



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 21, 2021

Hybrid Meetings (In-person/Zoom)

Report of Retreat
Plymouth State University

In Attendance: Trustees (in-person): Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Todd Black, Jose Calvo, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut; Jim Gray, Cathy Green, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Alana Lehouillier, Mackenzie Murphy, Mike Pilot, Wally Stevens, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, David Westover.

Via Zoom: Trustees: Morgan Rutman

Guests: Jonathan Melanson, Governor's Liaison to the Board

Chair Morone opened the retreat at 9 a.m., noting the presence of a quorum for the conduct of business, reviewed the agenda, and described the desired outcomes.

Institutional Missions: Each of the three presidents described the mission of their institution and how it supports the overall mission of the University System.

Demographics: To provide context for the retreat discussions, Vice Chancellor and CAO Cathy Provencher presented a report on demographic trend and student enrollment in both actual historical trends and future projections.

Financial Pro Forma for FY2022-26: For further context, Ms. Provencher provided financial pro forma for FY2022 through 2026, demonstrating a possible pathway that would provide a 1% annual operating margin while navigating the impending demographic cliff.

Report on the Financial Affairs Committee's Mini Retreat: Trustee Pilot and Ms. Provencher reported on the discussion held and conclusions reached at the mini retreat of the Financial Affairs Committee, held on September 30, 2021.

Report on Observations from Review of the University of Maine System: President Don Birx reported on his observations from the accreditation review he participated in at the University of Maine System. Of note were: (1) the pending application to the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE) for accreditation as a single system comprised of institutions with varied missions; (2) the development of a policy basis for a unified system; (3) the work being done to reduce competition for student enrollment across the system institutions; and (4) the development of a single online course catalog, providing program visibility across institutions.

Nonpublic Session: At 10:45 a.m., on motion made by Chair Morone and seconded by Trustee Green, the Board went into nonpublic session for the purposes described in the motion. The vote was twenty-two in favor and one opposed (Trustee Jasper requested his vote in opposition be recorded in the minutes):

VOTED, that the Board of Trustees go into nonpublic session for the purposes of discussing potential organizational and policy changes that would affect personnel, collective bargaining, and the USNH institutions' strategic market position as authorized by the NH Right-to-Know Law provisions relating to (1) personnel matters including the hiring or termination 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 negotiation strategy, and (5) consultation with legal counsel as codified in RSA 91-A:2, I (a) and (b); 91-A:3, II (a), (b), and (d); and 91-A:5; IV.

Public Session: At 10:55 a.m., the Board returned to public session and Chair Morone announced there were no votes taken or decisions made while in nonpublic session.

Toward a More Unified USNH: Each of the three presidents reported their view of the current and historical governance structures, the governance concerns from the perspective of their institution, and their recommendations for moving forward. Noting the differences among the views of the three presidents, Chair Morone asked them to continue working toward consensus and report to the Executive Committee on the status of their efforts, with the expectation the Board of Trustees will decide the future course before the end of the current governance year.

Recess for Lunch: At 12:35 p.m., the Board recessed for lunch. Chair Morone called the meeting back to order at 1:45 p.m., and reviewed the agenda for the afternoon.

A Pathway to Shared Academic Services: President Melinda Treadwell reported on the work the presidents and their provosts are doing to develop shared academic services across the system. After a brief discussion the Board encouraged the presidents' continuing efforts, suggested the presidents consider the development of an internal consultancy team to guide the project, and made clear the Board is prepared to authorize investment of resources as may be needed to make this project successful.

Revenue Growth: Each of the presidents reported on opportunities for revenue growth at their institutions, including both existing and new potential sources.

The Longer Term: The presidents presented their vision of their institution for the next five to seven years across a variety of attributes including enrollment size and mix, programs, delivery modes, capital expenditures, and human resources.

Summary, Discussion, Next Steps: Summing up the day's discussions, Chair Morone encouraged the presidents to: (1) develop a consensus recommendation on the governance structure, (2) continue the development of shared services, including in the development and delivery of academic programs, (3) propose strategic investments needed to pursue opportunities for revenue growth, and (4) collaborate broadly and deeply with CCSNH on meeting the public higher education needs of the state of New Hampshire.

Nonpublic Session: At 5:00 p.m., on motion made by Chair Morone and seconded by Trustee Burnett the Board voted unanimously to go into nonpublic session for the purposes described in the motion:

***VOTED,** that the Board of Trustees go into nonpublic session for the purpose of discussing a legal matter as authorized by the NH Right to Know Law provision related to consultation with legal counsel as codified in RSA 91-A:2, I (b).*

Public Session: At 5:40 p.m., the Board returned to public session and Chair Morone announced there were no votes taken and no decisions made while in nonpublic session.

Recognition of Departing Trustees: The Board of Trustees recognized each of the departing three trustees, Wally Stevens, Chris Pope, and Mark Rubinstein, and thanked them for their dedicated service to the Board of Trustees and public higher education in the state of New Hampshire.

