

**Minutes of the Formal Session  
of the  
Oakland University Board of Trustees  
October 12, 2020**

TO COMPORT WITH STATE OF MICHIGAN MANDATES TO CONTROL THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FORMAL SESSION WAS CONDUCTED ELECTRONICALLY AS SET FORTH IN MICHIGAN LAW AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION'S EMERGENCY ORDERS LIMITING IN-PERSON WORK AND GATHERING SIZES, IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF THE MEETING. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FORMAL SESSION WAS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC ELECTRONICALLY VIA WEBEX AND A DIAL-IN NUMBER. THE GENERAL PUBLIC WAS ALSO ABLE TO PARTICIPATE BY SENDING QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS TO [ZAMBARDI@OAKLAND.EDU](mailto:ZAMBARDI@OAKLAND.EDU) TO BE SHARED WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES DURING THE FORMAL SESSION. NO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC PROVIDED QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS DURING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FORMAL SESSION.

**Present:** Chair Tonya Allen; Vice Chair Robert Schostak; and Trustees Brian N. Calley, Joseph Jones, Dennis Muchmore, Trina Scott, Melissa Stolicker, and W. David Tull

**Also Present:** President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz; Interim Executive Vice President C. Michelle Piskulich; Vice Presidents John W. Beaghan, Rochelle A. Black; Glenn McIntosh, Michael J. Westfall; John O. Young; Athletics Director Steven C. Waterfield; and Vice President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Victor A. Zambardi; and Student Liaisons Benjamin Byrne and Amanda Wewer

**A. Call to Order**

Chair Tonya Allen called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. via WebEx.

**B. Roll Call**

Mr. Victor A. Zambardi, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, conducted a roll call and all of the Board members were present.

**C. President's Report**

President Pescovitz began her report by welcoming Trustee Allen to her new role as Chair, introducing new Trustees Scott and Jones, and thanking Trustee Tull for his leadership as well as departing Trustees Fey and DeVore for their dedicated service to Oakland University.

She advised the Board that Spring Commencement was held in a new socially distanced format on August 28 and August 29, and was well attended and reported that Summer I enrollment increased 5.1%, Summer II enrollment increased 2.7%, and Fall 2020 enrollment decreased 2.4%. Oakland University remains the #1 transfer destination among all 15 public universities in Michigan in 2020.

President Pescovitz attributed Oakland University's relatively modest COVID-19 case count to the entire campus community's diligence and compliance to the Grizzlies Protect Grizzlies Five Point Plan. The plan aims to limit person-to-person spread of the virus, lower the risk of virus outbreaks across our campus, foster a culture of compliance, modify learning environments with a strategic focus on teaching and learning challenges and, define Oakland University student experience. To support the Grizzlies Protect Grizzlies Plan, social distancing, wearing masks, person hygiene, and completion of a daily health assessment for those coming to campus is required. To date, 110,000 masks have been distributed. Oakland University's COVID-19 Dashboard is available online and reports COVID-19 data including positive case counts across populations over time. Graham Health Center and telehealth services continue to support the health needs of the campus community. Student Health Ambassadors, signage, social media, and the Oakland University website all play a key role in fostering a culture of compliance. Learning environments have been modified with 30% of instruction conducted in-person, 35% online synchronous instruction, 28% online asynchronous classes, and 7% hybrid classes. Efforts to preserve the student experience yet maintain safety include outdoor concerts, virtual tutoring, and pre-packaged dining options. Oakland University Men's and Women's Basketball teams begin competition on November 25<sup>th</sup> and will follow additional protocols related to COVID-19 testing.

Dr. C. Michelle Piskulich, Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, introduced Ms. Joi Cunningham, Assistant Vice President for Academic Human Resources and Dr. Cynthia Miree, Interim Associate Provost to present an update on Oakland University's advancement of Strategic Goal #4: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Ms. Cunningham presented faculty hiring initiatives and faculty, staff, and student demographic data. A current challenge facing Oakland University is a relatively low number of hiring opportunities and for some open positions due to the field, there may likely be difficulty recruiting diverse candidates. This is based upon 2018 NSF data as follows: 6.5% of doctorate recipients identified as Hispanic or Latino, 5.5% identified as Black, and .2% identified as American Indian. Of those doctorate recipients those identifying as Black, 850 have doctorates in education, psychology and social science. Of those doctorate recipients those identifying as Hispanic, most hold degrees in psychology, biology and education. Over half of the 25 open faculty positions are in science related fields including, Math, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science, Medicine, and Nursing. 9% of Oakland University faculty identify as underrepresented minorities. 15% of Oakland University students identify as underrepresented minorities.

