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Governors State University Board of Trustees Meeting with Committees, and Minutes for the Governors State University Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - February 15, 2008

Board of Trustees

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Governors State University

**Board of Trustees Meeting, February 15, 2008
Minutes**

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, February 15, 2008, in the William D. McGee Hall of Honors at Governors State University.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Samuels called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Roll call was taken, and the following Trustees were present: Bruce Friefeld, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Jack Beaupre, Lorine Samuels, Lois Mayer, Kathleen Field Orr, and Student Trustee Elizabeth Green.

Also present were: Elaine Maimon, Gebe Ejigu, Joan Vaughan, Peggy Woodard, Alexis Kennedy, Colleen Rock, Paul Blobaum, Kathy Miller, and Rosa Moran.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Samuels requested a motion for the approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2007 Board meeting. Friefeld moved that the minutes be approved. Mayer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Samuels stated that the Board will approve the consent agenda items later. No new items were requested to be added to the agenda.

Executive Session

Chair Samuels requested a motion to move into Executive Session. DeLaurentiis moved that the Board convene in Executive Session, as permitted under the Open Meetings Act, to consider and discuss employment and litigation matters. Green seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. The general public was asked to leave the room, and the Trustees went into Executive Session at 3:40 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The general public was invited to return to the meeting. Chair Samuels stated that the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation issues. No final action was taken.

Remarks and Reports

Chair's Report: Chair Samuels welcomed everyone to the first meeting in 2008 and wished everyone a belated happy New Year. Last year ended on a very strong note: a new administration; a new approach to how the Board conducts its business; a clear direction for GSU as determined by the Board of Trustees at the August retreat and defined by the *Seven Imperatives* outlined by President Maimon; the Board's approval of the use of bond financing for long-overdue deferred maintenance and building renewal projects; the start of an inclusive process to update the strategic plan; and the launch of the GSU Promise, which is a clear declaration of the Board's commitment to the purpose and mission of the University.

There will be a number of challenges in 2008. First and foremost, the budget and the uncertainty of the funding the Governor will propose for higher education. Unfortunately, higher education has never been

the Governor's highest priority. Again this year, GSU will have to invest talent and energy to fight for the supplemental appropriations that were received for each of the past few years, as well as a modest increase in the base operating budget. President Maimon asked that Chair Samuels join her at the budget hearings in Springfield during the forthcoming legislative session, and Chair Samuels has agreed to do so. If she is not available for any of the hearings, she will call on one or more of the Trustees to represent the Board on her behalf. Second, the deferred maintenance initiative will require close and continuing scrutiny and vigilant monitoring by the Board. Some questions and issues were discussed in the Budget and Finance Committee meeting that just ended, and the full Board will consider some of them later in this meeting. And third, the University continues to be committed to academic excellence and the expansion of doctoral programs. Dr. Maimon pledged to continue initiatives to raise academic standards, to grow enrollment through strengthening partnerships with community colleges, to stimulate faculty research, to expand outreach to the community and to improve philanthropic support. The Board will support her in these initiatives. Significant progress was made in 2007. Even greater progress can be achieved in 2008.

Chuck Connolly, Senior Advisor to the President, is retiring at the end of February. On behalf of the Board, Chair Samuels expressed her sincere thanks and appreciation for the wonderful work that he has done over the last seven years. His expertise and leadership will be missed.

Chair Samuels encouraged the Trustees to attend the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) National Conference on Trusteeship, scheduled for April 12-15, in Boston, Massachusetts. To ensure that there is broad-based coverage in the workshops from those Trustees attending, Chair Samuels asked Penny Perdue, Executive Assistant to the President, to coordinate the selection of workshops.

Given the sad and distressing events at Northern Illinois University, Chair Samuels asked that everyone keep the students, parents, faculty and administrators in one's prayers. Such tragedies certainly demand everyone to focus on the safety of students nationwide and at GSU. Chair Samuels requested that Dr. Maimon give an update on GSU's response to this and give the Trustees an update on GSU's Emergency Preparedness Plan in the near future.

