



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

PLACE: Wolstein Center, Fourth Floor, West Wing.

PRESENT: Chair David M. Reynolds, Trustees Thomas W. Adler, Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia DePompei, Paul J. Dolan, Stephen F. Kirk, Lisa K. Kunkle, Alan G. Starkoff, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Trustee and CSU Foundation Chair Thomas E. Hopkins; Student Trustees Arlindo Ahmetaj and Brittany N. Sommers; Faculty Trustees Dr. Robert A. Krebs and Dr. Adam Sonstegard; President Harlan M. Sands; and General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Provost and Chief Academic Officer Laura Bloomberg; Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer David Jewell; Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management Jonathan Wehner; Vice President of Advancement Julie Rehm; and Heather A. Link, Assistant Board Secretary.

Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum. He noted that the first items on the agenda are the approval of the minutes of the January 27, 2022 meeting and the February 16, 2022 special meeting. Trustee Kunkle moved the approval, and Trustee Adler seconded the motion; Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and the minutes were approved.

Chair Reynolds remarked that the next two items of business were bittersweet because they recognize the efforts of two trustees whose terms are expiring. The Chair acknowledged long-time trustee Tom Adler as extraordinary for his impact on Cleveland State University, noting his support of giving back to the University as well as his and his family's personal philanthropic contributions to the University.

The following resolution was moved by Trustee Cosgrove, and seconded by Trustee Kirk. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll, which was unanimously approved with applause.

Trustee Adler acknowledged the recognition, saying in part, how important Cleveland State University is to the community and region, and that all of the accomplishments that have occurred or are in planning phases, are only scratching the surface of the University's future potential.

RESOLUTION 2022-16

RECOGNITION OF THOMAS W. ADLER FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ON THE CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, Thomas W. Adler was appointed by Governor Ted Strickland to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees in 2009 for a partial term, and reappointed to a full nine-year term in 2013 by Governor John R. Kasich, and has fulfilled his term with honor for thirteen years; and

WHEREAS, he served for ten years as a Board Officer, as well as the Chair of the Advancement and Governance Committees, ensuring that the University operates with integrity and distinction, while promoting opportunity and unity, to ensure student success; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adler has an extensive relationship with Cleveland State University, enriching the civic and philanthropic fabric of the campus community, including active participation as a former member of the Cleveland State University Foundation Board of Directors and as a member of the visiting committees of the Monte Ahuja College of Business and the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adler has always championed giving back to the University, no matter the size of the gift, especially evident in his seven years of service as a co-chair of the signature fundraising event, *Radiance: Realizing the Promise*, resulting in record-breaking proceeds and funding more than 1,900 scholarships to help students graduate; and

WHEREAS, his family's legacy will continue at Cleveland State University, as evidenced by the naming of the Student Center atrium as the "Joanie and Tom Adler Atrium"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adler was honored in 2018 when he was awarded the President's medal, CSU's most prestigious non-academic recognition, to recognize his generosity, expertise, and support of students and the University at large:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees acknowledges with sincere appreciation the dedication and contributions of Mr. Thomas W. Adler, to the State of Ohio, Cleveland State University, and the greater Cleveland community, and gratefully anticipates his continued involvement with the University in the years to come.

Chair Reynolds asked for a motion to approve the resolution recognizing student Trustee Arlindo Ahmetaj, whose term expires on May 1, and noted his active participation on the Board and dedicated student government service. The motion was made by Trustee DePompei, and seconded by Trustee Kirk. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll, which resulted in the approval of the following resolution.

Trustee Ahmetaj thanked his fellow Trustees noting how important CSU has been to him personally, having immigrated to the United States seven years ago, and spending six of those years at the University.

RESOLUTION 2022-17

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE ARLINDO AHMETAJ

WHEREAS, Arlindo Ahmetaj was appointed by Governor Mike DeWine to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees as a Student Trustee on July 27, 2020, for a term ending on May 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ahmetaj, a proud CSU Viking, has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, having received his undergraduate business degree with a major in business economics and a double minor in finance and health care management in 2019, and continued on at the Monte Ahuja College of Business and will graduate this spring earning his Master of Business Administration degree; and

WHEREAS, a native of Albania, Arlindo values and is grateful for his CSU student experience, as demonstrated by his leadership and past service as treasurer of the Student Government Association and also as treasurer and then president of the Tau Sigma national honor society; and

