APPROVED

Fitchburg State University

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday December 19, 2023 at 8:15 AM

Location
Presidents' Hall, Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave., Fitchburg, MA 01420

Notice of a special meeting of the Fitchburg State University Board of Trustees on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 8:15 a.m.

The meeting will take place in Presidents' Hall, Mazzaferro Center, 291 Highland Ave., Fitchburg, MA 01420

Trustees Present
A. Turner, C. Stimpson (remote), D. Phillips, D. Tiernan (remote), E. Gregoire (remote), J. Flanagan (remote), K. Spinelli (remote), L. Barrieau, M. Fiorentino, Jr. (remote)

Trustees Absent
S. King-Goodwin

Ex Officio Members Present
R. Lapidus

Guests Present

F. Barricelli, G. Doiron, G. Doiron, G. Duyck, J. Bry, J. Murdoch, J. Wolfman, M. Bruun, P. Marshall, R. Crawford, S. Dodd

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Phillips called a meeting of the board of trustees of Fitchburg State University to order on Tuesday Dec 19, 2023 at 8:17 AM.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Presidential Profile

A. Discuss the Proposed Presidential Profile

D. Phillips welcomed everyone and introduced E. Gregoire, Chair, Presidential Search Committee to provide an update on the Presidential Profile.

E. Gregoire reported that the search committee met on Friday, December 15 to review the profile. The initial draft was shared with the committee and board members. The comments from the Board's recommendations and the committee's input were incorporated into the document. He stated they recognized the challenges that Fitchburg State is facing but they are attractive challenges. Specifically, important feedback was focused on student and academic programs, and showing opportunities for those programs. The committee had a robust conversation on how to note in the profile the balance of Covid's impact on the community and managing around those obstacles. The committee had a healthy discussion on the professional and personal qualities needed in the next President. There was a lot of discussion around these characteristics. There were modifications from the attributes in the should category to the must category.

E. Gregoire next reported that the Board of Higher Education have made recommendations. The profile has been updated to reflect those changes. The search committee positively approved the profile. He thanked Ryan Crawford, and Greg Duyck from WittKieffer for their guidance and feedback.

D. Phillips thanked E. Gregoire for the update. She stated that search committee voted to approved the profile and recommend to the full board.

D. Phillips opened the meeting up for discussion on following:

Opportunities and Expectations, Collaboratively Envision Future Opportunities and Strategies, Communicate Clearly About New Directions and Move to Implement, Continue to Explore and Expand New Offerings and Serve Diverse Student Populations, Enhance the Fitchburg State Community, and Engage External Partners in Advancing Shared Goals.

There was a discussion on the topic of new offerings. The language used in the profile regarding the new programs needed to be modified. We are waiting for final official approval for two new programs from the Board of Higher Education.

C. Stimpson joined remotely at 8:32 am
L. Barrieau made a motion to add the following sentence to the Presidential Profile: The university has created academic programs that are in demand and aligned with the needs of the communities it serves, including offerings in biotechnology, engineering technology, construction management, health professions, digital media innovation, and game design, as well programs pending approval in creative arts enterprise, and expressive arts therapy.
A. Turner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Barrieau	Aye
J. Flanagan	Absent
M. Fiorentino, Jr.	Aye
S. King-Goodwin	Absent
D. Phillips	Aye
C. Stimpson	Aye
E. Gregoire	Aye
K. Spinelli	Aye
D. Tiernan	Aye
A. Turner	Aye

D. Phillips next ask for feedback on the other sections in the profile specifically professional qualifications and personal qualities.

There was a discussion.

B. Finalize and Approve the Presidential Profile

L. Barrieau made a motion to approve.
C. Stimpson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Phillips	Aye
K. Spinelli	Aye

Roll Call

M. Fiorentino, Jr.	Aye
S. King-Goodwin	Absent
L. Barrieau	Aye
C. Stimpson	Aye
E. Gregoire	Aye
J. Flanagan	Absent
A. Turner	Aye
D. Tiernan	Aye

E. Gregoire provided the timeline for meetings and interviews moving forward. There will be a search committee meeting at the end of January to discuss questions for the candidates. The next meeting would be at the end of February or early March to review applications. The first round of interviews will begin the second week of March.

J. Flanagan joined remotely at 8:43 a.m.

E. Gregoire talked about the how the first round of interviews would take place, either via zoom or in person. The timeline for interviews was discussed.

E. Gregoire closed the meeting by thanking Greg Duyck, and Ryan Crawford for their work. He also thanked Jessica Murdoch and Kelli Lundgren for their efforts in putting the document together and keeping the various drafts in order.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Tiernan