

Approved June 21, 2024

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*Governors Present:* **Chuck Nelsen, Chair**; Cathy Pleasant, Vice Chair(r); Stuart Casillas; Joyce Densmore-Thomas; Gayle Dilley; Tom Giustina; David Heinsen; Olena Lacy; Christina Nichols; Matt Ober; Earl Reed; Tim Sauer; Darryl Schoen; Dave Scotto; Braydan Young; Cynthia Daley, Faculty Representative; Kate Minderhoud, Student Representative **Absent:** David Hodson, Past Chair; Jay Gilbert; David Hufford; John Morrell

*Ex Officio Present:* Steve Perez, President; Ahmad Boura, Vice President for University Advancement (CEO); Jamie Clyde, Interim Vice President for Business and Finance (CFO); Leslie Cornick, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Staff Present:* Pam Hollis, Robin Carter, and Christine Ponce, University Advancement

*Guests:* Bryan Shipley and David Janec, Arnerich Massena

## MINUTES

Board Chair Chuck Nelsen called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. He asked for changes or corrections to the General Session minutes from October 13, 2023. There were none. Tom Giustina made a motion to approve the minutes. Dave Scotts seconded, and minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

### Chair's Report: Nelsen

Nelsen gave a brief update on the ABG Conference attended by himself, Ahmad Boura, Pamela Hollis, Cathy Pleasant and Darryl Schoen. The governors shared their observations and commended Chico State for having a foundation that is run very well and has well-formed policies in place.

Ahmad Boura refreshed the board members on the Governors' Award process, voting methodology and timeline.

Nelsen introduced two Governors' Award recipients. Amber Noel-Camacho made a presentation on Native American College Motivation Day. This event is held in November with outreach to high school and Butte College transfer students. They also offer campus and off-campus organizations an opportunity to provide information tables during the event.

Dr. Brian Brazeal presented on Supporting Student Filmmakers in ALVA. He showed clips from several student films and expressed how the Governors' Award impacted his ability to provide student travel funds and new equipment.

Nelsen and Boura discussed the make-up of the selection committee for the Gayle E. Hutchinson Presidential Award for Excellence. Nelsen asked for volunteers to fill the four governor positions and a sign-up sheet was passed. Meetings will be held virtually. Nelsen encouraged governors to volunteer as a great opportunity to

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**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
GENERAL SESSION**  
Bell Memorial Union, Room 203  
Friday, February 23, 2024  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



be more involved.

The board discussed another off-site for the Spring board meetings. The retreat is being proposed for San Diego. There will also be an opportunity to partner an afternoon meeting and evening activity with the Chico State Alumni Board. Stuart Casillas moved to hold the Spring 2024 meeting in San Diego. Tom Giustina seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Board Education: Arnerich Massena**

Bryan Shipley and David Janec gave a presentation on understanding market cycles.

**Committee Reports:**

Glen Thomas presented on the Audit Committee meeting regarding review of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new auditor. The committee recommended moving forward with Aldrich for the next three years. They also recommended creating some clarifying language surrounding the selection of the auditor that will work for both Chico State Enterprise and The Foundation.

Chris Nichols reported on the Governance Committee meeting, noting that the committee reviewed policy manual Section #2 – Ethics and Accountability. There were no significant changes. However, there was some discussion about compliance with the new Chico State branding guidelines regarding changing references to CSU, Chico to either California State University, Chico or Chico State. Boura will bring University Communications to the Spring meeting to present background information on the new branding guidelines.

Stuart Casillas reported on the Development and Advocacy Committee meeting sharing the year-to-date fundraising results and the early plans for the next campaign. There was a Governors' Award presentation, introduction of new staff, fundraising update, alumni engagement update and staffing update regarding the campaign.

Darryl Schoen reported on the Finance and Investment Committee meeting stating that the Foundation is in a positive position regarding income versus expenses. Jamie Clyde's presentation had less positive news regarding the overall budget situation for Chico State and the CSU system.

**Consent Agenda: Nelsen**

Nelsen asked for any changes or corrections to the Consent Agenda noting that item #2 had been struck from the consent agenda by the Governance Committee, who tabled that item until June. Darryl Schoen moved to approve the Consent Agenda with item #2 removed. Joyce Densmore Thomas seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Tom Giustina moved to approve the 20% matching program for the Concrete Industry Management Patrons \$1 million gift. Dave Scotto seconded and it was unanimously approved.

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**President's Report: Steve Perez**

President Perez introduced Leslie Cornick, the new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. He gave an updated on the search for the new Vice President of Business and Finance. The search launched in December 2023 and Chico State hopes to hire someone by the end of the Spring 2024 semester.

Perez mentioned his state of the university update on March 7, 2024 from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. which will be in-person and live streamed. He is conducting many listening sessions with various departments on campus to understand the climate. He is working on future budget planning. There will be a structural budget deficit of around \$9 million, but the university is able to cover that through reserves. He is asking administration to put together a plan of recommendations on how to close that structural deficit in their colleges. The Strategic Plan sunsets the end of the academic year. Perez is in the beginning phases of gathering information and recommendations for the new Strategic Plan.

Chico State has successfully secured a \$400,000 grant from the CSU to establish an AANHPI Student Center, a long-needed resource that will serve as a hub for empowerment, community-building, and holistic support for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) students.

**CEO's Report: Boura**

Boura gave an update on the campaign planning progress. There will be five different areas of focus: cash gifts, endowments, capital projects, grants and contracts. Boura invited Kate Post from University Communications to present on the universities brand pillars.

He opened discussion regarding the board meeting schedule for 2024-25. Governors attending the meeting gave their input. All agreed that in-person meetings are important, but there is opportunity to make the meetings more efficient and shorter.

**New business: Nelsen**

Chuck Nelsen asked for any new business. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m. The next meeting will be Friday, June 21, 2024 in San Diego.

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