WHEREAS, during his service as a student trustee, Mr. Ahmetaj participated in Board of Trustees activities and served on the Financial Affairs, the Academic Affairs and Student Success and the Athletics committees, and always ensured that the student perspective and voice was brought to the table; and

WHEREAS, Arlindo served as a student trustee while successfully balancing his full-time employment as a staff accountant for the City of Cleveland, diligently pursuing his graduate degree, and in partnership with his wife Kristina, attentively raising their son Arvin:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the Cleveland State University community, the Board of Trustees expresses deep appreciation to Mr. Arlindo Ahmetaj for his dedicated student service and contributions in support of the University and campus community, and extends to him best wishes for continued success as he graduates on May 14, 2022 and begins a new career as a financial analyst with Berry Global.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Reynolds congratulated the basketball programs for their successes on and off the court this season, and encouraged Trustees to attend the Konstantinos Athletics Academic Honors Luncheon on April 7. He acknowledged spring break week, and commended the CSU leadership team on their continued efforts to make campus safe, noting the change of policy regarding masks on campus where they are no longer required in many situations, but they are still required in classrooms and labs.

The Chair called attention to the Veteran Student Success Program and Veteran and Military Success Center for their work to support students who are veterans; CSU has been awarded Military Friendly School Silver Status for commitment to our service members.

Chair Reynolds reminded Trustees that commencement will take place on May 14 and will be at the Wolstein Center, including a morning and an afternoon ceremony. Trustees are also invited to participate in the Law School Commencement ceremony on May 15.

He also had several other reminders for Trustees: voting trustees must complete the required Financial Disclosure Statements filing with the Ohio Ethics Commission, due on Monday, May 16; all Trustees are asked to complete a board evaluation and statement of commitment and responsibilities; and a Governance Committee meeting will be convened in April.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Sands welcomed the Trustees and public guests, noting that while it may be a quiet week on campus during Spring break, his report will highlight some of the exciting activity that is ongoing throughout the university.

The President reported on the case for CSU 2.0, noting the importance of Cleveland State in fulfilling a critical dual mission of providing upward mobility and conducting impactful research (Brookings Institution rankings). He referenced a responsibility to the City of Cleveland, the region and beyond, and the need to educate students for a post-pandemic world.

President Sands reiterated an enrollment goal of 20,000 students by the year 2025, including a transformed campus, thriving research, and a distinguished national brand. An increased investment in marketing to freshman has seen early success, and freshmen enrollment is ahead of last year, he noted.

The President provided relevant legislative updates including on House Bill 327, noting that the IUC President and its members are working jointly against the Bill. He also noted that Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose recently visited the Monte Ahuja College of Business and that Governor DeWine will be giving the State of the State address on March 23.

President Sands congratulated the CSU basketball teams, noting their competitiveness in tournaments, and dedication to their education. He also noted with thanks, that the University's Giving Day fundraiser resulted in a record-breaking amount (\$540 thousand) from a record-breaking number of donors (2,984).

President Sands concluded his report acknowledging how wonderful it is to return to in-person events including a recent career fair, NBA All-Star weekend, and alumni events; he is planning to give a State of the University address this spring.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Kunkle reported that the Financial Affairs Committee did not meet this month, and that a financial report was included in the distributed board materials. She noted that Sr. Vice President Jewell was in attendance for questions regarding the report.

Chair Kunkle briefed Trustees that the report included an update on student credit hours for the current academic year and a comparison to last year's student credit hour numbers; year-over-year total student credit hours decreased by 2.31% but that student credit hours are trending within .5% of budget. She reported that FY22 fiscal operations including that tuition and fee revenue continue to trend in line with Student Credit Hours, and that compensation and benefits continue to trend on target with the budget.

Also included in the materials was a cash and investment report; investment allocations of both CSU and Euclid Avenue Development Corporation (EADC) are within policy ranges, she reported.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee Chair Cosgrove updated the Trustees on the Committee's morning meeting, which included three items that were approved and are recommended for full Board approval on today's consent agenda. These include approval of promotion and tenure for faculty and librarians, and a resolution regarding revisions to the faculty senate bylaws.

Prior to the meeting, a light breakfast was held with the Committee and faculty and librarians who have fulfilled the requirements for promotion and tenure. Provost Bloomberg provided a brief overview of candidates including their research fields and other notable efforts.

Chair Cosgrove reported that the committee was updated regarding the CSU 2.0 four strategic themes: seeking distinction as a leading public urban research university; strengthen anchor mission/become a beacon institution; differentiate on student success and engaged learning; and build financial strength and strengthen the campus community.