Trustee Mayer moved to approve the following resolution:

Resolution 08-27: Resolution of Condolence, Northern Illinois University: Whereas, Northern Illinois University (NIU), like Governors State University, is a vital part of the system of public higher education in this state; and Whereas, we share bonds of common interest, mission and proximity with that institution; and Whereas, the Board of Trustees, and all of the people who are a part of Governors State University, wish to express their sadness, support and condolence to our associates and friends at NIU, now and in the future, Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the Governors State University Board of Trustees that our university offers our continuing sympathy to the students, faculty, administration and trustees of Northern Illinois University, and our deepest condolences to the victims of the violence at NIU and their families.

Green seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. Chair Samuels thanked Chief Boyd and her officers for their vigilance and professional work during the evening of February 14.

Chair Samuels reported that she met Dr. Juan Andrade, the Honorary Doctoral Degree Candidate, at

the GSU dinner honoring him. His resume is certainly representative of his many years of contributions to educating and empowering the Latino community. It was impressive to hear colleagues, faculty, and students affirm his contributions. Trustees DeLaurentiis, Mayer and Green also attended the dinner.

Based on the experience of the last few months, Chair Samuels suggested that the Board consider moving to a “committee of the whole” structure. She shared her thoughts on this in a note sent to the Board. General Counsel, Alexis Kennedy, has reviewed the proposal and advised that there is nothing inherently wrong or inconsistent with the proposal with regard to Robert’s Rules of Order or any laws or regulations that govern the Board. A copy of the proposal was included in the Trustees’ supplemental folders.

The Trustees have also received a copy of the Facilities Committee’s charge and responsibilities. Chair Samuels would like all the Board committees, including Governance and Facilities, to be functioning. The chairperson for each committee has the responsibility to meet with his/her respective University liaison to discuss committee issues prior to the Board meeting. An office is available for Trustees to work on campus if necessary. Each Trustee should inform Penny Perdue if he/she plans to be on campus and needs use of the office space.

President's Report: President Maimon thanked the entire Emergency Response Team. A report will be prepared for the Trustees and presented at the next meeting. GSU’s third doctoral program, the Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (DOT) was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) in February. Congratulations to Dean Samson and her team. President Maimon introduced Joan Vaughan, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. She thanked Chuck Connolly for all his work. A farewell party for Connolly is being planned.

Regarding tuition and fees, President Maimon acknowledged that the Administration is asking for material increases over previous years. This is a tough request for the Board to approve—but it is needed. For example, if GSU does not have a facilities fee, it will not be able to sell the bonds and move forward with crucial, safety-related projects. In terms of tuition, the Administration will do everything it can for the students so that they are not being prevented from pursuing higher education because of financial need. The Administration will be as imaginative as it can to raise funds through philanthropy and various other ways to aid students in need. President Maimon asked that the Board hold the Administration accountable. The Administration is committed to making sure access to GSU means access to quality education in a safe environment. She pointed out there are many safety related needs that cannot be covered by deferred maintenance projects. The President urged the Board to approve the recommendations for tuition and fee increases.

Faculty Senate President’s Report: Blobaum thanked Chuck Connolly for his service and for “putting a new face” on GSU. He thanked Peggy Woodard for her leadership as Interim Provost. She will assume the leadership of the College of Education until a permanent dean is hired. The faculty looks forward to Dr. Jane Rhoades Hudak’s arrival as Provost on March 17.

At the last Board meeting, Blobaum did not make any remarks regarding the death of Trustee McGee, partly because he did not know him and partly because he was unfamiliar with McGee’s career as an educator, community leader, and member of the Board. After attending his memorial service at GSU in January and learning about McGee, Blobaum now expressed his sympathy and appreciation to his family for McGee’s many years of service to GSU.

Over 60 faculty members intend to participate in Winter Commencement on February 16. GSU is a university on the move according to a report by the Lumina Foundation, "Making Opportunity Affordable." Currently, about 26% of Illinois citizens between 25 and 64 have a bachelor's degree. By 2025, the report suggests that to remain competitive 51% of that age group will need to have a bachelor's degree. Therefore GSU's mission to make high quality higher education accessible is needed now more than ever. Efforts to reach those first generation students, especially those from minority groups and new immigrant groups, will be crucial to make this goal reachable; and all of this is making GSU an exciting place to be.

