

Approved September 9, 2020

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
EXECUTIVE Committee
Remote Zoom ID 94598289912
Wednesday, May 20, 2020
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



MINUTES

Board Members Present: Dave Hodson; Debra Cannon; Chuck Nelson; Gayle Hutchinson; Ahmad Boura; Ann Sherman

Board Members Absent: Stuart Casillas

Staff Present: Pam Hollis; Evonnia Dominguez

Chair Stuart Casillas was unable to attend the meeting. Ahmad Boura called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

Chair's Report: Ahmad Boura for Stuart Casillas

Boura asked the group if they had any edits or changes to the agendas. There were no changes from the committee, but Boura asked to include an additional 15 minutes to the meeting schedule for Zoom training for the board. The committee unanimously approved the change to the schedule and the meeting agendas as presented, using remote polling via Zoom.

Boura told the committee he would be making a recommendation to the board to hold off on the Governors' awards while more was being learned about the impacts of COVID-19 to the campus. Priorities for this funding may have changed, and some may be needed to cover underwater endowments. More information should be available for discussion at the June board meeting.

President's Report: Gayle Hutchinson

President Gayle Hutchinson gave an update on CSU Chico's COVID-19 response. Roughly 1500 students are struggling with connectivity (i.e. limited internet, no hardware, little finances). Connectivity is a challenge in rural northern California. Her concern is the staff continues to telework and some have no internet. The University is planning to go predominately virtual in the fall. Fifteen percent or less of the students will learn face to face in nursing clinicals, science labs, etc. The farm is essential, and activities will continue there throughout spring and summer. The enrollment deadline for the fall semester has been pushed to June 1st and the University is aligned with Stage 2 of COVID-19 re-opening. Landlords in the community are telling them that as many as 7-8,000 students have committed to coming to Chico regardless of the decision to go virtual. Enrollment numbers were looking low even before the pandemic hit, so she is confident that enrollment will be low. Hutchinson said she sees the crisis as an opportunity to increase technological skills and tools and become a better, more modern university.

CFO's Report: Ann Sherman

Vice President for Business and Finance Ann Sherman gave an update on the financial issues facing the university, describing three uncertainties – COVID-19 continuing impact; State budget allocations; and

enrollment decline. Almost half a million unemployment claims have been made in California. The Governor's budget framework in February 2020 reflected an expectation of a strong economy. The state's fiscal position is no longer as strong. California made important changes to its reserve policies in the ten years since the great recession, and its \$16 billion rainy day fund will help mitigate this budget crisis. Advancement has provided additional support for students who could not qualify for emergency grants. Enrollment projections continue to decline with a prediction of 13,091 full-time students (FTS).

CEO's Report – Ahmad Boura

Foundation CEO Ahmad Boura reported that cabinet has been preparing a summer virtual institute to train and assist faculty with developing and implementing online courses with a goal to improve the virtual experience for both students and faculty and to maximize learning, engagement and success. The budget for the summer institute is \$640,800 and they are requesting \$300,000 from the foundation to support these efforts.

Boura adjourned the meeting at 4:52 PM