6

Effective Date: July 7, 2005, February 21, 2007, September 10, 2008, February 16, 2011, July 6, 2011, May 8, 2013; July 6, 2016; TBD

Index Cross-References:

Policy File Number: VI-56

Approved By: Board of Trustees

Section 1: Purpose

To establish investment policies and objectives that govern the investment of Stockton University (the “University”) funds not required for operations. The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) established the Investment Committee (the “Committee”) to ensure the prudent investment of the University’s financial assets in accordance with the long-term objectives of the University. The University’s Investment Policy (“the Policy”) has been established to support the University’s long-term objectives and to provide a general framework for the management and evaluation of the University’s financial assets. The Policy shall be reviewed by the Committee and the Board on a periodic basis.

Section 2: Conflicts of Interest

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to avoid conflicts of interest in the performance of their duties and responsibilities, including the selection of Investment Advisors or Managers. Each member of the Board shall disclose the nature of any relationship with any Investment Advisor on the digital Personal Business and Relationship Disclosure form located in the trustee’s digital ethics file and recuse themselves from decisions where they have a conflict of interest. The Personal Business and Relationship Disclosure form is completed by all trustees and reviewed by the Stockton’s Ethics Liaison Officer or Alternate Ethics Liaison Officer and the New Jersey State Ethics Commission. No independent Investment Advisor retained by the University shall be a party to any transaction or have a financial or other interest in any Investment Manager providing services to the University or any fund in which the University has an investment.

Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities

Board of Trustees

The Board is the ultimate fiduciary for administration of the University's financial assets and is responsible for establishing the Investment Policy and objectives for the University's long-term investment portfolio. The Board has delegated certain of its responsibilities to the Committee and receives periodic reports and recommendations for asset management from the Committee. Additionally, it is the intent of the Board to comply with both N.J.S.A. 3B:20-11.1 *et seq.* known as the "Prudent Investor Act" and N.J.S.A.15:18-25 *et seq.* known as the "Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act".

Investment Committee

Oversight for the University's financial assets and portfolio ("Investment Fund") shall be provided by the Investment Committee, as established by the Board's Bylaws. The Committee's responsibilities include:

- Conduct a periodic review of the Investment Policy and provide recommended changes to the Board.
- Ensure the University's Investment Fund is managed within the stated objectives and policies established by the Board.
- Establish a target asset allocation range reflecting the risk tolerance of the Investment Fund.
- In consultation with the President and the President's designees, select or remove Investment Advisors and Investment Managers to achieve the University's objectives.
- Establish overall investment objectives and benchmarks, time horizon, risk tolerance and policies for the Investment Fund.
- Monitor the performance of the Investment Fund and all Investment Managers using specific and appropriate benchmarks on a regular basis. Monitor the Investment Advisors' compliance with the Investment Policy and benchmarks. Communicate any changes in the Investment Policy to the Investment Advisors.
- Ensure allocation of assets among asset classes, investment manager structure, and investment objectives and guidelines remain appropriate.
- Ensure investment management fees are reasonable.
- Report summary performance results and activity relative to guidelines and objectives of the long-term investment portfolio at regular meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- Select one or more Investment Advisors through a competitive process with input from the Vice President of Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer.
- Meet with Investment Advisors on a quarterly basis.

Staff

Though the Committee will oversee the management of the University's Investment

Fund, the Vice President of Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer, with approval of the President, shall monitor the Investment Advisors' compliance with the University's Investment Policy and shall communicate any changes in the Policy to the Investment Advisors. The Vice President of Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer shall be responsible for communicating with the Investment Advisors on regular and routine matters and will communicate with the Committee and Board as developments dictate throughout the year. Additional staff duties include the measurement, evaluation, and reporting on the Investment Advisors and overall portfolio performance and risk characteristics, as well as compliance with investment guidelines, process, and organization.

Investment Advisors

Investment Advisors are responsible for implementing the Investment Policy approved by the University and developing investment processes and procedures for asset allocation, risk management, investment manager selection and termination, monitoring and evaluation, and the identification of management strategies that will improve the investment efficiency of the Investment Fund. Investment Advisors may delegate to external Investment Managers responsibility for managing all or a portion of the financial assets in the Investment Fund. External Investment Managers will assume the roles and responsibilities as defined below and will act as a fiduciary with respect to the financial assets they manage on behalf of the University. Investment Managers will accept financial assets and invest in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, the Investment Manager's individual investment management agreements, and as applicable, the stated investment guidelines in this Policy.

