

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 20, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Monir Ahmed

Mr. Jonathan Duran

Ms. Jennifer Haynes

Dr. Gerald Jones

Mr. Neil Markley

Dr. Karen Moranski

Dr. Kyuho Lee

Dr. Mario Perez

Ms. Kim Purdy

Ms. Vanessa Sanchez

Dr. John Urbanski

Mr. Fred Vaske

Ms. Amanda Visser

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Emily Cutrer

GUESTS:

Andy Maffia

Micah Reyes

Jessica Way

AGENDA

**24.00 Call to Order**

Mr. Ahmed called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

**24.01 Seating of the Board and Introductions**

Mr. Ahmed sat the board and, with no new members, no introductions were made.

**24.01 Committee Appointments**

Mr. Ahmed reviewed the committee member appointments.

**24.03 Approval of the March 29, 2024 and June 28, 2024 Minutes**

Mr. Ahmed brought attention to the minutes that were sent out prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved.

**24.04 President’s Report**

Dr. Cutrer was unable to attend the meeting, so no report was provided.

**24.05 University Report**

Dr. Moranski reported the campus continues to work on our budget. We experienced a 3% cut from the system due to lower enrollment. We are anticipating an 8% cut due to State budget shortfall. We also anticipate a 5% cut the both of the following 2 years due to our continued enrollment shortfall. New student enrollment is up this year but FTFY is down. On July 1 parts of the academic reorganization were implemented and the reorganization will be continue throughout the year.

**24.06 Vice President for Student Affairs Report**

Dr. Jones reported that the Student Health Center and CAPS are preparing for reaccreditation. After a period of no activity, the campus received a large PUERTA grant. We have had 31 care reports and 19 basic need cases. We are working to launch Black Student Success, an initiative from the CO report that came out last year. We have 2049 total student residents in housing this Fall.

**24.07 Vice President for Advancement Report**

Dr. Perez reported that we ended the fiscal year at 65% of our goal due to leadership changes. Advancement hosted 44 events for over 3200 attendees last year. Giving Day was another great success. Our endowment value continues to grow now over $70 million. The Center for Health and Behavioral Sciences is starting to gain momentum.

**24.08 Associated Students Report**

Ms. Sanchez reported that our basic needs team has been receiving an influx of users at Lobo’s Pantry. They are working with campus garden for fresh veggies and working on “off time” schedule to fill orders and meet student needs. They have also seen an influx of participation at events.

**24.09 Report from SSU Vice President for Administration and Finance/Chief Financial Officer and Chair of SSE Board of Directors**

Mr. Ahmed reported that the Chancellor’s Office put together teams to go to legislature to advocate for funding priorities. Dr. Moranski is going to trustees meeting. The CSU has huge increase in mandatory costs, resulting in unfunded costs at the campus level. The system implemented a Time, Place, Manner policy in response to legislative action. The campus is continuing to look at ways to realign services and reduce expenses to deal with the University’s ongoing budget shortfall.

**24.10 Chief Operating Officer’s Report**

Mr. Markley reported that the Seawolf Bundle continues to reduce the cost of learning material while students also take advantage of the opt-out option. As part of an effort to reduce expenses, we looked to further reduce our cost of goods sold by working directly with a group purchasing organization, instead of an intermediary. After analysis, we determined our current cost of goods is excellent and no further savings would be derived. Appetize, our point-of-sale system has been purchased, yet again, by another vendor. The vendor has indicated on-going support of Appetize will end in the near future and we will be required to purchase their system or migrate to another vendor. Both could result in new capital expenditures and/or higher system costs. Our liability and property insurance has not gone up but we had to pay one-time fee to replenish the AORMA reserves.

**24.11 Chief Financial Officer’s Report**

Mr. Visser reported that the Audit and Finance Committees met and reports will be done later in the meeting.

**24.12 Conflict of Interest Presentation; Non-Profit Integrity Act, Compliance, and Insurance**

Mr. Olsan reviewed the document sent out prior to the meeting. Mr. Markley will send is out via Adobe Sign. Mr. Olsan reminded the Board that the Organization does have insurance that includes coverage of board members.

**24.13 ACTION ITEM: Review and Acceptance of the 2023/2024 Audited Financial Statements**

Mr. Vaske introduced Andy Maffia, with our auditor Aldrich. Mr. Maffia reviewed the report provided to the Audit Committee offering a positive, unmodified opinion. They recommend the finance committee look at a custodial risk policy. Mr. Vaske encouraged the board and campus leadership to read the management discussion and analysis for a good perspective. Mr. Vaske moved to approve. This was seconded by Dr. Urbanski. There was no discussion and it was unanimously approved.

**24.14 ACTION ITEM: Approval of the 2024/25 Budget**

Mr. Ahmed started the conversation by reminding the board that the University has to have some services for basic operations, Culinary Services is considered essential to University operations and therefore needs to be a conversation with the University cabinet on funding options. Mr. Markley reviewed the draft fiscal year 2024/25 budget. He touched on the new Prelude lease but noted most of the revenue will pass through to Housing and the effect on the budget still unknown. Mr. Markley noted that the Finance Committee continues to be concerned about the ongoing deficit and suggested we not pay rent should we not be able to come to agreement with the University on a deficit reduction plan. There were questions from the board regarding the operation of Prelude, what are we doing to better meet students changing tastes, and the potential of reducing menu items to create efficiency. Mr. Ahmed noted at a previous institution they borrowed money from the system with the agreement that repayment would begin when dining was profitable. Mr. Vaske again suggested selling the land or asking the University to pay for the land, as they are requiring SSE to hold it. Ms. Haynes made the motion to vote. This was seconded by Dr. Moranski. The vote to approve the budget was unanimous.

**24.15 Other Non-Action Items**

There were none

Mr. Ahmed adjourned the meeting at 11:01 am.