**METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY of DENVER**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Friday, February 7, 2020**

**MEETING MINUTES**

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**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chairwoman Barb Grogan read the Trustees into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m., and asked for a motion. The motion was made and seconded, and unanimously approved.

**II. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Board of Trustees business meeting was called to order at approximately 10:09 a.m. by Chairwoman Grogan. She was joined by Vice Chairman Russell Noles, Trustee Albus Brooks, Trustee Mario Carrera, Trustee Kristin Hultquist, Trustee Mike Johnston, Trustee Marissa Molina, Faculty Trustee Chris Harder, Student Trustee Adetilewa Awosanya, and Alumni Association Trustee Joe Rice were also in attendance, along with President Janine Davidson, Board Secretary David Fine, Vice President of Administration & COO Larry Sampler, CFO George Middlemist, Assistant Board Secretary Melinda Olivarez, various faculty, administrators, and staff.

**III. CHAIR'S WELCOME & REPORT:**

A. Introduction of New Trustees

Chairwoman Grogan introduced the new members of the Board:

B. Upcoming Events

1. AGB National Conference on Trusteeship: April 4-7, 2020 – Washington, D.C.

2. Spring Commencement: Friday, May 15, 2020 – Denver Coliseum

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Approval of December 6, 2019, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

B. Office of Human Resources report of personnel actions for the Board's information which have occurred since the last Board meeting on Friday, December 6, 2019

C. Approval of Faculty Sabbatical Recommendations

Trustee Noles **moved for approval** of the Consent Agenda, with a **second** by Trustee Carrera. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

**V. REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS**

A. Finance Committee Report – Trustee Russell Noles

Trustee Noles reported that Finance Committee received an update on the state’s 2020-2021 budget. Larry Sampler indicated that MSU Denver’s minimal costs for the fiscal year are $9.7 million. The Governor’s proposed state funding of higher education would allocate approximately $3 million to MSU Denver, leaving a shortfall of 7%. Part of the core costs in that $9.7 million include cost-of-living increases for faculty.

Will Simpkins provided an update on enrollment at the Finance Committee meeting. For Spring 2020, FTE enrollment compared to the prior year, is down 3%, which was forecast. As the economy improves, enrollment continues to present a challenge to the University.

Budget estimates for FY 2019-2020 are holding.

B. ASA Committee Report – Provost Vicki Golich

1. Approval to Discontinue Emphases within the Master of Professional Accountancy Program

2. Approval of Proposal to Create a Center for Entrepreneurship

Provost Golich reported that in addition to approving faculty sabbatical recommendations, the ASA Committee approved the discontinuation of separate emphases within the Master of Accountancy and approved creation of a Center for Entrepreneurship.

Trustee Hultquist **moved to approve** discontinuation of emphases within the Master of Professional Accountancy Program, and moved to approve the proposal to create a Center for Entrepreneurship,with a **second** by Trustee Noles. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Provost Golich reported that the committee also discussed the growing possibility of a Hart Center for Public Service. The Center would help the University gain notoriety in its work in community engagement. Trustees were briefed on the Health Institute, and President Davidson gave an update on the search for a new provost. The University’s online strategy was also discussed.

C. Governance Committee Report – Trustee Russell Noles

Trustee Noles led the Governance Committee in the absence of Trustee Mulligan. Among the items the committee discussed were:

1. Approval of 2020-2021 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

Trustee Noles stated that the December meeting has served as the annual meeting of the Board. This is reflected in the bylaws of the Board. The committee requests approval of an amendment to the bylaws, moving the annual meeting from December to September. The committee also suggested that Board meetings be started later than 7:30 a.m. and that committee meetings be held in the afternoons. Twice-a-year student internal audits will continue to be presented to the Board at a special Finance Committee meeting. The Governance Committee is recommending approval of the revised meeting schedule and the amendment to the Bylaws moving the annual meeting from December to September.

2. Approval of Proposed Amendment to Article IV of the Board of Trustees Bylaws Regarding Annual Meeting

Trustee Molina **moved to approve** the 2020-2021 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule,andthe amendment to Article IV of the Board of Trustees Bylaws regarding its Annual Meeting, with a **second** by Trustee Carrera. The motions were **unanimously approved**.

3. Approval of Amendment to HLC@Metro, Inc. Bylaws

Trustee Noles stated that Christian Hardigree and Josephina Radcliffe will be added to the board of HLC@Metro, Inc., increasing its membership to nine. The bylaws must be amended accordingly changed to reflect the addition of two additional members.

4. Approval of New Board Members for HLC@Metro, Inc.

Trustee Molina **moved to approve** the amendment to the HLC@Metro, Inc. Bylaws, and the two additional board members for HLC@Metro, Inc., with a **second** by Trustee Carrera. The motions were **unanimously approved**.