Investment Advisors are delegated portfolio discretion, and their responsibilities include:

- Behave as a fiduciary to the Stockton University Investment Fund.
- Pursuant to the prudent expert standards, as defined in the Prudent Investors Act, invest University financial assets with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence that an expert investment manager, familiar with such matters and acting in a like capacity, would use in the investment and management of such assets.
- Allocate assets and adhere to the investment objectives, policies and guidelines prescribed by this Investment Policy and in accordance with applicable laws.
- Advise the Committee on all investment-related issues with regard to the Investment Fund.
- Select appropriate underlying Investment Managers and individual investments.
- Establish a portfolio that will allow a designated percentage of the assets to be available as cash within a designated period. The designation of percentages and time periods will be established by the Committee in consultation with the President and the President's designees.
- Report investment results to the Committee on a monthly basis.
- Meet with the Committee on a quarterly basis.
- Maintain compliance with the tenets of this Investment Policy.

- Assist in the development of the Investment Policy, asset allocation ranges, and benchmarks.

Investment Managers

Investment managers shall be appointed and monitored by the Investment Advisors, and their responsibilities include:

- Pursuant to the prudent expert standards, as defined in the Prudent Investors Act, invest University financial assets with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence that an expert investment manager, familiar with such matters and acting in a like capacity, would use in the investment and management of such assets.
- Report investment results to the Investment Advisors.
- Adhere to directives from the Investment Advisors or the University to liquidate or transfer assets.

Custodian Bank or Brokerage Firm

For all designated financial assets of the University held at a custodian bank or brokerage firm, the custodian shall:

- Provide safekeeping of securities, collect dividends and interest earned, make disbursements, receive cash flows as directed, and provide annual reporting upon request (e.g., System & Organization Controls (SOC) reporting, audited financial statements, credit rating reports).
- Provide to the University and the Investment Advisors complete and accurate accounting records including each transaction, a listing of all holdings valued in accordance with industry standards, income flow and cash flow by asset class, investment manager, and total assets.
- Monitor and reconcile all trading activity.
- Meet periodically with the University, the Committee and/or their designee to report on the University's investment activity and bank organizational issues.

Section 4: Investment Philosophy and Objectives

Investment Philosophy

The Board has established an investment philosophy that stresses a balance between risk and return. The goal is to generate returns that meet or exceed long-term return objectives.

Investment Objectives

The overall objective for the University is to increase the corpus of the Investment Fund over time in order to generate additional income for University operations.

- The primary benchmark is a conservative 50%/50% stock/bond portfolio.
- The secondary benchmark is to achieve a real (after inflation) return of Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 2.5% over long periods (approximately 15 years).
- Assume the level of downside risk associated with the stated level of return.
- Maximize total returns consistent with Board objectives.

Section 5: Strategic Asset Allocation Framework

The University recognizes strategic asset allocation is an important factor influencing long-term investment returns as well as the importance of dynamically adjusting the asset allocation when evolving market conditions present opportunities to preserve assets and/or potentially increase returns.

- **Time Horizon:** The University's purpose is to exist in perpetuity and, therefore, a long-term time horizon is appropriate; over the near- to medium-term, however, assets and liabilities will be matched appropriately given the uncertainty in fundraising and enrollment activities, the initiation of bond principal repayments, and the need to generate reliable cash flows in support of University objectives. While the University's time horizon is long, from time-to-time markets present opportunities in which the University will seek to take advantage.
- **Risk:** The focus is on overall portfolio risk, recognizing it will be mitigated by asset allocation. However, the University recognizes market-related risks are unavoidable as the Investment Fund pursues its investment strategies.
 - Net of Fee Returns: Active and passive investment strategies should be combined to maximize net of fee returns relative to risks incurred in seeking to outperform markets.
 - Taxes: The University is a tax-exempt organization. Unrelated business taxable income should be avoided.
 - Liquidity: The Board stresses managing portfolio risks associated with the pursuit of maximizing long-term return, along with the need for short-term liquidity.
- **Asset Allocation:** Limits for each of the Investment Advisors, which govern the Investment Fund's exposure to different asset categories, are established within broad ranges. The guide below outlines the asset class ranges.

The Investment Fund will contain a portfolio that will be broadly diversified among and within asset classes to limit volatility and the impact of material declines in any single market on total fund results.

It is also understood that short-term credit may be used to provide for the University's liquidity needs. A credit facility can be employed in order to limit the disruption of the long-term asset allocation.

