BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
October 24-25, 2019  
Keene State College  
Keene, New Hampshire  
Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2019 – Morning Session

In Attendance: Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut, George Hansel, Rhonda Hensley (on behalf of Governor Sununu), Todd Leach, Scott Mason, Chris Pope, Mark Rubinstein, Marjorie Smith, Melinda Treadwell, and David Westover.

University System Student Board (USSB) members: Victoria Bergstrom, Aura Huot, Aaron Keaton, and Tyler Minnich.

Call to Order: At 8:00 am, Chair Morone called the morning session to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

Discussion: Chair Morone distributed a draft document entitled “USNH Board Retreat, 9/20/2019 – Points of Consensus” (copy attached) and invited discussion. General agreement with the document emerged from the discussion with one modification. While there was agreement that UNH collaboration will be essential for any system-wide synergy project to be successful, the prevailing sentiment acknowledged UNH did not necessarily have to be in the lead.

Chair Morone briefly reviewed the agenda, expectations, and desired outcomes for the Board’s meetings over the next day and half. Chair Morone acknowledged the changes from the Board’s past practice and committed to assessing those changes and making further adjustments as may be desirable.

Adjournment: At 9:20 am, Chair Morone adjourned the Board of Trustees until the afternoon session, scheduled to begin at 4 pm. The Board’s committees are scheduled to meet in the interim.

October 24, 2019 – Afternoon Session

In Attendance: Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut, Suzanne Foster, Cailee Griffin, George Hansel, Rhonda Hensley (on behalf of Governor Sununu), Shawn Jasper, Scott Mason, Chris Pope, Joe Scala, Marjorie Smith, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, and David Westover.
Call to Order: At 4:30 pm, Chair Morone called the afternoon session to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

Discussion: Chair Morone described the agenda for the afternoon session including a discussion with President Treadwell on the human resources available to her for achieving her institution’s annual goals, meeting the attendant challenges, and executing the strategic plan. Chair Morone then called for a motion to go into non-public session.

Non-public Session: On motion moved by Trustee Pope and seconded by Trustee Mason, the Board voted by unanimous roll call to go into non-public session:

VOTED, that the Board of Trustees go into nonpublic session for the purposes of (1) discussing personnel matters including the performance of one or more public employees, (2) confidential, commercial, or financial information, (3) matters of market strategy which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are contrary to those of the general public, (4) matters likely to affect collective bargaining strategy, and (5) consultation with legal counsel as authorized by RSA 91-A:2, I (a) and (b); 91-A:3, II (a), (b), and (d); and 91-A:5, IV.

At 5:40 pm, President Treadwell was excused, and the Board continued its discussion in non-public session.

Return to Public Session: At 5:55 pm, on motion duly moved and seconded, the Board voted to return to public session. Chair Morone announced the Board took no votes and made no decisions during the non-public session.

Adjournment: At 6:00 pm, Chair Morone adjourned the Board of Trustees for the evening and reminded members of the Board’s business meeting, scheduled to begin the following morning at 8:30 am, October 25, 2019.

October 25, 2019 – Board Business Meeting

In Attendance: Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut, Suzanne Foster, Cailee Griffin, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Todd Leach, Scott Mason, Mike Pilot, Chris Pope, Mark Rubinstein, Joe Scala, Marjorie Smith, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, and David Westover.

University System Student Board (USSB) members: Victoria Bergstrom, Aura Huot, Aaron Keaton, Tyler Minnich, and Leo Shattuck.

Call to Order: At 8:30 am, Chair Morone called the Board’s business meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business. Chair Morone briefly reviewed the agenda and desired outcomes for the business meeting, which is scheduled to end at or about Noon.

Consent Agenda: On motion moved by Trustee Foster and seconded by Trustee Eastwood, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda, comprised of the following three action items:
Board Minutes:

VOTED, that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the meets held on June 28, 2019 and September 20, 2019.

Suspend Enrollment Limitation of Out-of-State Undergraduates at UNH:

VOTED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee that the Board of Trustees suspend for FY21 the limitation of 25 percent imposed by state statute RSA 187-A:10 on the number of undergraduate students enrolled at UNH from domiciles outside the state, it having been determined that such suspension benefits the state and UNH without impairing the opportunity for qualified students of the state of New Hampshire to attend UNH.

Accept and Forward Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019:

VOTED, on recommendation of the Audit Committee, that the USNH Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 be accepted and forwarded to the Governor, the Legislative Fiscal Committee, and others as specified in state law RSA 187-A:22. All attachments can be found in the Audit Committee materials.