D. Foundation Report – Jamie Hurst, Assistant Vice President for Strategic Engagement, and Katie Biscoe, Associate Vice President of Development

Ms. Hurst and Ms. Biscoe are standing in for Christine Márquez-Hudson, Vice President of Advancement and Executive Director of the Foundation. Ms. Biscoe announced that Lori Herrera, an MSU Denver alumna, has been hired as the new CFOO of the Foundation.

Ms. Hurst and Ms. Biscoe reported on fundraising and gifts received since the last Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Carrera asked that future reports include same-period tracking, compared to the prior year. Ms. Hurst stated that future reports will include donors and amounts of gifts as well as total dollars raised.

E. Strategic Plan Update – Cathy Lucas and Matt Makley

President Davidson introduced Cathy Lucas and Dr. Matt Makley, who provided an update on the University’s Strategic Plan which has been in process for approximately 18 months.

Ms. Lucas stated that following the Goals Conference on Friday, the team will have a draft of the Strategic Plan with an executive summary. In the next few months, time will be spent meeting with constituents, meeting individually with Trustees to gain their input, and on June 4 the final draft will be presented at the meeting of the Board with the intent that it would launch July 1.

F. AHEC Board Report – President Janine Davidson

For the benefit of the new Board members, President Davidson explained what AHEC is and spoke a little about AHEC’s leadership team.

G. Alumni Representative Report – Joe Rice

Alumni Trustee Joe Rice provided the alumni report.

H. Faculty Trustee Report – Chris Harder

Faculty Trustee Chris Harder explained that, as at-large, advisory representatives to the Board, he represents the faculty body, Adetilewa Awosanya represents the student body, and Joe Rice represents alumni. Each representative provides insight into areas where information might otherwise be overlooked, contributes to the conversation, and asks questions about important issues that they then take back to their constituencies.

I. Student Trustee Report – Adetilewa Awosanya

Student Trustee Adetilewa Awosanya provided the student trustee report.

J. Faculty Senate Report – Katia Campbell

Katia Campbell, Faculty Senate President, presented the faculty senate report.

K. Student Government Report – Braeden Weart

Braeden Weart provided the student government report.

L. Athletics Update – John Kietzmann

Chairwoman Grogan noted that the University is in the process of a search for a new Athletics Director. John Kietzmann, associate director of Athletics, is serving in the interim.

Mr. Kietzmann provided the athletics update.

M. Educational Quality and Student Success - AJ Alejano-Steele, Associate Dean for the College of Professional Studies

Provost Golich stated that a presentation on Educational Quality and Student Success is included in each full meeting of the Board. AJ Alejano-Steele, Associate Dean for the College of Professional Studies, and Kyle Johnson will discuss the University’s Health Career Navigators program.

Dr. Alejano-Steele stated that there are four Health Career Navigators and that each has cohort of 15. There are 60 students per year between the two programs, and it is not an inexpensive program. Four positions for Health Career Navigators are funded by the University, plus scholarships and stipends, adding up to several hundred thousand dollars per year to support those scholarships, stipends, and programming.

N. President’s Report - President Janine Davidson

Four semifinalists are scheduled to be interviewed for the Provost position. Dr. Matt Makley is leading that search.

Sean Worthy is leading the search for the new Athletics Director.

MSU Denver was designated a military-friendly school. The application process is robust.

President Davidson stated that the University is receiving the inaugural Richard Goroczi Award for institutional transformation. The award is bestowed upon institutions that have undertaken comprehensive efforts to prepare students for lives of engaged citizenship, make contributions to the health and strength of their communities, to challenge social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future, and to undertake this work through mutually respectful partnerships. This aligns closely with the civic engagement pillar of the Strategic Plan. The award also recognizes MSU Denver’s status as an integral part of the communities within which it exists. Provost Golich, Elizabeth Parmalee, and several students will receive that award. Earlier that day, at the same conference, President Davidson will deliver the keynote address as a commissioner on the National Commission for Military and Public Service.

President Davidson said that Raj Ball, a student in the Advanced Manufacturing Sciences program, volunteers at Craig Hospital. Using 3D printing skills he acquired in the classroom, Mr. Ball creates adaptive devices for patients undergoing treatment for brain and spinal cord injuries. This was reported in *The Denver Post* last week.

**VI. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. Human Resources report of personnel actions for the Board’s information, which have occurred since the last Board Meeting on Friday, December 6, 2019.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Carrera, seconded by Trustee Brooks and unanimously adopted. The Board of Trustees meeting was duly adjourned at approximately 12:33 p.m.