



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**January 21-22, 2021**

**Meetings held via Zoom**  
**Videoconference Platform**

**Meeting Minutes**  
(APPROVED on April 16, 2021)

**January 21, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut; Jim Gray, Cathy Green, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Tyler Minnich, Mike Pilot, Chris Pope, Mark Rubinstein, Morgan Rutman, Wally Stevens, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, and David Westover.

**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.

**Conduct of a Telephonic Meeting:** Chair Morone made the following announcement regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location:

This meeting is being held by electronic means in conformance with the Governor's emergency declaration of March 13, 2020, and subsequent emergency orders, as well as the applicable provisions of the New Hampshire Right-to-Know Law, RSA 91-A. If during the conduct of this meeting, anyone has difficulty connecting or staying connected to the video or audio feed please contact Tia Miller at [tia.miller@usnh.edu](mailto:tia.miller@usnh.edu).

**Chair's Remarks:** Chair Morone showed a couple of slides with forecasts of student demographics for distinct sectors of higher education institutions including four-year undergraduate and two-year institutions. The data, from Professor Nathan Grawe's new book, The Agile College, forecasts at least 15 years of sustained substantial declines in higher education students in the Northeast United States. The Board discussed the implications for USNH and confirmed the importance of the work being done across the institutions, much of which will be discussed at the Board and committee meetings over the next day and a half.

**Nonpublic Session:**

On motion made by Chair Morone and seconded by Trustee Burnett, a roll call vote was taken; the Board unanimously voted to go into nonpublic session for the stated purposes:

***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.*

The vote having been adopted, at 8:15 am, the Board went into non-public session.

**Return to Public Session:** At 9:28 am, on motion duly moved and seconded, the Board voted to return to public session. Chair Morone announced that while in nonpublic session, no votes were taken, and no decisions were made.

**Adjournment:** At 9:30 am, Chair Morone adjourned the Board of Trustees until tomorrow, Friday, January 22, 2021, at 8:30 am. The Board's committees are scheduled to meet in the interim.

### **January 22, 2021 – Board Business Meeting**

**In Attendance:** Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice-Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Cassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Todd Black, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut, Jim Gray, Cathy Green, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Tyler Minnich, Mike Pilot, Chris Pope, Morgan Rutman, Wally Stevens, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, and David Westover.

**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.

**Conduct of a Telephonic Meeting:** Chair Morone made the following announcement regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location:

This meeting is being held by electronic means in conformance with the Governor's emergency declaration of March 13, 2020, and subsequent emergency orders, as well as the applicable provisions of the New Hampshire Right-to-Know Law, RSA 91-A. If during the conduct of this meeting, anyone has difficulty connecting or staying connected to the video or audio feed please contact Tia Miller at [tia.miller@usnh.edu](mailto:tia.miller@usnh.edu).

**Campus Updates for Spring Semester Opening:** The presidents of the residential institutions each reported briefly and answered questions on the current conditions at their institution and their plans for the spring semester. Topics covered include: the academic calendar, plans for testing and vaccination, available modes of program delivery, monitoring of conditions, contingency plans, athletics, other recreational opportunities, and continued coordination with the state through the Department of Health and Human Services. Following a brief discussion, the Board thanked each of the presidents for their hard work, careful planning, and leadership on these issues.

**Consent Agenda:** On a motion moved by Trustee Burnett and seconded by Trustee Green, a roll call vote was taken, and with twenty-one in favor, none opposed, and one abstention (Trustee Ladd was not on the

Board at the time of the meetings which are the subject of the vote) the Board approved the consent agenda, comprised of the following action item:

**Board Minutes:**

*VOTED, that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the meetings held on October 22 and 23, 2020 be approved as presented.*

**Committee Reports:** Chair Morone noted the minutes from each of yesterday’s committee meetings are posted in the board portal. The chairs of the Investments, Governance, Audit, and Nomination Committees each gave brief summaries of their committee’s meeting. Chair Morone called on the chairs of Educational Excellence and Financial Affairs Committees to present the action items approved by their committee for recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

**Educational Excellence Committee – Appointment of UNH Professor with Tenure:**

On motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Westover, a roll call vote was taken and the Board, with twenty in favor and none opposed or abstaining, unanimously approved the following action:

*VOTED, on recommendation of President Dean and the Educational Excellence Committee, that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of one individual as professor with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material attached to the Educational Excellence Committee meeting agenda.*

**Financial Affairs Committee – Approval of Tuition Rates, Mandatory Fees, and Room and Board Fees for FY2022:**

On motion made by Trustee Eastwood and seconded by Chair Morone, a single roll call vote was taken on all three of the following action items and the Board, with twenty-one voting “yes to all three,” none opposed, and none abstaining, unanimously approved the following three votes:

*VOTED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee that, effective for academic year 2021-22, the tuition rates as presented on the attached schedule be adopted as the maximum amounts authorized.*

*VOTED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee that, effective for fall semester 2021, mandatory student fees be adopted in amounts not to exceed \$3,442 at UNH-Durham; \$2,884 at KSC; and \$2,622 at PSU.*

*VOTED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee that, effective for fall semester 2021 (FY22), maximum housing and dining rates be adopted as the maximum per the attached schedules.*

**Break:** At 10:05 am, Chair Morone called for a ten-minute break, after which he called the meeting back to order at 10:15 pm, and recognized President Birx.

**Host Campus Presentation – PSU:** President Birx began the presentation with a video about how PSU handled the pandemic and attendant disruptions during the fall semester. Highlighting interviews of students and faculty, the video showed the resilience, persistence, and creativity of the academic community in preserving valuable educational opportunities in the face of unprecedented challenges. President Birx then introduced Robin DeRosa, Director of PSU’s CoLab (Open Learning and Teaching Collaborative), to discuss her work and the PSU faculty perspective on teaching during the pandemic. With Professor Nick Sevigney (Art) and Professor Khanh Lai (Social Work), Director DeRosa described for the Board the work done at PSU to make the fall delivery of academic programming successful including curricular adjustment, course design, training, and technology. Each of the three presenters also described their personal experiences teaching and serving students, with emphasis on educational access barriers such as homelessness, food insecurity, and broadband connectivity. Board members asked a number of questions and engaged in a substantial discussion of the issues presented, especially access to and affordability of higher education for at-risk student populations.

Chair Morone thanked President Birx, Director DeRosa, and Professors Sevigney and Lai for their attention to the needs of its students, dedication to their work, and an interesting and informative presentation. The Chair then announced the Executive Committee will next meet as scheduled at 4 pm, on Thursday, February 18.

**Adjournment:** At 11:10 am, 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 April 22-23, 2021.