Adjourn: At 6:15 p.m., Chair Morone adjourned the meeting.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 22, 2021

Hybrid Meeting (In-person/Zoom)

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Cassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Todd Black, Jose Calvo, Jim Dean, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut; Cathy Green, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Alana Lehouillier, Mackenzie Murphy, Mike Pilot, Wally Stevens, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, and David Westover.

Via Zoom: Trustees: George Hansel

Guests: Jonathan Melanson, Governor's Liaison to the Board

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.

Approval of Minutes: On motion made by Chair Morone and seconded by Trustee Burnett, the Board approved unanimously by roll call vote the minutes of the meetings of April 15-16 and July 29, 2021, as presented.

***VOTED**, that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the meetings held on April 15-16, 2021, and July 29, 2021, be approved as presented.*

Election of Officers: On motion made by Trustee Stevens and seconded by Trustee Pilot, the Board approved by roll call vote the recommendation of the Nomination Committee and elected the slate of officers and Nomination Committee members as proposed. Nineteen trustees voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, and three abstained (Trustees Black, Green, and Morone).

***VOTED**, on recommendation of the Nomination Committee and pursuant to Article III, section 4 of the Bylaws, the Board of Trustees hereby elects the slate of officers and Nomination Committee members for service during FY2022, as presented with the agenda materials for this meeting.*

Adjournment: At 8:15 am, Chair Morone adjourned the Board of Trustees until 2:00 pm. The Board's committees are scheduled to meet in the interim.

June 22, 2021 – Board Business Meeting

In Attendance: Trustees: Chair Joseph Morone, Vice Chair Jamie Burnett, Secretary Kassandra Ardinger, Amy Begg, Don Birx, Todd Black, Jose Calvo, Jackie Eastwood, Frank Edelblut; Cathy Green, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Alana Lehouillier, Mackenzie Murphy, Mike Pilot, Wally Stevens, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, Alex Walker, and David Westover.

Via Zoom: Trustees: George Hansel and Morgan Rutman

Guests: Jonathan Melanson, Governor's Liaison to the Board

Call to Order: At 2:00 pm, 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.

Host Institution Presentation: President Birx introduced the presentation by summarizing the development of PSU's cluster majors and describing PSU's vision, objectives, and strategy for the next five to seven years. The presentation, in videoconference format, featured a panel of PSU students describing their reasons for choosing PSU and their experiences as PSU undergrads. The students also answered questions from members of the Board of Trustees. President Birx closed by expressing his appreciation for the substantial efforts of PSU faculty, staff, and students to accomplish the progress made to date and embracing the vision of further progress over the next few years. President Birx also thanked the Board of Trustees for its continuing support of those efforts.

Committee Reports: The Governance, Investments, and Nomination Committees reported on their meetings held earlier in the day, without proposing any action items for consideration by the full Board. The Educational Excellence, Audit, and Financial Affairs Committees reported on their meetings and proposed the following action items:

UNH Faculty Appointment with Tenure: The Educational Excellence Committee recommended the appointment to the position of full professor with tenure at UNH. On motion made by Trustee Eastwood and seconded by Trustee Green, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the recommendation as presented.

***VOTED**, on recommendation of the Educational Excellence Committee, that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of one individual with the rank professor with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material.*

Accept and Forward Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ended June 3, 2021: The Audit Committee recommended the acceptance of the USNH financial statements. On motion made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Stevens, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the recommendation as presented.

***VOTED**, on recommendation of the Audit Committee, that the USNH Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021 be accepted and forwarded to the Governor, the Legislative Fiscal Committee, and others as specified in state law RSA 187-A:22.*

Suspend Enrollment Limitation of Out-of-State Undergraduates at UNH: The Financial Affairs Committee recommended the suspension of the limitation on non-resident undergraduates at UNH. On motion made by Trustee Pilot and seconded by Trustee Black, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the recommendation as presented.

***VOTED,** on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee that the Board of Trustees suspend for FY23 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.*

Approve UNH Project to Renovate Huddleston Hall: The Financial Affairs Committee recommended the approval of the project to renovate Huddleston Hall at UNH. On motion made by Trustee Black and seconded by Trustee Tewksbury, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to approve the recommendation as presented.

***VOTED,** on recommendation of the Investment and Financial Affairs Committees, that the Board of Trustees approve a project budget not to exceed \$17.5 million for the renovations to Huddleston Hall with the source of funds being UNH operating funds (\$11.2 million) and donor gifts (\$6.3 million) **AND FURTHER,** that the FY22 capital budget for UNH be increased by \$6.3 million.*

Adjournment: At 3:00 pm, on motion duly moved and seconded, Trustee Stevens adjourned the meeting of the Board of Trustees. The next regularly scheduled Board and committee meetings will be held on January 20-21, 2022, at Keene State College, Keene, New Hampshire.