

**+MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS**

**January 22, 2021**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened on January 22, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois. Ms. Barb Baurer, Chair, presided.

**Roll Call**

Roll was called:

Ms. Baurer	Present
Mr. Dively	Present
Ms. Edwards	Present
Mr. Hicks	Present
Ms. Madigan	Present
Mr. Perri	Present
Mr. Ruhaak	Present
Mr. Thompson	Present

Also present were the following:

Dr. David Glassman, President  
Dr. Jay Gatrell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mr. Sean Reeder, Vice President for Business Affairs  
Dr. Anne Flaherty, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Dr. Ken Wetstein, Vice President of University Advancement and Foundation Executive Officer  
Mr. Paul McCann, Director of Business Services and Treasurer  
Ms. Laura McLaughlin, General Counsel  
Ms. Judy Gorrell, Executive Secretary to the President and Assistant Secretary, Board of Trustees

**Executive Session**

Mr. Dively moved that the Board of Trustees convene into Executive Session to consider employment of employees, as permitted by Section 2.C.1 of the Open Meetings Act, collective negotiating matters, as permitted by Section 2.C.2 of the Open Meetings Act, student matters as permitted by Section 2.C.9 of the Open Meetings Act, and pending, probable, or imminent litigation, as permitted by Section 2.C.11 of the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. Dively moved to return to Open Session. Mr. Perri seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

## **Information Items**

### **Report from Board Chair**

Chair Baurer welcomed everyone to the first BOT meeting of 2021. We are expecting to have a smooth beginning of this semester at the start of 2021. We have an opportunity to reflect on the progress and good things that have taken place. It is impressive how the President, his leadership team, faculty, staff, and students have handled the COVID situation—a wonderful indication of the spirit and cooperation of our campus. Hopefully, the same level of support will be on campus in the spring.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Executive/Planning Committee**

The committee received an update from Katie Anselment on governmental relations and how she handles her role in Springfield. The President provided an update on COVID and the actions being taken on campus. This spring EIU will be using the Shield IL saliva testing. We are prepared to test 500 individuals each week, 400 students and 100 employees. The tests will be taken to a lab in Decatur. Josh Norman talked about enrollment. Of his strategic plan initiatives, 94% are completed or are in progress. Josh also reported on Freshman Connection. The pilot program this year was a great success, and the number of participants next year will be doubled. Laura McLaughlin discussed the proposed

revision to the Faculty Senate Constitution, the proposed revision to Board Regulation IV.J.2.b, and the Temporary COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Policy, all of which will be on the agenda this afternoon for Board action. Chair Baurer discussed the Board Officer and Committee Chair positions.

#### Finance and Audit Committee

Ms. Madigan reported that the committee received a good report on year-to-date financial results. As of November 30, 2020, we are comparable to other years. The committee received information on the purchase item, CART and VRI Accessibility Service, which will be on the agenda this afternoon as an action item. The committee received a detailed report on the Federal Economic Stimulus Program. CARES I money included \$2.25M for students and \$2.25M for institutional use. CARES II money included \$2.5M for students and \$5.6M for institutional use. GEER funds provided \$1.2M.

#### Board Regulations – No report

#### Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Ms. Edwards reported that VP Flaherty and Ms. Kingery of Career Services provided a report on placement rates for highly enrolled programs. Dr. Glassman noted the consistency of top majors from year to year. Employers continue to ask for liberal arts majors because of their writing and critical thinking skills.

VP Flaherty highlighted the Esports arena which opened in September 2019. The arena was visited by 4,359 people during the Fall 2019 semester and 2,170 during January – March 2020. As a result of COVID, the arena was temporarily closed, but thrived remotely.

Provost Gatrell provided a summary of the CR/NC grade type as a way to serve our students in response to the pandemic. The Provost also discussed the teaching modalities in Spring 2021. In the Fall of 2020, 26.8% of classes were face to face, 26% were hybrid, and 47.2% were online. The breakdown for Spring 2021 is similar with 22.1% face-to-face, 27.3% hybrid, and 50.6% online. The Provost also provided an overview of SJR41, which is designed to enhance student success.

#### University Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee

Mr. Ruhaak reported that VP Wetstein gave his normal report. Activities are continuing the same positive trend as last year. The retention rate is 17.5% and the alumni giving rate is 2.21%. Alumni Association and Foundation activities are continuing through online means. The Foundation's total assets is a touch over \$100M. There is a Foundation meeting and an Alumni Association meeting this month.

