

**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 “GSU,” respectively), an Illinois body politic and corporate, was held in person and via audio-videoconference at GSU’s University Park Campus in Engbretson Hall on June 17, 2024 beginning at approximately 12:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the business described in the Agenda posted for public notice before 9:00 am on June 17, 2024 in accordance with Section 120/2.02 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: Angela M. Sebastian

Minutes Recorded By: Therese King Nohos, General Counsel

II. ATTENDEES

Chair Sebastian 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:

- Angela M. Sebastian, Trustee and Chair
- Stacy Crook, Trustee;
- Karen Nunn, Trustee;
- Anibal Taboas, Trustee (via teleconference); and
- Kevin Brookins, Trustee and Vice Chair.

President Cheryl Green, Ph.D., *ex-officio* Board member and chief executive officer of GSU, 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., Ph.D., 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 Diversity Officer; and
- Beverly Schneller, PhD, Vice President, Provost and Chief Academic Officer.

Senate President, Stephen Wagner, PhD (Faculty Senate) and Susie Morris (Civil Service Vice President) were present as well.

III. ABSENCES

Lluvia Hernandez-Aguirre, Student Trustee and James Kvedaras, Trustee were absent.

IV. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sebastian at approximately 12:30 pm.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were made.

VI. CHAIR COMMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Sebastian started by thanking everyone for preparing our students for commencement and preparing for the ceremony. She noted most of the Trustees were in attendance. She also congratulated and thanked everyone engaged in the accreditation process. Chair Sebastian also noted that, Trustee Nunn and Trustee Crooks were recently at the College of Business Distinguish Alumni event, and Trustee Nunn was recognized as a distinguished alum from the College of Business. Trustee Kvedaras attended the AGB Conference, and she noted he will be speaking on that at the August retreat. There will be an election of officers at the next meeting which is August 19, 2024. Chair Sebastian invited the trustees to consider nominations. She noted that Trustee Brookins will work with Trustee Nunn who has agreed to take over the responsibility of gathering nominations and presenting a slate of four votes at the August 19, 2024, meeting.

VII. PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Green noted that she too would like to commend the Trustees for their participation in the May 18th commencement. She noted that, under the leadership of Dr. Janelle Crowley, we made changes to the commencement process yielding a savings of over \$50,000. President Green noted that GovState bond rating which has been reaffirmed as BBB. Governors State University received a distinction from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Post Secondary Education as a predominantly black institution. President Green noted that Governors State is a MSI and HSI and now officially hold the distinction of being a PBI. This designation means that GovState qualifies for new grants opportunities.

President Green noted that when it comes to the Higher Learning Commission accreditation, Governors State University has consistently been accredited by HLC since 1975. The University has successfully completed its four-year mid cycle review and the commission's site team affirmed that Governors State University has met all the criteria for accreditation.

The U.S Department of Health and Human Services in April visited the campus under the leadership of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Administration Sheryl Campbell and the Great Lakes Regional Director. President Green noted that they reached out to GovState as a minority serving institution to discuss an ongoing partnership. This team met with senior administrators and students on campus to talk about government internships, fellowships and

career opportunities. Governors State University is scheduled to have a formal MOU signing with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on July 31st, 2024, to solidify our agreement and our collaboration.

President Green announced that Governors State University and the University of Insubria, Como Italy have formed a partnership. She received a special invitation to attend a formal reception on Wednesday May 22nd, hosted by the Italian Consulate to formally strengthen the bonds between both universities.

June 10, 2024 marked one year since the beginning of the Self-help Legal Clinic by the Social Justice Initiative. The lawyers who volunteer have provided legal services and education to more than 310 community members, which includes people from Cook, Will and Kankakee Counties.

President Green congratulated Dr. David Rhea, who is now officially the new Dean of the Honors College. Additionally, President Green announced Dr. Mary Carrington as the new Dean of the College of Graduate Studies.

Governors State University served as the host site for the 2024 induction to the Illinois Black Hall of Fame's fourth anniversary and celebratory event for Juneteenth on Saturday June 15, 2024. The Center for Performing Arts was packed with legislators, community leaders, educators and business executives. At this year's event, Governors State University celebrated the distinguished careers of United States Representative Danny Davis, United States Representative Robin Kelly, Brigadier Tomika Seaberry and the 12th Judicial Circuit Court's the honorable Judge Vincent Cornelius.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

No items were removed from the consent agenda. Chair Sebastian moved towards a vote. As otherwise set forth in the Agenda, the following action items were presented and passed by unanimous vote:

- Resolution 24-13, approve Metropolitan Alliance of Police Union Contract for the Department of Public Safety;
- Resolution 24-21, approve the change to Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamster 743 Labor Union;

- Resolution 24-22, approve Tenure for the twelve faculty candidates who meet the criteria;
- Resolution 24-23, approve Emerita Status for Dr. Linda Samson, College of Health and Human Services;
- Resolution 24-24, approve Summary Report of the Academic Program Review AY 23-24 to be presented to the Illinois Board of Higher Education;
- Resolution 24-25, approve Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, and;
- Resolution 24-26, approve the Student Trustee Resolution for Lluvia Hernandez- Aguirre.

IX. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Chair Sebastian noted that this year marks 10 years since GovState became a four-year institution. She stated that she would like to have a conversation about how that is working. She requested a financial analysis of the resources and the impact on the University to be the main part of the August retreat agenda. In addition, she would like to discuss the following at the August board retreat:

- The Governance Structure;
- An updated on Trustee Kvedaras' attendance at the AGB Conference;
- A Bylaw review by General Counsel Nohos; and
- A status report on the Dashboard she has requested.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sebastian then asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Crooks so moved, and Trustee Nunn seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.

Approved this 19th day of August 2024

Angela M. Sebastian, Chair

James Kvedaras, Secretary