



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting Held at USNH System Office

5 Chenell Drive, Concord, NH

(February 16, 2023)

## **Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Executive Committee members present at meeting location (USNH System Office, 5 Chenell Dr., Concord, NH 03301): Chair Alex Walker, Kass Ardinger, Jamie Burnett, Cathy Green, Mike Pilot, and Gregg Tewksbury. Executive Committee members participating by videoconference: Jackie Eastwood and Morgan Rutman. Other Trustees present at meeting location: Don Birx, Jim Dean, Joel Nkounkou, Christiana Thornton, and Melinda Treadwell. Other Trustees participating by videoconference: James Gray, Kevin Knarr, Christian Mehreb, Mackenzie Murphy, and David Westover. Others present at meeting: Governor's Representative Deanna Jurius.

**Call to Order:** At 4:04 pm, Chair Walker called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** On motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Tewksbury, the Committee unanimously voted by roll call as follows to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee's meeting of December 15, 2022:

**VOTED,** that the Executive Committee approves the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of December 15, 2022, as presented in the materials of the agenda for this meeting.

**Revisions to Board Bylaw Article VI: University System Student Board:** On motion made by Trustee Tewksbury and seconded by Trustee Green, the Committee unanimously voted by roll call as follows to approve revisions to BOT Policy Board Bylaw Article VI (University System Student Board) and recommend those revisions to the full Board for adoption:

**VOTED,** on recommendation of the University System Student Board, that the Executive Committee hereby approves the revised Board Bylaw Article VI presented in the materials for this meeting and recommends it for adoption by the Board.

**Update from PSU President:** PSU President Birx updated the Committee on issues caused by the recent arctic cold snap, which included damage to the Hartman Union Building and some campus apartments. He also highlighted the recent successes of the men's hockey team and the campus's Ski Day. President Birx then updated the Committee on application data, reporting that applications to date have been promising by volume and are notable for including a ten percentage-point increase in

applicants from underrepresented groups. President Birx noted that retention of current students from those groups was also on track to increase, thanks in part to additions to the campus's DEI program.

**Update from KSC President:** KSC President Treadwell updated the Committee on several issues. These included recent administrative reorganizations, including the decision to have athletics report directly to the President, and changes to academic administration expected to yield a substantial savings to the campus. President Treadwell then highlighted the most recent Sightlines report, which showed progress on the campus's deferred maintenance program. President Treadwell then provided an update on enrollment, noting that the campus had received approximately 100 more acceptances than it had by the same point last year. Finally, President Treadwell noted that both national and state accreditation bodies had re-accredited the undergraduate and graduate teacher preparation programs at KSC for a full seven years.

**Update from UNH President:** UNH President Dean shared some of the topics covered during his recent State of the University address. These included campus achievements in the integration of GSC and UNH, expansion of student mental health and employer partnership programs, and the award of a \$250 million grant from NASA to study solar turbulence. President Dean also highlighted a recent gift which will fund the creation of a poet-in-residence and an annual poetry contest at UNH. Following the remarks of the presidents, trustees asked questions and received updates on campus safety in the wake of the recent incident at Michigan State and academic integrity in the wake of advances in AI text generation.

Update from Chief Administrative Officer: CAO Provencher reported on the recently announced Governor's Budget. That budget fully met USNH's request for FY 24 and included a smaller increase for FY 25. While not yet fully available, the house budget companion bill includes additional funds for improvements to the Whittemore Center and for the creation of a blockchain integrity office at UNH's Interoperability Lab. System leaders will continue to meet with legislators to encourage adoption of the proposed budget for USNH. The CAO and several trustees noted the proposed increase with approval, and further noted the importance of increased state funding to the operation of the System in the wake of maintaining the same in-state tuition rate for several years. Trustees also engaged in a discussion of the need for continued financial and operational planning, engagement with the Legislature, and the importance of maintaining a high standard of instruction quality.

**Adjourn:** At 5:19 pm, Chair Walker called for further business and, hearing none, adjourned the meeting.