

UVU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 30, 2017

4 p.m. – SC 213c, Utah Valley University

Board of Trustee Members Present

Elaine Thompson, Chair
Karen L. Acerson
James Clarke
John Gappmayer
Rick Nielsen
Rob Smith
Jack Sunderlage
Jill Taylor
Paul Thompson
R. Duff Thompson

Guests

Regent Nina Barnes
David Connelly
Michelle Kearns
Geoffrey Landward, USHE Policy & Law
Regent Steven Lund
Regent Thomas Wright
Stephen Whyte

UVU Regular Attendees

Karen Clemes, General Counsel
Scott Cooksey, Vice President Development and Alumni
Matthew S. Holland, President
Linda Makin, Vice President Planning, Budget and HR
Cameron Martin, Vice President University Relations
Shalece Nuttall, PACE President
Jeffery Olson, Senior Vice President Academic Affairs
Val Peterson, Vice President Finance and Administration
Kyle Reyes, Special Assistant to the President for Inclusion
Craig Thulin, Faculty Senate President
Katie Zabriskie, Assistant Associate

I. INFORMATION

1. Presidential Transition

USHE Policy and Law expert Geoffrey Landward provided the Trustees with a report on the search being undertaken to find a new president for UVU. He noted that the feedback received from the recently held public meetings indicated a great deal of support for the university and its dual mission. The commitment to inclusion and diversity will be reflected in the final job description. The Trustees were given an overview of the search process and the manner in which the final candidates will interact with the campus community. In the final decision making process, the Regents will ultimately be responsible for selecting a new president but the UVU BOT Executive Committee will be present during the deliberations. The Trustees asked several questions about candidate nominations, the employment of a search firm, and the timeline for the entire process. The Trustees were reminded of the uvu.edu/presidentialsearch website and were asked to review the proposed job description and provide Mr. Landward with any feedback prior to its posting.

II. ACTION

1. Policy

The Trustees were presented with a request to approve modifications to Policy 641 Salaried Faculty Workload. The limited changes update the policy to conform with a newly approved timeline regarding the faculty review process. Trustee Paul Thompson motioned to approve Policy 641 Salaried Faculty Workload. Trustee R. Duff Thompson seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

2. Student Life and Wellness Center Bond Refund

The Trustees were presented with a request to refund the university's outstanding revenue bonds, Series 2012A, that were used to finance the construction of the Student Life and Wellness Center. A refunding of the bond has the potential to save the university approximately \$1.5 million. The university has obtained an advisor and bond counsel. There is a rush to move this forward to capitalize on the brief window of time remaining in the tax-exempt refunding period. The market will be dissolving following the changes in tax law. Trustee Jack Sunderlage motioned to approve the request to refund the university's outstanding revenue bond. Trustee Clarke seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

3. Academic Programs

The Trustees were presented with a proposal to change the name of the Speech Communication BA/BS emphasis in the Communication Department to the Communication Studies BA/BS emphasis effective Fall 2018 to more accurately reflect the nature of the program and avoid confusion with speech disorder studies. The Trustees were also presented with a proposal to create a new emphasis in Russian Studies in the BA/BS Integrated Studies program. The Russian Studies program will provide students with both language skills and cultural/societal knowledge. This will allow UVU to better address the Utah dual language immersion students who study Russian and will help meet the academic goals of returned LDS missionaries who were based in Russian-speaking countries. Trustee P. Thompson noted that the Academic Affairs committee recommended approval of both the name change and the addition of the Russian Studies emphasis. Trustee P. Thompson motioned to approve the Speech Communication BA/BS emphasis name change and the creation of the Russian Studies emphasis in BA/BS Integrated Studies. Trustee Sunderlage seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Dalton asked Trustee P. Thompson to provide an update on the activities of the Academic Affairs Committee. Trustee P. Thompson noted that at the committee's most recent meeting they not only reviewed the academic programs which were just approved but they also were presented with information on UVU's efforts to move the needle on graduation rates. Trustee P. Thompson asked Michelle Kearns and David Connelly to share this information with the Trustees. AVPs Kearns and Connelly provided the Trustees with information on UVU's student demographics; the calculated IPEDS completion data and the new metrics being used which more accurately evaluates UVU's graduation rates; and, the efforts in place to improve and enhance UVU's completion rates including guided pathways, the reimagining the first-year project, revised scheduling, and use of predictive analytics in advising. It was noted that the benefits to student cohorts from these efforts have yet to be reflected in the IPEDS data, but UVU's own metrics indicate that there are already measurable benefits from these interventions. The Trustees were reminded that UVU could easily improve its graduation rates by changing admission standards to eliminate the most vulnerable, least academically successful students but doing so would be antithetical to the university's mission so the university is working to improve its graduation rates while addressing the needs of all its students.

Chair Dalton asked Trustee Sunderlage to provide an update on the activities of the Finance and Facilities Committee. Trustee Sunderlage spoke to the retreat the committee recently held. During this retreat, the committee focused on the expected major growth of Utah County and its impact on the future of UVU, the awarding of tuition waivers and UVU's ability to address the needs of both residents and non-residents annually, and the manner in which UVU seeks funding for facilities projects, particularly the efforts underway to receive legislative support for a new building for the Woodbury School of Business. Trustee Sunderlage reported that the Regents have established a system of evaluating the financial health of each USHE institution and they have found UVU to be fiscally sound and able to withstand financial challenges.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Trustees were asked to review the Consent Calendar which consisted of the minutes of October 26, 2017; the investment report for September 2017; and, the 2017 Fleet Report. Trustee Acerson motioned to approve the Consent Calendar and Trustee Gappmayer seconded. The motion carried without opposition.

I. INFORMATION

1. President's Report

President Holland provided the Trustees with a report on the university. President Holland discussed UVU's K-16 Alliance and invited the Trustees to attend a conference the following day. UVU is committed to making progress on the established priorities, particularly the goal to improve math preparedness among students to 75%. The

President spoke to the Toughest 24 basketball journey and the travel undertaken by a group of donors/supporters. He then spoke to the Crosstown Clash which was an historic victory for UVU engagement and spoke to the university's ambitions surrounding attendance and athletic culture. The President discussed the Fine Arts engaged learning book project, the continued efforts surrounding cyber security, the success of the PRSSA team at the Golden Spike Awards, and UVU's participation on the Gelato Team USA. He noted the Aviation programs recognition as a top program and the Autism Center's recognition as an architectural award winner. The President then turned to the Presidential Transition efforts. He noted that he was not on a farewell tour and was committed to working hard up until the minute he is due at the MTC. This led to a review of his Presidential Priorities which include promoting the dual mission of the university and actively fundraising for key initiatives. The President will work with VP Cooksey to re-conceptualize the university's fundraising strategies and lay the groundwork for the next President to start a new campaign. The President spoke of integrating the university master planning initiative with the student success manifesto and reimagining the undergraduate experience. UVU will work to become a leader in computing and technology and provide strength in moving USHE forward in the eyes of the legislature. This will all be complimented by President Holland's personal commitment to further champion UVU's individual students.

Chair Dalton asked to postpone VP Kyle Reyes's presentation on inclusion until the January meeting.

Trustee P. Thompson motioned to adjourn. The motion carried without opposition.