BOARD OF GOVERNORS
General Session
Colusa Hall, Room 100B
Friday, February 21, 2020
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CSU CHICO | THE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Approved June 25, 2020

MINUTES

Governors present: Stuart Casillas – Chair; David Hodson – Vice Chair; Robin Gayle; Jay Gilbert; David Heinsen; Tom Martin; Marcia Moore; Chuck Nelson; Chris Nichols; Cathy Pleasant; Marilyn Rees; Dave Scotto; Emily Huang, Mimi Baez; Gayle Hutchinson; Debra Larson; Ahmad Boura; Ann Sherman

Absent: Debra Canon; Darryl Schoen; Tom Giustina

Staff: Pam Hollis, Jeni Kitchell, Evonnia Dominguez; Wendi Engasser

Guests: Megan Kurtz

Chair Stuart Casillas called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM

Casillas asked for comments or edits to the consent agenda. There were none. Tom Martin moved to approve the agenda. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chair's Report: Casillas

Update on June Board Retreat

The board meetings in June 2020 will be held in a different format, with Governance and Development Committees meeting on Monday, June 22, remotely via zoom. FIC and General Session will be hosted in Stuart Casillas' offices at Kirkland & Ellis in San Francisco. On Thursday, the Finance and Investment Committee will meet then the board will host a reception. Dinner will be at the Tadich Grill down the street. Accommodations are available at the Omni Hotel, across the street from the venue. An abbreviated General Session will be held Friday morning and the remainder of the day will be spent on a strategic planning retreat jointly with CSU, Chico cabinet. Boura and his team are working on extra-curricular activities.

Governors Awards Update

A voting survey tool will be sent to board members next week. The tool will allow users to view each proposal and vote their support as low, medium or high. Once the votes are received, aggregated scoring will be provided to the governors for review, and a Zoom meeting will be scheduled for discussion about allocating the awards.

Presentation: Wildcats Rise – Megan Kurtz

Megan Kurtz gave a presentation about the Wildcats Rise program she directs which received a Governors' Award last year. Her work is as Campus-Community Resiliency Liaison, with a focus on showing support for the community and clearly establishing Chico State as a community partner in the vital long-term recovery work.

Board Education

Boura and Buchanan gave an educational presentation on endowment basics, reviewing the different types (permanent, term and quasi) and how they work. They demonstrated how fees are assessed, investments are managed, and distributions are allocated.

Chris Van Dyke gave a brief presentation on Market Fundamentals.

President's Report – Gayle Hutchinson

President Gayle Hutchinson gave an update on the campus strategic plan efforts highlighting the three pillars of the mission: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Resilient and Sustainable Systems; Prominent Scholarship and Innovation. The integration of four strategic priorities into these mission goals is at the core of the planning.

Dr. Brooke Banks explained that the process is driven by goals with the priority being university level goals, broken down into manageable SMART Goals. An example is the diversity and inclusion goal which seeks to maximize recruitment and retention and eliminate achievement gaps. The civic and global engagement goal builds and supports community partnerships and the resilient and sustainable systems goal aims to make the campus climate neutral by 2030.

The president noted that the university is currently facing uncertainties around dropping enrollment. For the past eight years enrollment has been moving down nationally. In California, applications are down within the past two years. The CSUs are facing drops due to free tuition at community colleges and more aggressive competition from private and out-of-state institutions, all competing for the same students. All of cabinet is involved with narrowing that gap and finding a resolution.

Development and Advocacy Committee Report – Marcia Moore

Kate Post gave an update on Giving Day, Educational Scan will be making efforts to get out the vote. Evelyn Buchanan gave campaign update noting that we are on target to meet campaign goals. Homecoming week planning is on track and the October board meeting will be incorporated in the event planning. Alumni gatherings are planned in Seattle and Washington DC.

Governance Committee Report – Dave Scotto

Chair Dave Scotto summarized the policies that were approved by the board in the consent agenda and updated the group on the timeline for continued work on Section Six of the policy manual.

Finance and Investment Committee Report – David Hodson

Chair Dave Hodson updated the group about ongoing communications and feedback around the endowment distribution and fee changes, which will continue through the spring.

CEO's Report – Ahmad Boura

University Advancement is down three seasoned development officers who were recruited by other institutions for better pay. Leadership is rethinking strategy and working with HR to find ways to restructure staffing to be more competitive.

There was no new business and Casillas adjourned the meeting at 1:34.

Next Meeting: Board Retreat – Friday, June 26, 2020

Kirkland and Ellis
555 California Street
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