

UVU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 30, 2025

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

Angie Stallings, USHE Deputy
Commissioner
Nathan Savage, UVU Foundation Chair
UVUSA Council Members

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
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
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 January 30, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting. He recognized Angie Stallings, Deputy Commissioner of the Utah System of Higher Education, and welcomed President Tuminez.

II. INFORMATION

1. Student Body President Update

Student Body President Mimi Barney began by introducing the UVUSA executive council to the Board of Trustees and acknowledging UVUSA's team efforts, stating that the amazing work of the fall semester was only made possible by all the individuals who support the UVUSA. Following this introduction, she began a presentation on UVUSA's efforts and their impact on the student body.

Across UVUSA, training takes place to ensure the student body's needs are met and SMART goals are implemented. These trainings also help contribute to a strong team culture. These trainings are based on operational excellence, leadership development, and event planning.

So far, in the 2024-2025 school year, UVUSA has held 62 events with almost 5,000 unique attendees and over 100 self-reported meaningful student connections. Examples of events held by UVUSA include a silent disco, safari night, and a communal Friendsgiving.

She followed by presenting the impact that events have on student persistence and retention as well as the community impact of UVUSA's civic engagement hours. Nearly 5,000 hours of civic engagement were logged by UVUSA volunteers. These highlights were accompanied by an explanation of other UVUSA initiatives including the student voice campaign, Wolverine Access awareness, and other niche student-first activities that were exclusively tailored to various communities within the student body.

She finished by expressing her appreciation for the support of the Board and President Tuminez and the freedom they provide UVUSA to meet the needs of the student body in unique and personable ways.

Members of the UVUSA Executive Council expressed similar sentiments and shared their personal experiences with UVUSA and the benefits it provides to their lives as students.

Afterward, members of the Board also took time to express their support for the UVUSA and their efforts pointing towards the beneficial impact of peer-to-peer relationships as well as alumni connections.

2. Audit Committee Report

Trustee Scott Smith provided a report on latest the Audit Committee meeting. He expressed that a plethora of audits occur across the University and through state offices. Trustee Smith shared that the Audit Committee found the University to be in good standing, he acknowledged that the University was found to be consistent and clean in their reporting.

3. President's Report

President Tuminez began her report by sharing about her observations from a meeting with the accreditation board in Seattle. This was followed by a highlight of the Men's Basketball team's 10-win win streak and a legislature update including statewide goals and high-yield awards.

She expressed that during the shift between administrations, we need to continue to do what we can to support students. She shared updated requests on mandatory increases, performance funding, requests for appropriations, and capital facilities.

One budget priority is the Applied AI Institute, \$2M one-time and \$1M ongoing. She expressed that the discussion continues about tuition and tech fees, including a tech fee that is rolled into tuition. This was followed by a discussion on reallocation and reinvestment tied to HB 265. This will require a focus on the programs that will benefit the university and the state over the next 5-10 years.

This was followed by highlights from the State of the University, including UVU as number one in Utah for best value, the upcoming Presidential Lecture series with Black Eye Peas founding member Apl.de.Ap, and the recent acquisition of Bear Wallow cabin to become the Center for Leadership and Inspiration.

The President's Report was followed by a brief Q&A concerning the reallocation required by the legislature. She assured the Board that UVU takes reallocation efforts seriously and that they are looking at this as another opportunity to ensure our programs and departments continue to be a good value for students. VP Mortensen also assured the Board that the reallocation efforts are not a competition between universities and that UVU's cut of 8.9 million is set aside specifically for UVU to reallocate and is designed to align University programs with State needs.

4. EverGREEN Update

Vice President Kyle Reyes began by updating the Board on the Advancement Board retreat and the changes that have occurred in boards across the University, including the dissolving of 20 university boards. Many individuals from the dissolved boards were offered to stay on in other ways to continue forwarding the University's mission.

He went on to congratulate four of the University's Boards whose board members were 100% giving toward the EverGREEN campaign as well as other boards that were 80% or higher.

III. ACTION AGENDA

1. Building Name Approval

Trustee Kara North motioned to approve the building name as presented. Trustee Barney seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

2. Policy Approvals

General Counsel Clark Collings addressed Policy 101 Policy Governing Policies. Vice President Marilyn Meyer discussed Policies 105 Reporting Organizational Changes, 322 Employment Responsibilities and Standards, 353 Group Healthcare Coverage for Benefit-Eligible Employees, 374 Termination Clearance for Hourly Employees and 375 Termination Clearance for Salaried Employees, that are set for deletion. Vice President Michelle Kearns addressed Policy 512 Administration of Scholarships. Associate Vice President Alexis Palmer addressed Policy 541 Student Code of Conduct, a compliance change. Provost Wayne Vaught discussed Policy 609 Academic Scheduling and Policy 644 Selection and Responsibilities of Department Leadership. Trustee Paul Thompson motioned to approve the policies as presented. Trustee Smith seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

3. Program Approvals

Provost Wayne Vaught addressed a new proposed program, Secondary Education, MAT. He addressed the proposed modified program, General Education, Certificate of Completion. Trustee Andrea Clarke motioned to approve the programs as presented. Trustee Bennett seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

Trustee Noel Vallejo motioned to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the December 5, 2024, Board Meeting; and the October 2024 Investment Report. Trustee North seconded. The motion was carried out without opposition.

Chair Rick Nielsen adjourned the meeting by expressing his thanks to the President for the State of the University. He is glad to have VP Reyes and the President as such dedicated cheerleaders for UVU and the EverGREEN campaign.

He invited Angie Stallings to share any thoughts, during which she expressed her excitement to get to know the Board and all the great opportunities to work with Higher ED.

He also invited Nathan Savage from the Foundation Board to share any thoughts. Mr. Savage expressed his foremost support for EverGREEN and expressed the campaign's urgency.

Chair Nielsen closed by expressing his gratitude for Mimi Barney and the amazing students at UVU.