Committee Reports: Chair Morone noted the minutes from each of yesterday’s committee meetings were distributed in hardcopy prior to start of this meeting. He then invited the committee chairs to report briefly on the work accomplished. The one action item recommended by a committee for the Board’s consideration came from the Financial Affairs Committee. On motion moved by Trustee Pope and seconded by Trustees Edelblut and Pilot, the Board voted unanimously to freeze in-state tuition rates for fiscal year 2021.

Approval in-state tuition rate freeze for FY21:

VOTED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee, in recognition of the strong support from both the Executive and Legislative branches of NH State government as reflected in its biennial operating budget for the USNH institutions, to make tuition more affordable for New Hampshire students, that, for FY21, undergraduate in-state tuition rates frozen at FY20 levels be adopted as the maximum amounts authorized, based on the funding levels for FY21 in the adopted State operating budget.

Non-traditional Student Market Analysis: Chancellor Leach delivered a presentation on and led the Board in discussion of the non-traditional student market. At the conclusion of the Board’s discussion, Chair Morone asked the Educational Excellence Committee to continue reviewing the related issues and opportunities and report back to the Board with the committee’s findings and recommendations.

Keene State College Strategic Plan: President Treadwell delivered a presentation on and led the Board in discussion of KSC’s current three-year strategic plan, including KSC’s current status and the remaining challenges and opportunities. Entitled the “KSC Sustainability and Viability Plan, 2018-2021,” the plan contains three goals and eight priorities. President Treadwell will lead the college in the next round of strategic planning beginning in the coming summer of 2020.
Non-public Session: On motion moved by Trustee Pope and seconded by Trustee Mason, the Board voted by unanimous roll call to go into non-public session:

_VOTED, that the Board of Trustees go into nonpublic session for the purposes of (1) discussing personnel matters including the performance of one or more public employees, (2) confidential, commercial, or financial information, (3) matters of market strategy which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are contrary to those of the general public, (4) matters likely to affect collective bargaining strategy, and (5) consultation with legal counsel as authorized by RSA 91-A:2, I (a) and (b); 91-A:3, II (a), (b), and (d); and 91-A:5, IV._

Return to Public Session: At 11:55 am, on motion duly moved and seconded, the Board voted to return to public session. Chair Morone announced the Board took one vote during the non-public session. On motion moved by Trustee Begg and seconded by Trustee Burnett, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the tentative agreement with the adjunct faculty bargaining unit at Plymouth State University.

Motion to Recommend Ratification of the Tentative Agreement between Plymouth State University and the State Employees Association – SIU Local 1984

_VOTED, on recommendation of the President of Plymouth State University, that the Board of Trustees hereby approve and ratify the proposed collective bargaining agreement with the State Employees Association, SIU Local 1984.” AND FURTHER, hereby authorizes the President to execute the July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022 collective bargaining agreement on behalf of the Board of Trustees._

Adjournment: At 12:05 pm, on motion duly moved and seconded, Chair Morone adjourned the meeting of the Board of Trustees. The next regularly scheduled Board and committee meetings will be held on January 16 and 17, 2020, at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law in Concord, NH.
USNH Board Retreat, 9/20/19

Points of Consensus:

1. Support the Mission:
   a. Strengthen the Flagship: any resources freed up internally at UNH should be reinvested there for strategic purposes.
      i. Board’s role is to ensure those purposes are well defined and adequately supported.
   b. Sustain PSU and KSC: if need be, accept losses in a transition to a more sustainable configuration.
      i. Board’s role is to review, approve and monitor PSU and KSC transition plans
   c. Develop a system-wide approach to non-traditional markets, clearly defining GSC’s role within that approach
      i. Begin with market analysis at October meeting
      ii. Should be one of EE’s areas of focus this year
      iii. Goal should be to define the system-wide approach at the September 2020 retreat

2. Strive to make “the system whole greater than the sum of its parts”
   a. Minimize competition among system institutions.
      i. Board mandate: UNH should initiate coordinated application/admission process.
   b. Continue to pursue significant system synergies.
      i. Board mandate: Focus on the 1 or 2 new initiatives that UNH will lead. Ideal would be distance learning.
      ii. Continue to advance Procurement and IT initiatives, balancing centralized authority with decentralized input.
   c. Develop a robust IR (internal and external) capability within the system office.
      i. Board mandate: institutions should provide system office with data transparency

3. Revisit the system structure periodically, including at the 2020 retreat.