

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY REGULAR MEETING**

A regularly scheduled meeting 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 February 24, 2025, beginning at approximately 2:20 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the Agenda posted for public notice before 9:00 am on February 22, 2025 in accordance with Section 120/2.02 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. 5 ILCS 120/ *et seq.* Before the meeting, each Trustee received materials corresponding to the action items in the Agenda, copies of which are 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:

- Stacy Crook, Vice Chair and Trustee;
- James Kvedaras, Chair;
- Karen Nunn, Trustee and Secretary;
- Harish Rayalapati, Student Trustee;

President Cheryl Green, 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, Sr., PhD, Vice President for 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.

Susie Morris (Civil Service Senate President) was present as well.

### **III. ABSENCES**

Trustee Taboas.

### **IV. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kvedaras at approximately 2:20 pm.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Kvedaras called for public comment. Public comment was made by Elaina Frizen.

### **VI. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Green gave the President’s Report. First, she reported on Academic Affairs, noting that this year the largest group ever will be sent to Ghana for the Ghana Brigade. The School of Extended Learning is supporting the launch of a comprehensive suite of summer camps, and has entered into a partnership with Kankakee Technical Center regarding pilot training. GovState went to Springfield to participate in a signing of its memorandum of understanding with the Illinois State Police to encourage degree completion by the Illinois State Police.

Regarding the Chief Diversity Officer’s office, its name will be changed to the Office of Institutional Excellence and Engagement. The administration sent a notice to campus today regarding the U.S. Department of Education’s February 14, 2025 Dear Colleague Letter. The university is taking steps to ensure it remains in compliance with federal law regarding diversity initiatives.

Regarding the Office of Chief of Staff, there were numerous events in January, including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Breakfast and the Honorary Doctoral Degree Dinner. Regarding External Relations, “GovState” has been officially approved as the University’s trademark. Regarding Legal Affairs, there have been several executive orders and regulatory guidance issued in the past month, which the university is monitoring closely.

Regarding Student Enrollment, GovState enrolled the largest Spring Freshmen Class ever in Spring 2025. The persistence rate (measuring fall to spring retention) was 75.8%. The Women’s Basketball team qualified for Nationals, and the Men’s Basketball team is in the running for a Nationals seat. The Men’s Volleyball team launched its first season in Spring 2025.

President Green expressed her appreciation for all the retirement celebrations in her honor, and further reported that \$54,000 was raised so far for the scholarship named in her honor.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board then was presented with the following action items to consider consistent with the Agenda, except that Resolutions 25-12 and 25-19 were removed from the Consent Agenda:

- Resolution 25-13 regarding professor *emerita* status for each of Dr. Caryn Schranz and Dr. Catherine Tymkow;
- Resolutions 25-14, 25-15, and 25-16 regarding approval of proposed tuition and fees and of housing fees for Academic Year 2025-2026, respectively;
- Resolution 25-17 regarding maintaining certain meeting minutes as confidential pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act;
- Resolution 25-18 regarding approval of proposed employment contract for an interim president;
- Resolution 25-20 regarding Administrative Leave for William Davis; and
- Resolution 25-21 regarding paying honor and tribute to President Cheryl Green.

Trustee Nunn moved to approved the Consent Agenda, and Trustee Crook seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **VIII. NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

Chair Kvedaras called for a motion to approve Resolution 25-12 regarding tenure for Dr. Sprong. Trustee Crook moved to approve the Resolution, and Trustee Nunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Trustee Rayalapati abstaining.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other old or new business, Chair Kvedaras then asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Crook so moved; Trustee Nunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

**Approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025**

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**James Kvedaras, Chair**

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**Karen Nunn, Secretary**