

UVU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 5, 2024

4:00pm Gateway Building

Board of Trustee Members Present

Rick Nielsen, Chair
Scott Smith, First Vice Chair
Jeanette Bennett, Second Vice Chair
Paul Thompson
Blake Modersitzki
Jeremy Hafen
Andrea Clarke
Noel Vallejo
Kara North
Mimi Barney

Others Present

Nate Talley, USHE Commissioner
Nathan Savage, UVU Foundation Chair

UVU Attendees

Astrid S. Tuminez, President
Wayne Vaught, Provost & Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs
Kat Brown, Deputy Provost
Kyle Reyes, Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Christina Baum, Vice President, Digital Transformation
Jim Mortensen, Vice President, Finance
Marilyn Meyer, Vice President, People & Culture
Val Peterson, Vice President, Administration & Strategic Relations
Michelle Kearns Vice President, Student Affairs
Kara Schneck, Vice President of Marketing and Communications
and Chief of Staff
Clark Collings, General Counsel
Rasha Qudisat, Chief Engagement & Effectiveness Officer
Frank Young, Associate Vice President, Facilities Planning
Steve Anderson, Associate Vice President, Administration &
Strategic Relations
Laurie Sharp, Associate Provost
Alexis Palmer, Associate Vice President, Student Affairs
Nikki Scott, PACE President
Wioleta Fedeczko, Faculty Senate President
Jenny Christensen, Legal Secretary
Jake Allen, Presidential Intern

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rick Nielsen welcomed those in attendance at the December 5, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting. He recognized Nate Talley, Deputy Commissioner of the Utah System of Higher Education, and welcomed President Tuminez.

II. INFORMATION

1. President's Report

President Tuminez began her report by sharing a fun and festive holiday video wishing everyone a happy holiday season and good wishes for the coming year. She then shared the amazing win of the Campus Cup by UVU students, a competition based on student voter registration percentage. This was followed by recent student achievements and awards including WARM's first place win, student's regional Emmy award wins, and American Chemical Society Honorees.

She then noted two UVU students out of 18 nationwide who were awarded U.S. Foods Scholars followed by a highlight of the extensive hype for the opening night of UVU Wrestling, with over 5,000 in attendance. She finished by discussing the exciting visit by Dr. Arthur Kleinman as part of the Presidential Lecture series, as well as the opportunity UVU will have to host part of the Silicon Slopes Summit, and the impact of the Presidential 100.

2. EverGREEN Update

Vice President Kyle Reyes began the EverGREEN update by sharing a reminder that they are in the process of hiring a new Director of Development for Athletics in Institutional Advancement. He followed with the success of the First-Gen Fundraising Gathering as well as the group trip to the UVU Men's basketball game against Stanford in California. He closed by sharing what's ahead for UVU and EverGREEN in 2025.

3. Finance & Facilities Committee Report

Vice Chair Jeanette Bennett shared updates from the Finance & Facilities Committee. She began the report by noting the exercise that the university's departments are undergoing based on potential cuts at the 3%, 5%, and 7% marks. This was followed by updates on the development stages for each of the new buildings, including the Scott Smith Engineering Building, the UCCU Soccer Stadium, and the renovations for the School of Ed.

4. Legislative Session Update & Advocacy

Associate Vice President Steve Anderson gave a brief introduction to the upcoming legislature session and how members of the board could get involved. He noted policies for UVU employees who would like to get involved with the legislature. He provided the Trustees with various talking points and highlights that they could rely on as they discussed UVU. This was followed by a brief discussion on dedicated funding as well as requests that UVU will be making this season. He closed by highlighting the weekly updates that University Relations will post about the legislative session followed by a personal invitation to UVU's Day on the Hill.

Q&A followed about the potential reallocation. Vice President Val Peterson addressed concerns about reallocation and assured the Board that conversations are ongoing but that it poses a need to be aware and prepared if changes are necessary. More discussion followed on workforce alignment, the allocation of funding for the AI Institute, and the Utah Lake Shore Project.

5. Vineyard Update

Vice President Jim Mortensen began the update by acknowledging that the time is ripe to begin development on the Vineyard campus. He shared updates on the Requests for Statement of Qualifications, so far three have been submitted and selected for final consideration. He established the very rigorous process the University will undertake to determine the final selection for RFP.

Jim Mortensen continued by providing developments on the vetting process that McKinsey is providing our innovation district. This was followed by an explanation of the use of the land and the aspects of life, work, and learning. This included a brief map and explanation of acreage allocation.

He closed by expressing that there are ongoing talks with collaboration with the Point.

6. Open Meetings Act & Conflict of Interest Training

General Counsel Clark Collings provided a breakdown of the Open and Public Meetings Act and highlighted its most prominent sections. Including a breakdown of closed sessions, communication during meetings, and the use of agendas. This also included a brief reminder about GRAMA and what can be disclosed through a GRAMA request.

This was followed by a training on Conflicts of Interest. Topics included employment, ownership interests, gifts and kickbacks, and self-recusal if conflicts do arise.

III. ACTION AGENDA

1. Awards of Excellence and Honorary Degree Recipient Approvals

Trustee Jeanette Bennett motioned to approve the Awards of Excellence and Honorary Degree recipients as presented. Trustee Thompson seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition. Trustee Scott Smith abstained from voting. Trustee Mimi Barney was absent.

2. Real Estate Approvals

Trustee Jeremy Hafen motioned to approve the real estate purchase and lease as presented. Trustee Vallejo seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

3. Policy Approvals

Vice President Marilyn Meyer discussed Policy 117 Employee Distinguished Awards and Policy 361 Employee Leave (Temporary). Trustee Mimi Barney motioned to approve the policy as presented. Trustee Bennett seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

4. Program Approvals

Provost Wayne Vaught addressed a new proposed program, Applied Artificial Intelligence, CP. He addressed the proposed modified program, Audio Assistant, Undergraduate Certificate. Lastly, he addressed the programs to be inactivated which included, Automotive Technology, Diploma, and Health Studies in Physical Therapy, SBAC. Trustee Scott Smith motioned to approve the programs as presented. Trustee Modersitzki seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

Trustee Andrea Clarke motioned to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the November 7, 2024, Board Meeting; September 2024 Investment Report; the Institutional Discretionary Funds Report. Trustee Smith seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

Chair Rick Nielsen adjourned the meeting by inviting Nathan Savage, Nate Tally, and Trustee Barney to share any final thoughts or comments and by expressing his gratitude to the board, staff, and faculty for their dedication to the students.