Student Senate President's Report: Blobaum presented the report in Moran's absence. A *Notes at Noon* was held on Valentine's Day. Other events sponsored by the Programming Committee include February 21st --*Living Your Best Life Now* from 12-3pm in Engbretson Hall; March 26th -- *Entertainment and Job Symposium and Networking Opportunity* from 3-6pm in the cafeteria annex; and events honoring American legends in cooperation with the Center for Performing Arts. There is a new chair for the Student Academic Affairs Committee, Sheryl Yarborough, who will be working with Moran to provide advice to the Provost on the grievance policy and Student Code of Conduct. Moran is also participating in the Restorative Justice Committee and will provide feedback on that as well. New senators were recently elected. On February 22, a new executive board will be elected. Moran is not seeking the office of President again.

Civil Service Senate President's Report: Miller gave an abbreviated report and will email the full report to Perdue for distribution to the Trustees. The Senate Executive and Governance Committees held a very productive retreat on February 6. Ejigu and Tony Tymkow of Human Resources (HR) attended that meeting. The goal was to review and revise the by-laws, committees and membership to comply with the BOT regulations. Miller is very pleased with the revisions. The revised document will go through the adoption process, which includes presentation to the full Senate. The Senate is very glad that Deborah Boyd has been appointed GSU Chief of Police, and they strongly support her; however, she will have to be replaced as the employee advisory committee representative to the State.

Public Comment Period

Consistent with Public Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined by the Board of Trustees, at each regular or special meeting of the Board or its committees that is open to the public members of the public may request a brief time on the approved agenda of the meeting to address the Board on relevant matters within its jurisdiction. Committees of the Board review University proposals for action and make adjustments and endorsements as appropriate for further consideration by the full Board. Public comments are generally most useful at meetings of Board committees, where proposals are first considered and the time of interaction is most feasible. Jackie Johnson, student, and Marsha Katz, University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) Chapter president, requested to speak.

Johnson stated that she had some concerns she will put in writing for the Board to review. It was agreed that Johnson would submit her written concerns to Interim Provost Woodard. Woodard will forward the information to Alexis Kennedy, Legal Counsel, who will forward it to the Board. The Board will determine what action, if any, is needed. Johnson requested to speak at the next Board meeting.

Katz offered her sympathy to those affected by the incident at NIU. She stated that the President of the faculty union at NIU worked on the safety manual. Their quick response indicates a good level of cooperation. Several weeks ago Katz received a certified letter in her chair in her office. The letter stated that there was a proposal for an increase of parking fees and to contact Gail Bradshaw if there were any questions. Katz set it aside and then, later, remembered that there was a Supreme Court decision that

mandatory parking fees are a bargaining issue. Two days before the deadline to voice concerns, Katz spoke with Bradshaw and informed her that it was a mandatory bargaining issue. Bradshaw was aware of that, which was why she sent the certified letter; but the letter she sent did not mention it being a bargaining issue. Katz met with Bradshaw on February 13. Katz's perception was that someone was trying to pull something off.

Strategic Planning Update

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Committee Reports

Human Resources Committee: DeLaurentiis, Chair of the committee, reported that the committee met in the morning. Items were discussed, but there were no action items to move forward.

Academic Affairs Committee: Mayer, Chair of the committee, reported that the committee met and had one action item, Resolution 08-26, Honorary Degree nominations, which is recommended for inclusion in the consent agenda.

Budget and Finance Committee: Beaupre, Chair of the committee, reported that the committee met and all Trustees were present at the time. A number of resolutions were considered. The committee recommended Resolution 08-22, a contract for upgrading and installing air handling units. Resolution 08-23, tuition increase, was discussed at great length. The committee voted to not make a recommendation to the full Board, and an initial motion to place the item on the consent agenda failed. Resolution 08-24, fee increases, was discussed and the motion for approval died for the lack of a second. Resolution 08-25, charter for the office of internal audit, was discussed and recommended to be included on the consent agenda. Other information items were discussed. Beaupre presented to the Board Resolution 08-23 without a recommendation from the committee.

Resolution 08-23: FY09 Tuition Increase: Upon the recommendation of the President, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the following tuition increases effective with the Fall 2008 trimester.

