



USU Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
USU Board of Trustees Mar 3, 2023 at 1:15 PM MST
University Inn – Sonne Board Room

Attendance

Present:

Board of Trustees:

Clara Alder
Kent K. Alder
John Y. Ferry
Gina Gagon (remote)
David H. Huntsman

Kacie Malouf
Wayne L. Niederhauser (remote)
Steve Palmer
David A. Petersen
Jacey Skinner (remote)

Absent:

Tessa White

Utah State University Representatives:

Janet Anderson
Jodi Bailey
Paul Barr
Mykel Beorchia
Lisa Berreau
Janalyn Brown
Noelle Cockett
Dave Cowley
John Ferguson
Arthur Gulden
Nancy Hanks
Ryan Hobbs
Jane Irungu
Heidi Kesler
Harrison Kleiner

Mica McKinney
Andrea Olding
Eric Olsen
Bill Plate
Kevin Schemmin
Lisa Simmons
Larry Smith
Brian Steed
Kristie Swainston
Bailey Todd
Camren Todd
Robert Wagner
Ken White
Matt White (remote)

Utah Board of Higher Education:

Julie Hartley (remote)
Scott Theurer (remote)

1. Welcome and Introductory Items - Chair Kent Alder

Chair Alder shared USU Founder's Day, held the previous evening, was a great success and was enjoyed by all attendees.

The next USU Board of Trustees meeting will be held virtually, Friday, April 7 and will be brief due to promotion and tenure will be the only agenda item.

2. Closed Session

Motion:

Motion to enter a closed session was made at 1:36 p.m.

Motion by John Y. Ferry and motion seconded by David H. Huntsman. A roll call vote was taken by Secretary Janalyn Brown. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Attendance

Present:

Clara Alder

Kent K. Alder

Janalyn Brown

Noelle Cockett

John Y. Ferry

Gina Gagon

David H. Huntsman

Kacie Malouf

Mica McKinney

Wayne L. Niederhauser

Steve Palmer

David A. Petersen

Jacey Skinner

Larry Smith

Robert Wagner

Absent:

Tessa White

Chair Alder conducted the meeting. Personnel, property and/or legal issues were discussed.

Motion:

Motion was made to end the closed session.

Motion by Clara Alder and motion seconded by Kacie Malouf. All were in favor and the closed session was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

3. Chair's Report – Chair Kent Alder

3.1. Commencement Dates and Attendance

Chair Alder discussed the upcoming dates of the 2023 Utah State University Commencement ceremonies and encouraged board members to RSVP for both Statewide and Logan campus events. The Board of Trustees should have representations at each location

3.2. Bylaws Update

Vice President McKinney is in the process of updating the Board of Trustees bylaws with the hope of presenting and voting on them in the May 2023 meeting. It has been several years since there was an update.

Officer election will be clarified as the vote for board chair and vice chair happens each odd year. This election will be held in May and more information will be forthcoming. The Board of Trustees Executive Committee is updated with a vote for three members in addition to the new chair and vice chair.

President Cockett shared all trustee members can continue to serve, with the exclusion of Trustee Palmer (Alumni President, two-year tenure) and Trustee Clara Alder (USUSA President, one-year tenure). Vice President Wisner is currently working with the Governor's Office. These reappointments will be confirmed by the Senate as well.

3.3. Parking Passes

Parking passes are now available and should be in trustee folders if in-person or will be mailed after the meeting to those attending remotely.

4. Trustee Recognition – President Noelle Cockett

Senior Vice Provost Janet Anderson presented the Student Achievement Collaborative and read a resolution of commendation.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. Executive Committee – Committee Chair Kent Alder
No further report.

5.2. Recruitment, Retention and Completion Committee – Committee Chair Gina Gagon

Trustee Gagon shared there are both good news and challenges to report. Challenge: The Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) is moving towards one common application. This could cause budgeting issues as this pilot program waives the application fees. The good news is we did a test pilot and there was an increase in applications.