Asset Allocation by Asset Class

Asset Class	Target	Range	
		Minimum	Maximum
Equity	50	35	65
Domestic equity	35	25	45
International equity	15	10	20
Fixed Income			
Domestic Fixed Income	45	30	60
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	5	>5
Non-Traditional Investments	0	0	30
Illiquid Alternatives	0	0	10
Liquid Alternatives	0	0	20

Definitions:

Liquid Investments are considered funds available in 30 days or less.

Illiquid Investments are available in more than 30 days.

1. The Portfolio will rarely be fully invested at the minimum or maximum limits, and some financial assets will be held in cash.
2. Long-term illiquid investments such as partnership investments in private equity, venture capital or real estate are investments where the investment manager draws down capital over time and returns capital at its own choosing.
3. Other diversification strategies such as hedge funds are redeemable by the investor (subject to liquidity and potential gate provisions).

In general, higher risk is associated with higher expected returns. The Board and the Committee regularly examine both the University's risk tolerance and risk preference when reviewing the Investment Policy. Risk tolerance characteristics include the following objectives:

- Maintaining adequate liquidity to meet the University's cash flow requirements.
- Achieving a return sufficient to preserve and enhance the long-term purchasing power of the University.
- Setting aside short-term funds to meet capital expenditure requirements.

Section 6: Rebalancing

Periodic rebalancing of the Investment Fund is necessary to keep allocations from

shifting too far from targets. Ranges are set at the portfolio and asset class level. Rebalancing may occur monthly or quarterly.

Section 7: Liquidity Policy

The University Investment Fund shall maintain a Contingency Reserve of cash and cash equivalents (defined as either Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insured deposits or Government Fixed Income money market mutual funds with overnight liquidity and non-floating net asset values) that can be utilized, under the direction of the President and Board, to meet capital or operating expenditure needs of the University. There is no obligation of the University to utilize these reserves, as the University does not need to meet any distribution requirements to meet tax regulations or to maintain its tax-exempt status. Advisors are expected to maintain at least 5% of their overall portfolio balance in cash and cash equivalents to create this Contingency Reserve.

In the event that the Contingency Reserve or a portion thereof is withdrawn from an Investment Advisors' portfolio, subsequently creating an asset allocation which does not meet the 5% guideline, the Investment Advisors will use best efforts to return their portfolios to compliance within 90 days. This time frame will also apply to any other asset class allocations which may have changed as a result of the withdrawal. The intent of the Contingency Reserve is to mitigate the potential negative implications of a cash withdrawal amidst volatile markets. In addition, a short-term credit facility has been established and can be drawn upon to provide needed liquidity and mitigate the effect of undesirable liquidations. The credit facility can be drawn upon subject to the approval of the President or the President's designees and must be reported at the next Investment Committee meeting.

The Contingency Reserve of 5% of the overall portfolio balance should be reviewed annually to ensure all liquidity needs of the University can be met.

Section 8: Spending Policy

Authorized withdrawals by the University from the Investment Fund in any fiscal year shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the average annual total market value of the Investment Fund over a trailing five-year period ending June 30th, excluding portfolio additions during the current fiscal year.

The spending limit is established by management and approved by the Board of Trustees as part of the annual budget approval process.

Exceptions to or changes in this spending policy shall be made only upon the recommendation of the President or President's designee and approval by the Board.

Section 9: Benchmarks

Primary Benchmark

Conservative 50% Equity/50% Fixed Income

Secondary Benchmark	Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 2.5%
Market Benchmark (Total Fund)	35% Russell 3000 Index 15% MSCI All-Country ex-USA Equity Index 45% Bloomberg U.S. Universal Bond Index 5% T-Bills
Underlying Investment Managers	As defined by each particular strategy.

Total Portfolio performance should be reported both gross and net of fees.

Section 10: Risk Management

Definition of Risk

The Committee realizes that there are many ways to define risk. It believes that any person or organization involved in the process of managing the University's Investment Fund understands how the University defines risk so that the financial assets are managed in a manner consistent with the Investment Fund's objectives and the investment strategy set forth in this Investment Policy. The Committee defines risk as:

1. Probability of not maintaining purchasing power over the investment time horizon.
2. Probability of not meeting the University's liabilities or cash flow requirements.
3. Probability of losing money over the Investment Fund's time horizon.

Risk Tolerance

Investment theory and historical capital market return data suggest that, over long periods of time, there is a relationship between the level of investment risk assumed and the level of return that can be expected. In general, in order to attain higher returns, one must accept higher risk (e.g., volatility of return).