Dr. Miree discussed new campus recruitment and inclusion activities such as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Post-Doctoral Program, the Senate Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, the Diversity Advocate Program, Founders Day Faculty Recognition, and Provost Faculty Fellow for Diversity positions. The Faculty Re-employment and Promotion Committee (FRPC), has implemented an Equity Advocate, a role that will ensure unconscious bias is being mitigated throughout the entire process of reviewing candidates for tenure or promotion. In addition, a Senate Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee subcommittee will review

tenure and promotion statements to identify any areas where suggestions can be made to ensure unconscious bias is not having a negative impact.

President Pescovitz concluded by introducing Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost starting January 2021.

**D. Consent Agenda for Consideration/Action**

**Consent Agenda**

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees Formal Session of August 3, 2020**

**University Personnel Actions**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel actions below.

**I. Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine Standard Appointments, effective October 12, 2020.**

The following standard appointments in the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine are for three years, commencing on October 12, 2020, and are renewable. These standard appointments are without salary support from Oakland University and are not tenured positions. Appointees must maintain an active affiliation with Beaumont Health or Oakland University, meet all applicable School of Medicine Participation requirements, and maintain the continued support of their Department Chairs, who are responsible for assessing their performance. Appointees' standard appointments may also be terminated at any time, upon the recommendation of their Department Chair, or for reasons that are at the exclusive discretion of the Dean of the School of Medicine:

Gorgis, Jawan A.	Instructor	Family Medicine
Trosch, Richard M.	Associate Professor	Neurology
Bahoura, Lawrence J.	Instructor	Radiology
Colvin, Robert W.	Instructor	Radiology
Kolderman, Nathan C.	Instructor	Radiology
Mahn, James J.	Instructor	Radiology
Martin, Alex R.	Instructor	Radiology
Mir, Syed S.	Instructor	Radiology
Simon, Joseph J.	Instructor	Radiology
Zintsmaster, Stephen A.	Instructor	Radiology

**Standard Appointments – Change in Rank**

Benjamin, Joseph S.	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine
Cooper, Aharon G.	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine
Gratson, Michael V.	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine
Hencsie, Anthony J.	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine
Keersmaekers, Charles	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine
Long, Patrick M.	Assistant Professor	Emergency Medicine



Delorme-Axford, Elizabeth, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, \$70,000

Dibble, Terry, Special Instructor for Human Movement Sciences, \$62,000

Doan, Michael, Associate Professor of Philosophy with tenure, \$70,000

Gagnon, Marielle, Special Instructor in Marketing, \$81,500

George, Raji, Adjunct Instructor Nursing, \$68,000

Grace, Tammy, Special Instructor in Quantitative Methods of Management, \$85,000

Holka, Kimberly, Special Instructor, \$83,833

Kalmanovich-Cohen, Hanna, Assistant Professor of Management, \$108,000

Kennedy, Patrick, Adjunct Instructor Nursing, \$75,000

Kim, Hyungil, Assistant Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, \$85,000

Kinney, Zacharias, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, \$68,000

Kranak, Michael, Assistant Professor of Education, \$63,000

Ma, Tianle, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, \$87,000

Oliverio, Jennifer, Assistant Professor of Music, \$57,000

Overfelt, Jason, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, \$60,000

Raj, Sunny, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, \$87,000

Steele, Tiffany, Assistant Professor of Education, \$63,000

Tonui, Betty, Assistant Professor of Social Work, \$62,000

Van Loon, James, Assistant Professor of Research Data Librarian, \$55,000

Vannest, Rebecca, Assistant Professor of Counseling, \$63,000

Wang, Zhe, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, \$68,000

Yang, Guolan, Assistant Professor of Journalism, \$57,000

Yang, Ankun, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, \$87,000

Yoon, Yongsoon, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, \$85,000

**Effective December 1, 2020**

Oberleitner, Lindsay, Assistant Professor of Foundational Medical Studies (non-tenured) \$95,000) (New appointment filling a vacant authorized position).

**Acceptance of Gifts and Pledges to Oakland University for the Period of July 21, 2020 through September 28, 2020**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accept the gifts and pledges to Oakland University identified in the Gifts and Pledges Report, Attachment A, for the period of July 21, 2020 through September 28, 2020.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

**Acceptance of Grants and Contracts to Oakland University for the Period of July 1 – August 31, 2020**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accept the grants and contracts to Oakland University identified in the Grants and Contracts Report, Attachment A, for the period of July 1 – August 31, 2020.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

**Fiscal Year 2022 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of the attached Fiscal Year 2022 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan to the State of Michigan, State Budget Office, as representative of Oakland University's capital budget needs.