UNDERGRADUATE	Tuition per Credit		
	FY08	Change	FY09
New Undergraduate	\$179.00	+25.00	\$204.00
Undergraduate – Other (Pre-2005)	\$153.00	+51.00	\$204.00
GRADUATE			
MOT	\$279.00	+\$48.00	\$327.00
MPT	\$279.00	+\$48.00	\$327.00
DPT	\$374.00	+\$36.00	\$410.00
DNP	New	N/A	\$550.00
DOT	New	N/A	\$550.00
All Other	\$186.00	+\$39.00	\$225.00

- Please note tuition rates are for Illinois residents.
- Graduate tuition for non-resident students in the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program will be \$820.00 per credit hour.
- Graduate tuition for non-resident students in the Doctorate of Nursing program will be \$1,100 per credit hour.
- Graduate tuition for non-resident students in the Doctorate of Occupational Therapy program will be \$1,100 per credit hour.

- Under Public Act 93-0228 (Truth in Tuition law) the tuition rate established for undergraduate students who are Illinois residents and are new to Governors State University beginning in the Fall 2005 trimester or thereafter, the Fall 2006 trimester or thereafter and the Fall 2007 trimester or thereafter, will remain fixed at the tuition rate for those students at the time of their initial enrollment for twelve consecutive trimesters.

Beaupre moved to consider, as a full Board, Resolution 08-23. Friefeld seconded the motion. Chair Samuels stated that if the motion is approved, Resolution 08-23 would not be on the consent agenda, but would be considered by itself. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 08-23. Green seconded the motion. Chair Samuels confirmed that the Resolution came to the Board without a recommendation from the committee. The Board heard additional remarks from President Maimon with regard to the necessity of the tuition and fee increases and the Administration's commitment to be held accountable. Friefeld clarified that there is a state law that mandates that tuition will remain fixed at the tuition rate for students at the time of their initial enrollment for a period of four years. Beaupre stated that there was a great deal of discussion about this resolution in committee. The importance of providing accessible, quality education was agreed upon by all. Based on the Administration's assurance of accountability, Field Orr will support the resolution. Beaupre called to question on the adoption of the motion to approve Resolution 08-23. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 08-24: Fee increases for FY2008-09: Upon the recommendation of the President, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the following mandatory and non-mandatory student fee increases effective with the Fall 2008 trimester.

MANDATORY FEES:			
	FY 2008	Change	FY 2009
Student Activity	\$34.00/term	+\$ 2.00/term	\$36.00/term
Student Center	\$28.00/term	+\$ 2.00/term	\$30.00/term
Career Counseling	\$28.00	+\$ 2.00/term	\$30.00/term
Technology	\$28.00/term	N/A	\$10.00/credit
Strategic Initiative	\$11.00/credit	+\$ 2.00/credit	\$13.00/credit
Parking and Walkways	\$15.00/term	+\$15.00/term	\$30.00/term
Facilities	\$ 0.00	New	\$16.00/credit
NON-MANDATORY:			
Graduation (undergrad)	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
Graduation (graduate)	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$45.00
Transcripts	\$ 5.00	\$0.00	\$ 5.00
Installment Plan	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Late Payment	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Application (undergrad)	\$ 0.00	New	\$25.00
Application (graduate)	\$25.00	+\$25.00	\$50.00
Application (doctoral)	\$50.00	+\$25.00	\$75.00

Chair Samuels stated that Resolution 08-24 is not included in the consent agenda. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 08-24. Friefeld seconded the motion. Friefeld stated that everyone is well aware of the needs of the University, and it will be up to the Administration to prepare a fiscally responsible budget, and up to the Board to hold the Administration accountable. Beaupre added that the same principles apply to this resolution as those discussed in connection with the tuition increase resolution. He recommended that the Trustees be involved in the budget process prior to the time that proposals are presented to the