He noted that the committee had planned to meet in executive session, however that was removed from the agenda due to time constraints.

REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION

CSU Foundation Chair Hopkins reported that plans for the May 11 Radiance fundraiser are well underway; corporate sponsorships and individual gifts are arriving, and all indications point to meeting the fundraising goal. This year's honoree, Nancy McCann, also brings a network of supporters for the cause. Trustee Hopkins thanked the Board for their support of the event, and acknowledged Trustee Adler for his long-time co-leadership and patronage of Radiance, noting that the event flourished under his watch.

Vice President Rehm reported on a successful alumni event held recently in Naples, Florida, and a successful Giving Day which garnered support from alumni, faculty, staff, students, and parents. She reported that \$17.6 million has been raised this year to date, ahead of the year-end goal, and that alumni support has increased; she noted that Cleveland State now has approximately 145 thousand alumni.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Reynolds stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda, and as a result of the committee meeting held earlier in the day, there are three items included today. He asked if there were any items that Board members wished to discuss; there were none.

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Adler moved, and Trustee Kirk seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Faculty

Promotion and Tenure Recommendations; Librarian Promotion Recommendations; and Approving Revisions to the Faculty Senate Bylaws Policy 3344-13-06 Standing Committees.

A roll call vote was taken by the Board Secretary. Voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The consent agenda was approved.

RESOLUTION 2022-18

PROMOTION AND TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, the individuals in the attached exhibit have been reviewed by the appropriate Department and College committees, the Chairperson, the Dean, the University Peer Review Committee (where appropriate), the Provost and the President; and

WHEREAS, they have fulfilled the requirements for promotion and the award of tenure as set forth in Article 12 of the Agreement between Cleveland State University and the CSU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, or in the case of the College of Law faculty, of Rule 3344-11-03 of the CSU Faculty Personnel Policies; and

WHEREAS, an external search was conducted to fill the position of the Chair and Full Professor with tenure in the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the Washkewicz College of Engineering and the credentials of Dr. Brian Davis were reviewed by the appropriate faculty hiring committee in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the Chair, the Dean, the Provost and the President:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the promotions to the rank of Professor, promotions to the rank of Clinical Professor with tenure and promotions to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure effective at the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year for those individuals as recommended; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Brian Davis in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, retroactively effective on the first day of his full-time employment, February 4, 2019.

RESOLUTION 2022-19

PROMOTION OF LIBRARIANS RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, the individuals in the attached exhibit have been reviewed by the appropriate Personnel Action Committee for Promotion of the Michael Schwartz Library, the Director of the Michael Schwartz Library, the Provost and the President; and

WHEREAS, they have fulfilled the requirements for promotion as set forth in Section 3344-62-03 (4) of the Librarians' Personnel Policies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the promotions to the rank of Librarian and the promotion to the rank of Senior Assistant Librarian, effective July 1, 2022, for those individuals as recommended.

RESOLUTION 2022-20

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS POLICY 3344-13-03 STANDING COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, it is necessary to revise Policy 3344-13-03 Standing Committees of the Faculty Personnel Policies to reflect the addition of a new standing committee for undergraduate student success, as well as to clarify and update other sections of the Policy; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Policy revisions have been approved by the Faculty Senate on April 28, 2021, and pursuant to the University's Formulation and Issuance of Policies Policy, the revised Policy was posted for the required thirty-day comment period and will become final and will be filed with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission, as required:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revisions to Policy 3344-13-03 Standing Committees of the Faculty Affairs Personnel Policies; and further instructs the University Administration to file the revised Policy with the Ohio Legislative Services Commission after which said Policy shall become final, subject to any changes or revisions deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Reynolds moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to consider personnel matters involving the compensation and contract of a public employee, business sensitive trade secret matters required by law to be kept confidential and for the purpose of discussing imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel. Trustee Cosgrove seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Starkoff, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried.

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting trustees, the community trustee, President Sands, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 12:10 p.m.

At 1:30 p.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Governance Committee Chair Adler announced that he, Trustee Whiting, and Trustee Kirk will serve as this year's nominating committee and will bring a slate of officers for election to the May annual meeting; furthermore, the Governance Committee will be convened in April and that all members of the Board are welcome to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Reynolds reminded Trustees that following the adjournment there would be a group photo, and following that, a meeting of the EADC voting members would be held with Vice President Jewell. The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED ON MAY 19, 2022

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

APPROVED ON MAY 19, 2022

David M. Reynolds
Chair, Board of Trustees