Executive Vice President Wagner's team has been working hard to come up with 4-year scholarships and are working to be more active with first time students through the Academic Belonging & Learning Excellence office. They are working with students who may need extra help. Recruiting has seen increases in both Price and Blanding. Blanding has had the smallest increase but, because of the pandemic, the group feels any increase in that area is positive.

5.3. Marketing and Communications Committee – Committee Chair Jacey Skinner

Trustee Skinner said her committee did not meet but invited Vice President Plate to update the group with their efforts. Plate mentioned they have successful campaigns running and are currently getting ready to launch a large out-of-state campaign. These campaigns will supplement recruiting efforts. Billboards along I-15 are weathered, and updates to these ads are coming very soon.

5.4. Student Health, Safety and Well-being Committee – Committee Chair David Huntsman

Trustee Huntsman recognized Interim Vice President Olsen and his team for their good work. Staffing continues to be a challenge. The group is having difficulty finding competent, qualified applicants. Olsen mentioned they currently have open searches. There is a shortage for masters-level therapy and counseling providers, and the number of students seeking counseling is going up.

5.5. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee - Chair Dave Petersen

Trustee Petersen's committee met the day prior, and their focus was on risks. It was a very productive meeting. The discussion included the current risk register and not prioritizing risks. There are good processes in

place, which compare and benchmark with others. They discussed external pressures such as pressure on higher education in general to justify itself. What are universities doing and why? Are institutions nationwide overfocusing on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI)? Are they favoring one idealization over another? Many other issues were discussed concerning risk such as litigation or public perception, discrimination, reverse discrimination, prioritize the true mission of the university, mental health, students of concern, suicidality, pay scale, campus safety, crime on campus, high cost of litigation as result of campus insecurity, etc. Chief Audit Office Bailey stated audit does not correlate with lower risk. Trustee Petersen stated student safety needs to be high priority. Utah State University's annual report to the Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE) will be presented in person this month.

5.6. Academic Approval Committee - Chair Wayne L. Niederhauser

Chair Niederhauser mentioned the work done in his committee is dominating the consent agenda with 27-29 401s. There are 10 certificates, three program discontinuations, three emphases, two minors, four name changes, and several more. Chair Alder stated this shows the institution is adapting to the needs of students.

5.7. Honorary Degrees, Awards, and Recognition Committee - Chair John Ferry

Vice Chair Ferry reported all honorary degree invitees have accepted the invitation extended by President Cockett and plans are being made to move forward.

6. Student Recognition – Trustee Clara Alder

Trustee Clara Alder read and presented a resolution of commendation to student-athlete Camren Todd.

7. President's Report – President Noelle Cockett

President Cockett stated the last 10 days of the legislative session were intense. The President shared a draft document which showed both system wide and USU specific asks. Utah State University received 60% of

the performance funding possible, \$4.2 million plus \$1.2 million reallocation. The University of Utah received 60%, Snow College received 75%, and Salt Lake Community College received 75% performance funding. The degree seeking institutions found when looking at their numbers that the pandemic impacted each of them. They found students took less credits, especially seniors, which dropped USU in timely completions. If Utah State recovers this coming year, the institution will recover the money we did not receive the year before. This is a very complicated situation. There has been much discussion concerning salary compensation. This issue is still to be determined but they do know higher education will not receive 100% of the amount the state is giving for salary increases. President Cockett discussed USU specific RFAs or bills as shown in the draft spreadsheet and mentioned the possibility of not receiving operations and maintenance monies for the newly formed College of Veterinary Medicine. Overall, Utah State University had a fabulous year.

7.1. 2023 Legislative Updates

Executive Director Brian Steed announced USU is at the table in all Great Salt Lake discussions.

8. Research Presentation - Vice President Lisa Berreau

Vice President of Research Lisa Berreau shared a presentation and report on research programs at Utah State University.