(A copy of the Fiscal Year 2022 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

**Lower Fields Athletic Complex (Grizz Dome) Lease Payment Deferral**

RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration be authorized to negotiate and execute an amended lease agreement with Total Soccer of Wixom to alleviate the burden of TSW's lease payments to Oakland University for April 2020 through December 2020, due to lack of income coming in because of the current Executive Order limitations on their normal business operations. Payments will resume in January 2021 and will spread the alleviated payments over the remaining 120 months of the Agreement; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the President, the Vice President for Finance and Administration, and their respective designees, to perform all acts and deeds and to execute and deliver all contracts, instruments and documents required by this resolution that are necessary, expedient and proper; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that said contracts, instruments and documents shall be reviewed by and be in a form acceptable to the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel prior to execution, and be in compliance with the law and with University policies and regulations and conform to the legal standards of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

**Appointment of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees appoints Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis to the position of Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and confirms her appointment as a Professor of Public and Environmental Wellness with tenure, effective October 8, 2020, in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions of the Employment Agreement between Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis and Oakland University.

**2021 Oakland University Board of Trustees Regular Formal Session Dates**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees (Board) approves the following dates for the Board's regular formal sessions through the 2021 calendar year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Board regular formal sessions will be held at Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan, in-person or remotely, at the times and on the dates indicated below, with the location to be determined and announced or the remote link to be provided; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Board regular formal sessions may be cancelled or postponed, and the times and locations of such regular formal sessions may be changed by the Board Chair. Special formal sessions may also be called by the Board Chair.

**Board Regular Formal Sessions**

**Monday, February 15, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Monday, April 12, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Monday, June 21, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Monday, October 11, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Monday, December 13, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Resolution Honoring Richard L. DeVore**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, the President, and the entire Oakland University community publicly express their deep appreciation and gratitude to Trustee Richard L. DeVore for his dedicated service and wise counsel; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Trustee DeVore be designated as Trustee Emeritus with all of the attendant rights and privileges of the position; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to Trustee DeVore to convey the esteem in which he is held by the Board of Trustees, the President, and the University community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees extends to Trustee DeVore its best wishes for happiness and the hope that he will continue his association with Oakland University.

### **Resolution Honoring Marianne Fey**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, the President, and the entire Oakland University community publicly express their deep appreciation and gratitude to Trustee Marianne Fey for her dedicated service and wise counsel; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Trustee Fey be designated as Trustee Emeritus with all of the attendant rights and privileges of the position; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to Trustee Fey to convey the esteem in which she is held by the Board of Trustees, the President, and the University community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees extends to Trustee Fey its best wishes for happiness and the hope that she will continue her association with Oakland University.

Trustee Tull, seconded by Trustee Calley, moved approval of the Consent Agenda and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.

## **E. New Items for Consideration/Action**

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. John W. Beaghan, Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented the Treasurer's Report as set forth in the agenda item.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Beaghan introduced Oakland University's two investment advisors, Mr. Ryan Driscoll from CommonFund and Ms. Rebecca Sorensen from UBS, to provide an update on investment strategies, outcomes and future outlook. Mr. Driscoll advised on working capital and Ms. Sorensen presented comments on Oakland University's endowment.

Ms. Sorensen reported that Oakland University's endowment remained positive for the period ending June 30th, up 4.27% net. As of September 30th, the endowment portfolio was up 6.24% with year-to-date calendar performance of 3.77% and a trailing one-year performance of 10.10% with a three-year average of just under 8% net of fees. Through October the endowment was up another 3.25% with a calendar year-to-date return of

7.15%. Endowment values since the end of June 30 has grown from \$109 million to \$119 million.

Mr. Driscoll noted that Oakland University is in a very strong position in terms of working capital. The portfolio performed well going into fiscal year end. For the second quarter including third party assets, the portfolio returned 4.79%, exceeding its benchmark. For the full fiscal year, including third party assets, the portfolio returned 3.10%, falling short of the benchmark. The CommonFund portfolio returned 5.9% for the second quarter at 3.87% for fiscal year 2020. Full 2020 calendar year through the third quarter the portfolio returned 3.91%, 20 basis points shy of its benchmark. However, given the amount of volatility seen throughout the year, portfolio returns are satisfactory.

### **Financial Statements, June 30, 2020 and 2019**

Trustee Melissa Stolicker presented the Financial Statements, June 30, 2020 and 2019 recommendation as set forth in the agenda item.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the Financial Statements, June 30, 2020, and 2019, which were audited by the Board of Trustees' public accounting firm, Plante & Moran P.L.L.C.