Given this relationship between risk and return, a fundamental step in determining the Investment Policy for the Investment Fund is the determination of the amount of risk the Board and the Committee can tolerate.

A comfort level with investment risk influences how aggressively or conservatively a portfolio can be invested. Like a scale, risk needs to be balanced with the need for returns to achieve the investment goals. The Committee desires long-term investment performance sufficient to meet the objectives in relation to the University's definition of risk. The Committee understands that to achieve such performance the portfolio may experience periods of decline. The Committee further understands that in a severe market, the potential recovery period could be extensive.

The Committee has agreed that they could not tolerate any loss over the investment time horizon of five years. Should the average rate of return of the Investment Fund be worse than 0% over a five-year period, the Committee will conduct a thorough review of the Investment Fund, the Investment Advisors and the Investment Policy and make recommended changes, if any.

Risk Metrics

Clearly defined risk metrics are provided as guidance to the Investment Advisors in managing risk consistent with the University's objectives. The Committee will use the defined benchmarks to evaluate risk based on the following metrics (as such terms are defined in the Appendix hereto).

- Beta
- Volatility
- Tracking error
- Active share (where appropriate)
- Value at risk
- Maximum draw down
- Time period over which risk (and performance) will be measured should be fiscal year-to-date: 1-year, 3-year and 5-year periods.

Section 11: Monitoring and Review Process

Investment Advisor Review

Performance reports for the Investment Fund shall be compiled at least quarterly and communicated to the Committee for review. The investment performance of the total portfolio in the Investment Fund, as well as asset class components, will be measured against commonly accepted performance benchmarks (as listed in this Investment Policy). Consideration shall be given to the extent to which the investment results are consistent with the investment objectives, goals, and guidelines as set forth in this Policy. The Committee intends to evaluate the performance of the Investment Fund over a three-to-five-year period, and will consider the following:

1. Investment performance, which is significantly less than anticipated given the discipline employed and the risk parameters established, or unacceptable justification of poor results.
2. Failure to adhere to any aspect of this Investment Policy, including communication and reporting requirements.
3. Significant qualitative changes to the investment management organization.

The Committee also will review regularly with the Investment Advisors the performance, risk metrics, personnel, strategy, research capabilities, organizational and business matters, and other qualitative factors that may impact their ability to achieve the desired investment results.

The Committee will meet on a quarterly basis with the Investment Advisors to review investment results, expected performance, economic outlook, current strategy, organizational characteristics, and investment approach. The Committee may approve investment objectives and guidelines, contract amendments, and/or other special requests of the Investment Advisors. The Committee will review the Investment Advisors, net of fees, against the market benchmark stated herein.

Investment Policy Review

To assure continued relevance of this Investment Policy, the Committee will review this Policy every three years.

Section 12: Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Considerations

The Board’s Investment Policy seeks to maximize long-term investment return for the University’s Investment Fund by identifying appropriate allocations of investments balanced by risk and sector consistent with a prudent investment strategy. The Board may consider ESG and SRI factors in hiring Investment Managers and making its investment decisions only to the extent that environmental, social and/or governance factors have a material impact upon the return and risk of an investment.

Section 13: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice

The Board and the University are committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice as evidenced by the BOT Resolution on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice and the University’s Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. It is the Board’s goal to reflect this commitment in all aspects of our operations and partnerships, including the investment process.

Section 14: Unique Circumstances

Proxy Voting Policy

Investment Advisors are delegated the responsibility to vote for mutual fund proxies. Investment Managers are delegated with the responsibility of voting proxies in the best interests of the University’s investment portfolio.

Review History:

	Date
Policy Administrator	01/16/2024
Divisional Executive	01/16/2024
General Counsel	01/18/2024
Cabinet	02/01/2024

President	02/07/2024
Board of Trustees	

Appendix: Risk Metric Definitions

Beta measures the amount of systematic risk an individual security or sector has relative to the entire stock market.

Volatility or standard deviation, a proxy for the riskiness of a portfolio, measures the fluctuations in the daily returns.

Tracking error measures the standard deviation of excess returns compared with a common benchmark.

Active share is a measure of the difference between a portfolio's holdings and its benchmark index.

The **Value-at-risk** metric examines the potential of extreme loss in the value of a portfolio over a certain timeframe and for a given level of confidence.

Maximum drawdown measures the greatest peak-to-trough decline that an investment strategy experiences over time.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

May 1, 2024

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts and approves the following recommendations concerning personnel actions, subject to and contingent on the appropriation of funds by the State of New Jersey and receipt by the University