#### Action Items

- A. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2020.  
Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes

Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

- B. Ms. Madigan moved to purchase Remote Communications Access Real- time Translation (CART) and Video Remote (VRI) from Alternative Communication Services, LLC, Lombard, IL at a cost not to exceed \$150,000/annually. The term of this agreement will be July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, with the option to renew for two (2) additional three-year periods. There was a 0% BEP goal. The fund source was Appropriated Funds. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

- C. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the Contract Renewal and Successor Agreement for the Operating Engineers, Local 399. The Agreement was ratified on November 10, 2020 to renew a one-year successor agreement with no changes except for wages and compensatory time. There are approximately 7 employees in the bargaining unit and the effective date of the contract is August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021. The total cost is \$6,992. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

- D. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the proposed revision to Board Regulation IV.J.2.b. The proposed revision deletes, “but no more than one and a half percent (1.5%) of the University’s annual state

appropriation may be expended for intercollegiate athletics unless approved by the Board.” Mr. Hicks seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

- E. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the modification to the Faculty Senate Constitution. The Faculty Senate constitution currently states that a faculty member must be in at least their fourth semester of appointment at the university to be eligible to run for elected university committee positions. The Faculty Senate proposes, “Any member of the faculty shall be eligible for nomination and election to any of the standing committees of the faculty.” Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes
Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

- F. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the Temporary COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Policy retroactively to January 1, 2021. The policy can be viewed at this link, <https://www.eiu.edu/humanres/benefits/Temporary%20COVID-19%20Emergency%20Paid%20Sick%20Leave%20Policy.pdf> Mr. Dively seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dively	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Perri	Yes

Mr. Ruhaak	Yes
Mr. Thompson	Yes
Ms. Baurer	Yes

Motion carried.

## **Information Items**

### **President's Report**

Dr. Glassman thanked the technology professionals from the University Union, ITS, and Doudna for their hard work.

Provost Gatrell introduced Mr. Nick Shaw, Chair of the Theater Department. Today the theater Department will be doing a cutting of Anton Chekhov's The Seagull. Anne Thibault did an adaption and turned it into a film version. Today they will be showing two clips, one from Act II and one from Act IV followed by a Q & A.

### **Reports from Constituencies**

#### **Faculty Senate**

Don Holly reported that Faculty Senate has met twice since the last Board meeting. We now have the EIU alerts going off at 9:25 instead of 10:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. The Faculty Senate and the faculty at large voted to change their Constitution, and it came to the Board at today's meeting for approval. It was suggested at the December meeting to go a +/- grading system. Currently, there are 10 points between letter grades, and Dr. Holly's opinion is that 10 points is too wide a spread. The Faculty is discussing combining all grade appeal committees into a university-wide grade appeal committee.

**Staff Senate** – No report

#### **Student Government**

Noor-ul-Haash Khamisani introduced herself to the Board. She reported that special elections are scheduled for April 25 and 26. Pantherpalooza is scheduled on February 1. This virtual event will give students an opportunity to visit 175+ RSOs. Noor also discussed some initiatives that are in the planning stage for the remainder of her term as Student Body President which includes mental health awareness, sexual assault awareness, rebuilding student action teams, and collaborating with other student body presidents online to discuss common issues and themes.

**Summary of Purchases \$100,000-\$249,999** -- None

### **FY 2020 Deposit and Investment Report**

For the quarter ending December 31, 2020, the University had an average daily invested cash balance of \$52,191,610.38 and a net average daily balance of \$49,712,090.68. The annualized average yield was 0.11 percent. The market value of the university's endowment portfolio as of December 31, 2020 was \$5,951,322.09. The portfolio had a 10.75 percent return for the quarter. In addition, the university's Buckler Farm had a total market value of \$2,567,960.43 as of December 31, 2020.

**Financial Aid Programs Report**

Sixty percent of Eastern's student body received some type of financial assistance in FY 2020 in the form of loans, scholarships, grants, tuition waivers, and/or employment from various federal, state, and university programs. Financial aid in FY 2020 totaled \$82,971,631 at Eastern; 51 percent came from federal sources, 12 percent from the State, 29 percent from institutional sources, and 8 percent from other sources.

**University Highlights**

University Highlights were provided as well as spotlight events around campus, student/faculty/staff/alumni honors and achievements, athletic events and honors.

**Other Matters** – None**Public Comment** – None**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned.