

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OCTOBER 10, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Alexander, Caulfield, Denterlein, Durgin, Grady, Longo, MacCormack, Oliari, Pimental (via phone), Murphy and Turchon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: President Clark; Provost Ismaili; Vice Presidents Molife, Powers, Jean, Jason, Gentlewarrior, Oravec, Shropshire; Chief of Staff Leuenberger, Interim Vice President Zuromski

The provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A having been complied with, and a quorum of the Board present, the Board of Trustees held their meeting on October 10, 2019 in the Heritage Room, Maxwell Library with Chairman Durgin presiding.

Chairman Durgin called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. He noted Trustee Pimental participated via telephone pursuant to Remote Participation 940 CMR 29.10(5) due to geographic distance.

Consideration of Minutes

On motion duly made and seconded (Oliari, MacCormack) it was that the minutes from the June 12, 2019 meeting be approved. (Attachment)

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

**CHAIRMAN'S
REPORT**

Chairman Durgin acknowledged the faculty promoted to full professor and presented them with a gift of recognition. Their level of commitment is truly appreciated. BSU is one of the finest institutions because of their dedication.

Chairman Durgin welcomed our new student trustee, Erik Benson. We look forward to his participation. A list of campus events were provided to the Trustees and are encouraged to attend.

Maria Hegbloom, MSCA Chapter President, addressed the Board on behalf of the MSCA members. She thanked Chairman Durgin for inviting them to the committee meetings. Her colleagues learned a lot

about the work of the Trustees. One issue she brought to the Board's attention was on salary and retention of faculty. Salary studies show that BSU is behind peer institutions. New faculty are aware of the lower salary, however, they still take the job. This past year, though, several talented faculty left due to affordability of living in this area and receiving lower pay. Are there ideas, in our control, that would financially make it easier for faculty.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Clark recognized the new folks on campus and welcomed them to the meeting. He thanked Dr. Hegbloom for her comments as well. A salary study should be completed every three years. It is time for BSU to complete another salary study and try to be creative to support our faculty. In all studies that he has seen, our faculty have always been underpaid. BSU had an amazing summer and we are continuing to be an engaged university. All contracts have been settled. All faculty have received their compensation increases. There is one small group to receive additional compensation. He recognized that BSU/Provost Ismaili received an outstanding award from the Council on Undergraduate Research: 2019 Campus-Wide Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA award which is a national competitive award). Jenny Shanahan steered the application and he thanked all who were involved in this. On October 29, the Lt. Governor, MIT and Stonehill representatives will be at BSU as BSU received a \$1.4M grant for Mass Tech Collaborative that will launch our photonics engineering program. Plymouth 400 event – an Indigenous Conference will be held at BSU to tell the story of what happened 400 years ago and will end with a Pow Wow. This will be covered by NBC and the BBC. The dates are: Oct 29 – 31, 2021. Regarding enrollment, we have the largest freshman class in our history. Retention for students of color has increased year over year. We have a chance to be stable on enrollments. He is very proud to have invested in financial aid resulting in a 33% increase in local aid from BSU. Students taking out loans are decreasing. BSU is under construction amounting to \$17M in renovations. There is now a larger focus on careers for our students upon graduation and there is a new career center in the Campus Center. They are pushing forward on a Burnell renovation project. It is a \$31M project that will rebuild Burnell for the College of Education. There is a new flight center plan in New Bedford for the BSU airport. A presentation will be at the next Board meeting. Homecoming is this coming weekend.

Early College/Senior College

Provost Ismaili introduced two initiatives in the College of Continuing Studies. Dean Crane and Andrew Woodward, director of guidance at Durfee High School in Fall River, have developed a dual partnership.

About a year ago, President Clark asked them to apply for the commonwealth dual enrollment partnership plan. They received funding from the Commonwealth to kick off this program which started last Spring. The program is free to students and their families. Mr. Woodward talked about their recruitment efforts. BSU faculty were in the classes at the high school, partnered with the high school teachers and taught the students. Once the faculty started to collaborate, the program really took off. The faculty at the high school are happy with the co-planning. JFYNetworks was an additional partner to provide tutoring. Forty-six students participated in 2018-19 and the pass rate was 87%. Students now have the confidence in looking forward to college and know they can do it. This year another grant was received and have started the program again this fall. Fifty-one students were recruited. Nine of the 31 students who participated last year are freshmen at BSU.

Ms. Jenn Reid, director of the Cape Cod campus and the Senior College program, talked about the Senior College program. The program serves our community and provides opportunities for our community to grow up and grow older. A study was conducted to scope out interest. There is a \$55 fee for up to 3 courses. The target was 60 participants. As of today, 116 people are enrolled. Non-credit senior college classes are offered for older adults which are held at the Bridgewater Library. This Fall, the courses focused on nutrition, history, the election, history of Bridgewater over 350 years, etc. The goal is to offer 16 courses in the Spring three days a week and to offer some classes at the Attleboro campus. They are forming a curriculum advisory committee. This is a very good group of engaged learners and she has received great feedback. Dean Crane commented the faculty are amazing and they have received a good response.

**ACTION/
INFORMATION
ITEMS**

AUDIT

Draft Independent Audited Financial Statements (O'Connor & Drew)
Committee Chair Oliari noted the Committee met with the auditors from O'Connor & Drew and accepted the report. The auditors had high praise for Vice President Shropshire and his staff. BSU received an unmodified opinion and there were no concerns.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Oliari, Longo) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the draft independent audited financial statements for FY2019 as prepared by O'Connor and Drew as recommended by the Audit Committee and described in the

memorandum from President Clark dated October 4, 2019.
(Attachment)

EXECUTIVE

President's Budget for FY2020

Chairman Durgin noted the President's expenditures for FY2019 amounted to \$1,037.91. The FY2020 requested amount is \$3,000 representing level funding.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Turchon) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the President's Budget for FY2020 as recommended by the Executive Committee and outlined in President Clark's memorandum dated October 3, 2019.
(Attachment)

Board of Trustees Bylaws Revision

Chairman Durgin noted the purviews of two committees have changed. Therefore, there are two recommended changes to the Bylaws: renaming the External Affairs Committee to External Relations Committee and University Advancement will be renamed Alumni and Development.

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Caulfield, MacCormack) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the revised Board of Trustees Bylaws as recommended by the Executive Committee and outlined in the memorandum from Chairman Durgin dated October 3, 2019.
(Attachment)

President's Goals and Objectives for 2019-2020

Chairman Durgin stated President Clark reported on his divisional priorities for the coming year. The divisional goals and the president's goals were provided.
(Attachment)

Reorganization Discussion

President Clark mentioned the changes recently made in the Advancement division.

President's Expenses and Upcoming Travel (May-July, 2019)

Chairman Durgin noted President Clark provided his expenses for the past quarter as an information item.
(Attachment)

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRSAnnual Report of Grants and Sponsored Projects

Committee Chair MacCormack noted the number of proposals are expanding and several are still pending. She appreciates the staff who seek external funding. Provost Ismaili recognized the work of the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects – especially Michael Young and Mia Zoino.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (MacCormack, Denterlein) it was that the Board of Trustees accepts the Annual Report of Grants and Sponsored Projects for the year beginning July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 as recommended by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and described in the memorandum from President Clark dated September 26, 2019.
(Attachment)

Faculty and Librarian Hiring Report

Provost Ismaili stated this academic year there are 34 new faculty and librarians on campus. He recognized the work of all the search committees in bringing forth excellent faculty. They will continue to focus on diversifying our faculty.
(Attachment)

Update on Divisional Initiatives from the Provost

Provost Ismaili reported they are working with Rebecca Bair to support the campaign. Looking at the possibility of developing an ombudsman office. He appreciates the support from his staff on the various agendas that have been set.

Fall Admissions and Enrollment Reports

Vice President Oravec noted BSU had the largest incoming freshman class. He gave credit to Dean Meyer in bringing in a quality class. There is still much work to do on retention and overall enrollment. There is a concerted effort by all. Admissions are ongoing for the spring semester.
(Attachment)

Financial Aid Report

Vice President Oravec is hopeful to extend more grants to our students and he thanked Laura Biechler, director for Financial Aid, for her efforts.
(Attachment)

Fall Residence Hall Occupancy Report

Vice President Oravec noted occupancy is at 99%; sister institutions are behind us. We are retaining our students better than at this time last year.

(Attachment)

Update on Divisional Initiatives (Oravec)

Vice President Oravec reviewed his goals.