9. Consent Agenda

9.1. Approve: University Policy 403: Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility

9.2. Approve: Proposal to Restructure the Skilled and Technical Sciences Education Emphasis in the Department of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

9.3. Approve: Proposal to Offer an Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in Additive Manufacturing in the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

- 9.4. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Technology Systems: Advanced Manufacturing Emphasis in the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.5. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Certificate of Proficiency in Construction Fundamentals in the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.6. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name and Restructuring of the Emergency Medical Technician and First Responders Certificate of Proficiency to Emergency Medical Technician Certificate of Proficiency
- 9.7. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name and Restructuring of the Certified Nursing Assistant Certificate of Proficiency to Nursing Assistant Certificate of Proficiency
- 9.8. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name of the Master of Arts and Master of Science from Folklore and American Studies to Folklore Studies in the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 9.9. Approve: Proposal to Restructure and Offer a Pharmacy Technician Certificate of Completion in the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.10. Approve: Proposal to Offer an Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in Environmental Planning in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.11. Approve: Proposal to Discontinue the English BA-BS Emphasis in Technical Communication and Rhetoric in the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 9.12. Approve: Proposal (see description)
Offer a New Graduate Certificate in Cultural Resource Management Policy, Advocacy, and Business Administration in the Departments of Marketing and Strategy, School of Accountancy and Sociology and Anthropology in CHaSS and HSB Proposes Offering a New Graduate Certificate in Cultural Resource Management Policy, Advocacy, and Business Administration
- 9.13. Approve: Proposal to Restructure and Offer a Phlebotomy Technician Certificate of Completion in the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.14. Approve: Proposal to Offer an Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in Digital Modeling and Visualization in the Department of Landscape Architecture in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

- 9.15. Approve: Proposal to Discontinue the Landscape Management Certificate in the Department of Plants, Soils and Climate in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 9.16. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Certificate of Proficiency in the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 9.17. Approve: Proposal to Discontinue the Sociology-Criminal Justice Emphasis in the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 9.18. Approve: Proposal to Offer a New Emphasis in Recreation Administration, Bachelor of Science in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Science in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 9.19. Approve: Proposal to Restructure and Include a Bilingual-Bicultural Deaf Education Emphasis in the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 9.20. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name of the Leadership and Management Minor to Leadership Minor in the Department of Marketing and Strategy in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
- 9.21. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Minor in Technical Communication and Rhetoric in the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 9.22. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 9.23. Approve: Proposal to Offer a Bachelor of Science in Data Science in the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics and Computer Science in the College of Science
- 9.24. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name of the Psychology MEd to School Counseling MEd in the Department of Psychology in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 9.25. Approve: Proposal to Offer an Emphasis in Healthcare Management in the Department of Management in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
- 9.26. Approve: Proposal to Restructure and Rename the Psychology Sociobehavioral Epidemiology and Quantitative Psychology Specializations PhD to Psychology: Data Science and Research

Methodology Specialization PhD in the Department of Psychology in the EEJCEHS

- 9.27. Approve: Proposal to Change the Name of the Human Development Lifespan Emphasis to Human Development Emphasis in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 9.28. Approve: Proposal to Offer a General Education Certificate of Completion in the Office of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Motion:

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by John Y. Ferry and motion seconded by David H. Huntsman. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

10. Action Agenda

- 10.1. Approve and Accept: Proposal on 2023-24 Tuition and Student Fees, Including an Adjustment to Technical Education Tuition and Fees - Department Head Brian Warnick

Trustee Clara Alder and Department Head Brian Warnick shared presentation on the proposed 2023-2024 tuition and student fees. Trustee Clara Alder and her fellow students like to call it the "tea on tuition." She stated tuition was quite simple this year as there is zero net change. Warnick shared the Utah Board of Education required all technical education programs align their programs, courses, credits, and cost. Tuition and student fees were "leveled" for all Utah institutions offering technical certificate. USU will accomplish this by balancing increased tuition with elimination of program fees and adding limited differential tuition and course fees. In doing so, tuition for technical education is kept "net neutral."

Motion:

Motion was made to approve 2023-2024 tuition and student fees as outlined and presented.