Budget and Finance Committee and suggested that at least two Trustees, one being the student trustee, sit on the university budget committee. That would give the Trustees greater insight into how the money that is approved is spent. Chair Samuels took the recommendation under advisement. Kennedy clarified that for those employees belonging to a union that negotiates parking fees, the increase for that particular fee will not be changed until the conclusion of collective bargaining. Mayer asked if two issues raised by Green, enhanced tutoring and increased faculty in certain programs, could be further discussed at some point. Friefeld reiterated that President Maimon stated the Administration will aggressively seek ways to help students in need of financial assistance. The Board wants a quality University, but also wants the University to remain accessible. DeLaurentiis requested that as part of the need for overarching accountability, the Administration regularly report to the Board in terms of student credit hours, headcount, and the impact of these increases on enrollment. Chair Samuels supported the recommendation by Green to prepare some marketing information that details the benefits of the proposed increases to inform the students. Beaupre called to question on the adoption of the motion to approve Resolution 08-24. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

DeLaurentiis moved that *Resolutions 08-22, 08-25, and 08-26* be placed on the consent agenda. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Action Items on the Consent Agenda

Resolution 08-22: Approval of Contract Award for Upgrading and Installing Air Handling Units and Controls: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Budget and Finance Committee, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the award of a purchase order and contract to ECI Mechanical of Mokena, IL, in the amount of \$624,471 for the upgrade and installation of air handling units and controls as specified in the bidding documents. With the standard 10% contingency, this action authorizes the University to spend up to \$686,918 on this project.

Resolution 08-25: Charter for the Office of Internal Audit: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Budget and Finance Committee, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the Charter for the Office of Internal Audit, a copy of which was attached to the resolution in the February 15, 2008 Board agenda booklet.

Resolution 08-26: Honorary Degree Nominees: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Honorary Degree Committee, and the review and concurrence of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the addition of the following candidates to the eligible list for Honorary Degrees: Mark di Suvero, Warner Saunders, Peter Schjeldahl, Dr. Blondean Y. Davis, Mark Puryear, and Karen Reid.

Field Orr moved to approve the consent agenda. Friefeld seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Other Action Items

There were no other action items.

Other Business:

Beaupre noted that one item on the Budget and Finance preview of future agenda items, "A Report on Emergency Preparedness," was going to be presented at today's meeting. Ejigu stated that he will send a memo briefing the Trustees on what GSU has been doing in reaction to the tragedy at NIU, and he will make a presentation on emergency preparedness at the next Board meeting.

Comments by Trustees

DeLaurentiis stated that the concept paper on student housing was not distributed. She recommended either the Budget and Finance Committee or the Facilities Committee follow up on that issue. Ejigu responded that there will be a presentation on student housing at the next Board meeting. Chair Samuels asked the Board to consider two suggestions: moving to a “committee of the whole” structure, and whether the Board should change the frequency of meetings. With that structure it would be the committee chairs’ responsibility to gather information and disseminate it to the members of the committees prior to the meeting. DeLaurentiis expressed a concern that with a committee of the whole structure there will be mega-sessions. She recommended that if that structure were adopted, it be designed to allow for full discussions of all issues. Friefeld suggested that a block of time be set for committee meetings and then stagger the meetings as appropriate for committee work; committees should meet in advance of the Board meetings. He would prefer not to have committees meet on the same day as the full Board. Beaupre added that the committees could meet, and the chairs would determine if an issue needs to be discussed by all Trustees; if so, the chairs would recommend that the Board meet as a committee of the whole for that discussion. Field Orr stated that the Board has tried the new format (committee meetings in the morning; full Board meeting in the afternoon) and it does not work. She suggested that a certain day (for example, the last Thursday of each month) be designated for committee meetings, as needed. DeLaurentiis agreed since the new structure is long and grueling for everyone. Chair Samuels asked that the Trustees email their recommendations to her. In April, after the new officers are elected, a new meeting schedule can be adopted, if the Board approves it. Friefeld recommended that the Governance Committee discuss this issue and make a recommendation to the full Board. Chair Samuels agreed and asked that the Governance Committee present a plan at the April meeting or sooner. Mayer asked that the Facilities Committee consider discussing the use of wind turbines on campus. DeLaurentiis asked that current BOT committee membership lists be distributed to the Trustees; Kennedy agreed to do so.

Adjournment

Chair Samuels requested a motion to adjourn. Field Orr moved that the meeting be adjourned. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Rock