(Attachment)

Trustee MacCormack acknowledged the work of the admissions and enrollment team.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONSFY2020 Budget

Committee Chair Murphy noted a tentative spending plan was approved in June. The full budget is brought for approval.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Murphy, Oliari) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2020 Budget of \$212,542,251 as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated September 26, 2019.

(Attachment)

FY2019 Year-End Trust Funds Report

Committee Chair Murphy noted the reports are consistent with what we have seen in the past. The residence halls trust fund is somewhat lower than expected which required some adjustments.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Murphy, Denterlein) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2019 Year-End Trust Funds Report as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated September 26, 2019.

(Attachment)

Nadeau Corporation Contract Approval

Committee Chair Murphy noted the contract with Nadeau Corporation is for windows in the Campus Center. The contract amount is for \$617,000.

VOTED

On motion duly made and seconded (Murphy, Caulfield) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the contract with Nadeau

FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

Corporation as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated September 26, 2019.
(Attachment)

FY2019 Year-End Budget Report

Committee Chair Murphy noted the Year-End Budget Report was brought as an information item.
(Attachment)

FY2019/Q4 Contracts Report

The list of contracts awarded for the past quarter was provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

Final Closure Report for Financial Aid

A report was provided for final closure to the Financial Aid review.
(Attachment)

Final Recommendation of Student Fee Increase

Committee Chair Murphy noted the final number for the student fee increase for FY2020 is 3.5%

Update on FY20 Divisional Initiatives (Shropshire)

Vice President Shropshire's FY20 initiatives were provided as an information item.
(Attachment)

Capital Projects Update

Vice President Jason provided a report on capital projects.
(Attachment)

RFP for Dining Services

Committee Chair Murphy noted the dining service RFP process is underway. The Board may be approving a new dining contract towards the end of the first quarter.

Update on FY20 Divisional Initiatives (Jason)

Vice President Jason highlighted that the Bear Paw Pavilion is underway. Today the bids came in lower than expected at \$2,386,000. The contract was awarded to Nadeau and it will be brought to the Board for approval.

ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENTFY2019/Q4 Alumni and Development Activity Dashboard Report

Committee Chair Longo noted the investment portfolio was moved successfully to Russell. The Foundation and Alumni endowment stands at \$44.5M with 2% return for FY19. Additional funds amounting to \$725,000 was received through restricted and non-restricted giving.

VOTED

FOR: Unanimous

CARRIED

On motion duly made and seconded (Longo, MacCormack) it was that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2019/Q4 Alumni and Development Activity Report as recommended by the Alumni and Development Committee and outlined in the memorandum from President Clark dated September 26, 2019.
(Attachment)

Alumni and Development Overview

Committee Chair Longo noted Rebecca Bair provided an overview at the Committee meeting. Ms. Bair is very happy to be here and she looks forward to working with everyone.

Alumni Update

Committee Chair Longo noted Matt Quimby provided an update for upcoming events at the Committee meeting. Ellen Cuttle Oliver has been very busy with Homecoming planning.

Foundation Update

Committee Chair Longo said incoming Foundation Chair, Joe St. Laurent, is very energized and is taking a fresh look at the way the Foundation operates.

UNIVERSITY SAFETY AND SECURITYCyber Security Presentation

Committee Chair Caulfield noted Interim Vice President Zuromski presented on cyber security. He reviewed initiatives for 2019. BSU has the right controls in place and BSU is a best practice.

President Clark said there are issues in the country with increasing anxiety and depression levels. There is a high level of activity on campus and the campus police are very busy. A task force is being assembled. Chief Tillinghast noted this is an issue that is nation-wide...a societal trend and a new trend. Many issues take place after hours and it falls to campus police to handle the students. There are 2-3 calls per night for psychological crisis. During the day there is less

as students go to the Counseling Center. It is concerning. There are structures in place and they intervene as much as possible. This is a top priority for BSU.
(Attachment)

HONORARY DEGREE

Committee Report

Committee Chair Denterlein noted the committee met and reviewed the list of names in the pool. Strategy is to prioritize nominations and see who might be available to come to campus as an honorary or distinguished service award recipient.

On motion duly made and seconded (Turchon, Longo) it was that the meeting be adjourned (8:10pm).

VOTED
FOR: Unanimous
CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Davede Alexander
Secretary

Minutes prepared by:
Tracey Keif