Motion by John Y. Ferry and motion seconded by David A. Petersen. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

- 10.2. Approve and Accept: Statewide Student Fee Policy Updates - Trustee Clara Alder

Trustee Clara Alder stated over the last year the Commissioner's Office, as well as the Utah Board of Higher Education, have asked technical colleges and degree-granting institutions to become aligned in terms of program names, curriculum, credit hours and in some cases, costs. At USU, there is currently a Logan Student Fee Board which approve fee increases and decreases. Likewise, there is a Statewide Fee Board. This item on the agenda is to add technical education representation to the Statewide Campus Fee Board.

Motion:

Motion was made to accept the Statewide Student Fee Policy updates as outlined and presented.

Motion by David H. Huntsman and motion seconded by Steve Palmer. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

- 10.3. Approve: Center for the School of the Future - Cambridge Prep Academy (Salt Lake County) - changing open date from Fall 2023 to Fall 2024 - David Forbush, Associate Director and Parker Fawson, Director - Center for the School of the Future
- 10.4. Approve: Center for the School of the Future - Cambridge Prep Academy (Washington County) - changing open date from Fall 2023 to Fall 2024 - David Forbush, Associate Director and Parker Fawson, Director - Center for the School of the Future

School of the Future Director Parker Fawson and Associate Director David Forbush shared a packet of information which included answers to questions raised by the Trustee Academic Approval Committee (TAAC). In March of 2020, the School of the Future met with the Board of Trustees to ask the board to activate their authority as a charter school authorizer in the state of Utah. Forbush shared there were no new charter school brought to the board for their approval in this meeting, but the School of the Future would like to plan to bring any future charter schools annually in March. Trustee Palmer mentioned the TAAC committee wanted this item to be discussed by the board so they could understand why Utah State University is involved in the authorization of charter schools who offer K-12 education. Forbush indicated that when a charter school is authorized, this action brings a school into existence. If the school performs well, they will continue to exist. If they do not do well, the authorizer has the power to

close the school. President Cockett shared the School of the Future has a history and legacy of helping public education schools achieve performance. Fawson stated the largest authorizer is the Utah State Charter School Board, which is one of five entities in the state of Utah. President Cockett mentioned the Board of Trustees could rely completely on the School of the Future, get the full board training, or form an additional committee to vet and be more involved in the authorizing process. Trustee Malouf shared another question from the TAAC committee concerning the risk to the university. Fawson said there are statutes in place to protect authorizers from having to pay debts incurred by schools. There are also protections in law as well. The board struggled with their role as authorizers. It was brought to their attention that in the 2020 approval process, this was on the consent agenda. Vice Chair Ferry moved to table. No second was made. Vice President McKinney stated the School of the Future has brought two items to the trustees for an extension of the opening date of two charter schools, which were previously approved by the board. This issue is time sensitive as the deadline to open is currently fall 2023. McKinney inquired as to why the charter schools were asking for an extension. Forbush gave reasons as: supply interest rates, property costs and supply-line issues. Trustee Petersen proposed tabling the items to gain time to get more information. No second was made.

Motion:

Motion was made to accept the delay for both charter schools for one year, but no more delays would be granted.

Motion by Steve Palmer and motion seconded by Kacie Malouf. Chair Alder, Trustee Palmer and Trustee Malouf voted to approve. Vice Chair Ferry and Trustees Gagon, Huntsman, Petersen, and Clara Alder were opposed. Trustees Skinner and Niederhauser were not in attendance for the vote. The motion failed and the extension was not granted.

11. Information Agenda

- 11.1. Report of Investments for October 2022
- 11.2. Report of Investments for November 2022
- 11.3. Revised Policy 515 Travel
- 11.4. Revised Policy 542 Disposition of Property and Evidence by USU Police Department

11.5. President's Report

12. ADJOURN

Motion:

Motion to adjourn was made.

Motion by Steve Palmer and motion seconded by Kacie Malouf. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Kent K. Alder, Chair

Janalyn Brown, Secretary
(minutes taken by Janalyn Brown)

Date Approved