

Bridgewater State University
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 23, 2023
Heritage Room, Maxwell Library
Hybrid

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Alexander (Virtual), Battaglino, Caulfield (Virtual), Longo, Oliari, Prince, Taylor and Turchon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustees Giles, Kopellas, MacCormack

ALSO PRESENT: President Clark; EVP and Provost Ismaili; Chief of Staff Leuenberger; Vice Presidents Gentlewarrior, Jason, Jean, Powers, Shropshire, Zuromski; Special Advisor deMacedo; CDO Oliver, Acting Vice President Bell

Under the order suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, as

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

updates were provided. A timeline was presented and they are currently working on Strategic Plan 2.0 to be completed by the end of the Fall semester.

(Attachment)

President's Expenses and Upcoming Travel (Nov 2022-Jan 2023)

This was provided as an information item.

(Attachment)

Student Trustee Guidelines

The guidelines were presented as an information item. The criteria for serving as a student trustee was updated and further outlined.

(Attachment)

Executive Session Minutes

Executive Session minutes from March 16, 2022 and June 9, 2022 were brought as an information item. The minutes shall remain sealed.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Full Proposal for MS in Mathematics

Vice Chair Caulfield noted Provost Ismaili walked the Committee through the process of submitting a new proposal. The proposal had full approval throughout the process. Provost Ismaili thanked the department of Mathematics, College of Graduate Studies and the College of Science and Math. The content speaks to the market demand.

On motion duly made and seconded (Caulfield, Alexander) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of a new major to the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (DHE) for a M.S. degree in Mathematics at Bridgewater State University as recommended by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated February 2, 2023.

(Attachment)

Divisional Priorities (Ismaili/Oravec)

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VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

Spring Residence Hall Occupancy Report

Vice Chair Caulfield noted housing is currently at 84.5% of design occupancy, which is an increase over last year. Student interest is rebounding from the pandemic and residence life staff is pivoting to meet the needs of the students.

(Attachment)

Fall 2023 Admissions/Admission Initiatives

Vice Chair Caulfield noted undergraduate admissions are trending well; slightly behind first year applications. The team is implementing initiatives to drive this number up. Vice President Jean stated they continue to see strong numbers for admittance and early deposits. This year, they are implementing a merit scholarship strategy and awarded more than 3,700 merit scholarships. There is an increase in transfer numbers which is encouraging, as well as an increase for applications and acceptances. For Fall 2023, the numbers are strong for graduate applications (up 5.29%) and acceptances (up 9.5%).

(Attachment)

FINANCE AND OPERATIONSContract Approval for JJ Cardosi, Inc

Vice President Shropshire noted this is a construction contract for the Hunt Hall elevator which has been a long-term need for the building.

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Prince) it was that the Board of Trustees approves a contract with JJ Cardosi, Inc as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated February 2, 2023.

(Attachment)

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

FY2023/Q2 Trust Funds Report

Vice President Shropshire spoke about an adjustment in the occupancy report which affected the projections. The report has been adjusted for the full Board's consideration. They will look to improve processes before determining a projection.

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Oliari) it was that the Finance and Operations Committee approve the FY2023/Q2 Trust Funds Report as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated February 15, 2023.

(Attachment)

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

FY2023/Q2 Budget Report

Vice President Shropshire stated enrollment is slightly higher than

projected. There are salary savings due to turnover. Savings will be built into the operating budget. Money will be invested in one-time projects.

(Attachment)

FY2023/Q2 Contracts Report

The quarterly contracts report was provided as an information item.

(Attachment)

FY2022 ACFR Report (Annual Comprehensive Financial Report)

Vice President Shropshire stated this comprehensive report is submitted every year and BSU has received 14 years of certifications of excellence. The report tells the financial story of BSU and the audit is embedded into the report. BSU is the only public higher education institution that submits this

memorandum from President Clark dated February 16, 2023.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Battaglino, Prince) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of an Honorary Degree to Edward M. Lambert, Jr. at the University’s 2023 Undergraduate Commencement Convocation on May 13, 2023, as recommended by the Honorary Degree Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated February 16, 2023. (Attachment)

Distinguished Service Award/Undergraduate Ceremony (Rateau)
Noube Rateau, from Brockton, is a film maker, a BSU graduate and has won a New England Emmy Award. He has directed several powerful documentaries tackling deeply divisive issues from policing to immigration to fathering.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Oliari) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of a Distinguished Service Award to Noube Rateau at the University’s 2023 Undergraduate Commencement Convocation on May 13, 2023, as recommended by the Honorary Degree Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated February 16, 2023. (Attachment)

OTHER
BUSINESS

None

VOTED

On motion duly made and seconded (Prince, Turchon) it was that the meeting be adjouCID 28Rn (e)4 (s)-1 (i)-(6e9o8Rn (e)4 (s)-1 (i)-(6e9o8Rn (e)