

**APPROVED**

Executive Session

**FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

**Presidents' Hall, Mazzaferro Center**

**291 Highland Ave., Fitchburg, MA 01420**

**Executive Session convened at 9:44 a.m.**

Trustees Present: L. Barrieau, M. Fiorentino, E. Gregoire, D. Phillips, K. Spinelli, C. Stimpson, D. Tiernan, A. Turner

Trustees Absent: J. Flanagan

Also Present: R. Lapidus, R. Dinda, J. Murdoch, G. Doiron

The Chair opened the Executive Session and noted that Dr. Dinda had been notified of the executive session and recognized J. Murdoch to provide a summary of Dr. Dinda's request. J. Murdoch read a memo (attached) stating that the university received a request from Dr. Robin Dinda, a Professor in the Humanities Department, to be relieved from the completion of the sabbatical payback requirement due to a diagnosis of an incapacitating illness. Dr. Dinda has worked one of the two semesters owed under the agreement and intended to return this Fall semester to complete the 2-semester service as payback for his one semester of sabbatical leave but is unable to do so as a result of a terminal illness. His doctors have advised him that he will be incapacitated and unable to work. Dr. Dinda has applied for retirement and asks that he be relieved from the payback requirement since he will be unable to return to work to complete his obligation.

In discussion between board members and Dr. Dinda, it was noted that he had previously been diagnosed with cancer, which was in remission. It returned earlier this summer, and he was advised to undergo treatment again which would prevent him from fulfilling his duties at Fitchburg State, his classes would be covered by another faculty member. He had been advised to retire and spend his time with his family.

With no further business before the Executive Session, it was voted by roll call to adjourn at 9:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

David Tiernan, Clerk, Board of Trustees

Documents:

Notice to Dr. Dinda

Memo Date August 15, 2022