

**MINUTES OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY QUARTERLY
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “GovState,” respectively), an Illinois body politic and corporate, was held in person and via audio-videoconference at GovState’s University Park Campus in Engbretson Hall on August 18, 2025, beginning at approximately 9:00 am. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the agenda posted for public notice before 9:00 am on August 13, 2025, in accordance with Section 2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. 5 ILCS 120/ *et seq.* Before the meeting, each Trustee received books with materials corresponding to the action items, a copy of which is maintained with the Board records.

I. MEETING DETAILS

Meeting Chair: James Kvedaras

Minutes Recorded By: Therese King Nohos, General Counsel

II. ATTENDEES

Chair Kvedaras confirmed a quorum was present given the presence of the following Trustees in attendance in person at the start of the meeting unless otherwise noted:

- James Kvedaras, Trustee and Chair
- Stacy Crook, Trustee and Vice-Chair
- Karen Nunn, Trustee and Secretary
- Frances Pao-Han Kao, Trustee
- Judith L. Mitchell, Trustee
- Anibal Taboas, Trustee
- Angelica Zuniga, Trustee

President Joyce Ester, Ph.D., *ex-officio* Board member and chief executive officer of GovState, was present, as were the following members of the President’s Cabinet who appeared in person:

- Joshua R. Allen, MPS, SHRM-SCP, Vice President of Human Resources;
- Corey S. Bradford, PhD, Vice President of Administration and Finance

- Janelle A. Crowley, PhD, Chief of Staff, President's Office;
- William Davis, Vice President, External Affairs;
- Maureen Kelly, Executive Director, Government Relations;
- Paul McGuinness, MA, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management;
- Therese King Nohos, JD, Vice President, General Counsel;
- Patricia O'Neal, Executive Assistant to the President;
- Joi F. Patterson, PhD, Chief of Institutional Engagement and Excellence; and
- Beverly Schneller, PhD, Vice President, Provost and Chief Academic Officer.

Mr. Joshua Sopiartz (Faculty Senate President), Ms. Susie Morris (Civil Service President) and Mr. Sean O'Brien (Student Senate President) were present as well.

III. ABSENCES

None

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by James Kvedaras, Chair at approximately 9:00 am.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

VI. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Kvedaras welcomed President Ester to her first Board meeting. Chair Kvedaras then noted that the August meeting always serves as the Board Retreat and, so, time will be spent in the afternoon on Board development.

VII. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Mr. Marquis Parks read the University's land acknowledgement statement.

VIII. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES

Chair Kvedaras asked for a motion to approve the proposed agenda as presented and meeting minutes from the June 16, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Trustee Crook so moved, seconded by Trustee Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. INFORMATION ITEMS

First, Mr. Josh Sopiartz, President of the Faculty Senate, reported on the Faculty Senate. He reported that the Senate sought nominations for upcoming vacancies on the Senate, and only two vacancies exist now. The Faculty Senate has an upcoming retreat. The Senate will meet for the first time on August 28, 2025, at which officers will be elected (Mr. Sopiartz is seeking reelection as President). The third annual shared governance conference is upcoming. Mr. Sopiartz welcomed President Ester.

Next, Civil Service President, Ms. Sussie Morris, welcomed President Ester on behalf of the Civil Service. The Civil Service Senate will host an upcoming annual Statewide Conference. This year's theme is "Empowering Growth." Ms. Morris thanked Vice President Nohos for her presence and expertise at the recent Governance Committee Meeting during which the Civil Senate Bylaws were discussed. Ms. Morris also thanked Dr. Joi Patterson for attending the Civil Service monthly meeting last Wednesday. The Civil Service Senate continues to meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

Next, Student Senate President Mr. Sean O' Brien, reported that the Student Senate is kicking off the year with their Annual Welcome Week Block Party and Greek Life Fair on Thursday August 28, 2025. He said that students were looking forward to using the new soccer field. He further noted upcoming events for students, including the Annual Convocation in September and the Jaguar 5k in October. He added that, he looks forward to working closely with the Board of Trustees, the Faculty Senate, our Student Body and our new President, Dr. Ester.

Next, Dr. Robert Stanley, Executive Director, Institutional Research, presented on the Data Dashboard overview and answered questions regarding the Dashboard, including about the possibility of adding data regarding the Foundation.

Next, General Counsel Nohos presented on the Revolving Door H-List, explaining its purpose under the Illinois Ethics Act and the Trustees' duties under the Act. General Counsel Nohos distributed acknowledgements to the Trustees for review and signature.

X. PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

The Board then was presented with and discussed the following action items consistent with the Agenda:

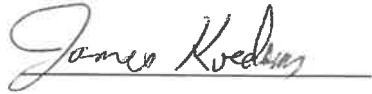
- First, General Counsel Nohos presented Resolution 26-01 regarding Election of Board Officers and Representatives.
- Second, Vice President Allen presented Resolution 26-02 through -06, regarding approval of memoranda of understanding with the University Professionals of Illinois, Local #4100; Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO, Local #399; Teamsters, Local 743 Clerical; Teamsters, Local 743 Maintenance Laborers; and Service Employees International Union Local No. 73.
- Third, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Schneller presented Resolution 26-07 regarding approval of Institutional Strategic Framework, Better Together.
- Fourth, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Schneller presented Resolution 26-10, regarding approval of Tenure Upon Hire for Christine Watt, PhD, OTR/L.
- Fifth, Vice President Bradford presented Resolution 26-08, regarding approval of Contract for Enterprise Resource Planning software maintenance in excess of \$250,000.
- Sixth, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Mr. Paul McGuinness presented Resolution 26-09 regarding approval of Contract for Off-Campus Student Housing in excess of \$250,000.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

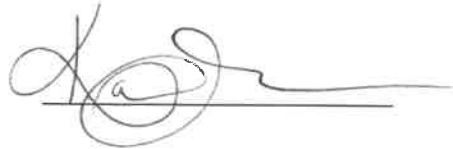
There being no other old or new business, Chair Kvedaras then asked for a motion to

adjourn. Trustee Mitchell so moved, and Trustee Crook seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:14 am.

Approved this 27th day of October 2025

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Kvedaras", written over a horizontal line.

James Kvedaras, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen Nunn", written over a horizontal line.

Karen Nunn, Secretary