



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE**  
**OCTOBER 24, 2024**

KEENE STATE COLLEGE  
KEENE, NH

MEETING MINUTES  
*Approved March 20, 2025*

---

**Attendance**

Committee members present: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, committee chair; Wayne Semprini, committee vice chair; MJ Condon; Anthony DiVito; Ethan Dupuis; Frank Edelblut; Isabella Falcetti; Nathan Fredrickson; Tim Hoheneder; Shawn Jasper; Mackenzie Murphy; Sarah Thornhill, Christiana Thornton; David Westover; Matthew Winders

Other trustees present: Cassandra Arding; Maureen Beauregard; Donald Birx; James Burnett, III; Elizabeth Chilton; James Gray, designee for the president of the NH Senate; Cathy Green; George Hansel; James Gerry, Governor Sununu's designee; Kevin Knarr; Rick Ladd, designee for the speaker of the NH House of Representatives; Brian McCabe; Joel Nkounkou (remote); Peter Paul; Michael Pilot; Gregg Tewksbury; Melinda Treadwell

Other participants: Nathaniel Bowditch, Kimberly DeRego, Wayne Jones, Ashby Kinch, Joanne Landers, MB Lufkin, Kirsti Sandy, Brian Walker

---

**Call to Order**

Committee Chair Eastwood called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She announced the appointment of Trustee Murphy as committee vice chair for systems collaboration, and she called attention to the updated NH occupational projections.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Trustee Thornton, duly seconded, and approved.

*VOTED, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the minutes of the June 27, 2024, meeting.*

**Approval of UNH Faculty Promotion**

Moved by Trustee Thornton, duly seconded, and approved.

*VOTED, on recommendation of President Chilton, that the Educational Excellence Committee approve the promotion of one individual to the rank of professor at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material.*

**Information**

Academic Program Changes

UNH Additions: Education Doctorate, EdD  
Neuroscience and Behavior, Accelerated BS-MS  
Neuroscience and Behavior, PhD

UNH Deletion: Education Specialist, EdS

### **University System Student Board (USSB)**

Student trustees and USSB representatives presented information about upcoming campus events and welcomed attendance by trustees. The information was well received, and it was suggested that notice of campus events be regularly/periodically communicated to trustees and potentially to state legislators. The students also presented information about student transportation challenges in terms of reliability, safety, and parking, as a retention factor. Discussion addressed the universal nature of transportation issues on college campuses, with advice to explore solutions that have been successfully implemented by other institutions.

### **Student Success and Well-being**

The provosts reported on fall enrollment levels, noting a decrease in first-generation students attributed to the delayed FAFSA redesign and rollout. The vice presidents for enrollment management followed with a presentation on enrollment strategy. They described differentiated institutional missions and student profiles and discussed opportunities for growing net tuition revenue through nonresident, nontraditional, and graduate student enrollment. They emphasized that this work would occur while continuing to vigorously recruit NH high school and transfer students, working closely with NH's Community College System, Department of Education, and middle and high schools. Chair Eastwood expressed interest in learning more about the institutions' middle school outreach.

### **Graduate Student Presentation**

Provost Bowditch, Interim Provost Sandy, Ashby Kinch, vice provost and dean of the UNH Graduate School, and Brian Walker, director of the PSU Holmes Center for School Partnerships and Educator Preparation, presented information about graduate enrollment trends, the value of graduate education and return on investment, and opportunities for market-driven program development and enrollment growth across the system. Dean Kinch additionally underscored the role of PhD students in advancing UNH's research mission and driving an innovation economy.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.