



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
DRAFT**

Meeting Held at University of New Hampshire  
Room 330 Memorial Union Building, Durham, NH  
(March 20, 2025)

## **Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Governance Committee members present at meeting location: Committee Chair Kass Ardinger, Jamie Burnett, Cathy Green, Patrick Griffin, and David Westover. Others participating: USSB Member Tim Hoheneder, and USNH General Counsel Chad Pimentel.

**Call to Order:** At 10:53 am, Committee Chair Ardinger called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient to do business.

**Approval of Minutes:** By motion made by Trustee Westover and seconded by Trustee Green, the Committee unanimously voted as follows to approve the minutes of its October 24, 2024 meeting:

**VOTED,** the Governance Committee hereby approves the minutes of its October 24, 2024 meeting as presented in the materials distributed with the agenda to this meeting.

**Planning of Annual Trustee Self-Evaluation and Survey:** The Committee reviewed the survey forms used last year and approved their use again this year.

**Review of Enterprise Risk Management Items Assigned to Committee:** General Counsel Chad Pimentel presented reports on the External Pressure and Governance risks identified in the System's annual Enterprise Risk Management plan. Mitigation strategies identified by the Presidents' Council were effective in addressing risks related to external protests and disruptions on campus. However, in 2025 external risks related to federal regulatory changes and possible reductions in federal and state funding have increased significantly. Direct mitigation of these risks is difficult, but the Committee noted that these risks must be taken into account in strategic planning.

**Update on USSB and Trustee Election Processes:** These processes are ongoing across the institutions. However, trustees noted (with input from USSB Member Hoheneder) that the student trustee processes are sometimes significantly different across institutions and can be challenging to navigate. The Committee plans to review the student trustee election processes during its October meeting.

**Diversity on the Board of Trustees (Standing Item):** Consideration of this item was deferred.

**Review of Committee Workplan/New Business:** The Committee determined that at its June meeting it should review the Board Bylaw on trustee attendance at Board meetings and directed the General Counsel to provide data regarding trustee attendance.

**Adjourn:** At 11:55 am, Chair Ardinger called for further business and, hearing none, adjourned the meeting.