Trustee Stolicker noted three important items in the Financial Statements. First, the Opinion Letter is a clean, unqualified opinion- the highest level of assurance that a CPA firm will provide. Second, the Opinion Letter contains an emphasis of matter paragraph that includes information on how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Oakland University from a financial perspective. Finally, the Audit of Federal Awards is on hold until the Department of Education rules relating to CARES Act funds become available, perhaps in November 2020.

After discussion, Trustee Muchmore, seconded by Trustee Schostak, moved approval of the recommendation, and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.

### **Approval for Purchase of 2871 Research Drive, Rochester Hills**

Mr. Beaghan presented the Approval for Purchase of 2871 Research Drive, Rochester Hills recommendation as set forth in the agenda item.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees (Board) authorizes the Vice President for Finance and Administration to execute a purchase and sale agreement with First Industrial, L.P. to purchase 2871 Research Drive, Rochester Hills (Property) for \$3,715,000, and close the purchase upon satisfactory results of the due diligence process, as informed by Oakland University Facilities Management personnel and third-party consultants; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board waives the Board Policy requirement that the Property be evaluated by three qualified appraisers; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the President, Vice President for Finance and Administration, and their respective designees, to perform all acts and deeds and to execute and deliver all contracts, instruments, and documents required by this resolution that are necessary, expedient, and proper in connection with the purchase of the Property; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that said purchase and sale agreement, contracts, instruments and documents shall be reviewed by and be in a form acceptable to the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel prior to execution, and be in compliance with the law and with University policies and regulations and conform to the legal standards of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

Mr. Beaghan provided an update on current projects funded by 2019 bonds. The Varner Hall Renovation project is in the design stage. The Board of Trustees approved the architect and engineer, and the construction manager in August and will approve scope, budget and schematic design in 2021. South Foundation Hall Renovation Expansion project has received all necessary Board of Trustees approval, and will proceed once construction authorization approval from the State is received. Wilson Hall Expansion, High Temp Hot Water Infrastructure, Anibal/Fitzgerald House Renovation and Dodge Hall Renovation projects have been approved by the Board of Trustees and are proceeding. The Student Athlete Development Center project is currently in the fundraising stage.

Dr. Piskulich identified current space constraints and the projected need by 2025 for approximately 131,000 additional square feet of research space. If purchased, the new facility at 2871 Research Drive in Rochester Hills would accommodate faculty from the School of Engineering and Computer Science currently located in Dodge Hall. Faculty from the School of Medicine, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and Bioengineering would backfill the Dodge Hall space.

Mr. Beaghan noted that the Board of Trustees previously approved the purchase of 3300 University Drive for research space in 2019; However, that purchase was never completed. The primary variables driving the purchase recommendation are cost and time. A new research facility on campus is estimated to cost over \$600 per square foot and would take considerably more time to complete than renovation of an existing facility off campus. The property located at 2871 Research Drive in Rochester Hills is located 4 miles from the main campus, on 3½ acres and nearly 50,000 square feet. A purchase price of \$3,715,000 has been negotiated, which is \$75 a square foot. The building has appraised at just over the purchase price. Additional due diligence will be extensive and include building inspections, phase one and two environmental assessments, baseline environmental assessments, survey and title insurance. Further work is needed to determine a renovation plan. Smith Group was engaged to perform preliminary renovation strategy and concluded that with investment of around \$10 to \$12 million, 40 labs, a number of offices, restrooms, collaboration space could be created as well as maintenance such as roof replacement, securing emergency backup generator, power upgrades, and HVAC improvements. No Board of Trustee approval is being sought for a renovation project at this time.

Upon inquiry from Trustee Stolicker regarding whether the intent is to eventually bring engineering research space back to campus, Mr. Beaghan affirmed that the desire is to relocate back to campus in the future, noting that the cost differential to purchase 2871 Research Drive plus approximate renovation costs is about \$280 per sq. ft. as opposed to approximately \$600 per sq. ft. on campus. The immediate benefit is the procurement of space in a much shorter timeframe, space that is close to campus in an industrial area where many of Oakland University's current and potential partners also have facilities. The purchase provides 50,000 sq. ft. of the 131,000 sq. ft. of research space outlined in the 2016 Campus Master Plan. After discussion, Trustee Tull, seconded by Trustee Calley, moved approval of the recommendation, and the motion was approved with seven positive votes and one negative vote by Trustee Muchmore.

**F. Other Items for Consideration/Action that May Come Before the Board**

There were no other items for consideration/action presented to the Board.

**G. Adjournment**

Chair Tull adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

Submitted,

Approved,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victor A. Zambardi  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tonya Allen  
Chair, Board of Trustees