

**Minutes of the Formal Session  
of the  
Oakland University Board of Trustees  
April 12, 2024**

**Present:** Chair Robert Schostak; Vice Chair Joseph Jones; and Trustees Brian N. Calley, David Kramer, Dennis Muchmore, Colleen Ochoa Peters, Trina Scott, and Stefen F. Welch

**Also Present:** President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz; Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Joshua D. Merchant; Provost Britt Rios-Ellis; Vice President Dawn M. Aubry, Vice President Rochelle A. Black, Vice President Boyd C. Farnam, Vice President Stephen W. Mackey, Senior Vice President Glenn McIntosh, Vice President Michael J. Westfall, Vice President John O. Young; Athletics Director Steven C. Waterfield

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Robert Schostak invited Senior Vice President Glenn McIntosh to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Call to Order**

Chair Schostak called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Banquet Rooms A and B of the Oakland Center.

**C. Roll Call**

Dr. Joshua D. Merchant, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, conducted a roll call and all of the Board members were present.

**D. President's Report**

President Pescovitz's report included OU Pride & Updates, including recognition of Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost Britt Rios-Ellis, who will be leaving Oakland University in June to become President of California State University, Stanislaus; Spring 2024 Commencement Ceremonies; 2024 Best Colleges in American with Oakland (189) ranking the highest and "best value for investment" among its peer institutions in Michigan, first among public universities in Michigan for enhancing students' social mobility and second after UM-Ann Arbor in preparing students for careers. Highlights included "Aspire. Advance. Achieve" campaign exceeded \$150M goal; OU safest college campus in Michigan, and the seventh most secure in U.S.; and Carnegie Community Engagement designation. Other updates included Research; Enrollment Trends; Fiscal Responsibility; Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving Team; Men's Soccer Team; Golden Grizzlies Pride and Strategic Plan 2030.

President Pescovitz, called on AI Taskforce members Dr. Louay Chamra, Dean, School of Engineering and Computer Science, and Dr. Graeme Harper, Dean, Honors College, to address the AI Challenge. Dean Harper gave a brief presentation.

Dr. Elaine Carey, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, gave a brief introduction on how Oakland is preparing students to be critical and creative thinkers. Dean Carey then introduced Dr. Meaghan Barry, Department Chair and Associate Professor of Graphic Design, College of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Gerard Madlambayan, Department Chair and Professor of Biological Sciences. Dr. Barry presented an update on the Department of Art and Art History and Dr. Madlambayan presented an update on the Department of Biological Sciences.

### E. Consent Agenda for Consideration/Action

#### Consent Agenda

#### Treasurer's Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the April 12, 2024 Treasurer's Report.

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees Formal Session of February 2, 2024

#### University Personnel Actions

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

#### **I. New Appointment**

##### **Effective February 5, 2024**

Mandalaneni, Kesava K., Assistant Professor of Foundational Medical Studies (non-tenured) (New appointment filling a vacant authorized position).

#### **II. New Appointments**

##### **Effective January 3, 2024**

Olson, Rachel                      Special Instructor/Simulation Coordinator

#### **III. Emeritus Appointments**

##### **Effective April 12, 2024**

Zeng, Xiangqun, Distinguished Professor Emerita of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences

Wood, Susan, Professor Emerita of Art History, College of Arts and Sciences

**Effective August 15, 2024**

Meehan, Albert, Professor Emerita of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences

VanderLinde, Deborah, Professor Emerita of Music Education, College of Arts and Sciences

Purcell, Dean, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences

**IV. Administrative-Professional Appointments**

Bolton, Dennis. Senior Director of IT Security & Chief Information Security Officer, effective 01/01/2024, appointed administrative-professional classifies at level V, pursuant to the Board's Contracting and Employment Authority Policy.

Herppich, Eric. Assistant Vice President for Human Resources, effective 01/01/2024, appointed administrative-professional classifies at level W, pursuant to the Board's Contracting and Employment Authority Policy.

**V. Faculty Reappointments**

The faculty agreement requires that certain reviews for possible reemployment and promotion be completed by August 15, 2024. The following recommendations are made by the President. Standard review processes were followed.

**A. Reappointments and Promotions**

1. Associate Professors eligible for granting of tenure with promotion to the rank of Professor, effective August 15, 2024.

Cassano, Graham	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Cesmelioglu, Aycil	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Hastings, Derek	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Heisler, Jeffrey	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Hoag, Melissa	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Kattner, Elizabeth	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Song, Mi Hye	College of Arts and Sciences	Promote
Chaudhuri, Ranadeb	School of Business Administration	Promote
Ling, Yan	School of Business Administration	Promote
Stanton II, Steven	School of Business Administration	Promote
Olawoyin, Richard	School of Engineering and Computer Science	Promote
Pandey, Vijitashwa	School of Engineering and Computer Science	Promote

Papadimitriou, Christina	School of Health Sciences	Promote
Greer, Katie	University Libraries	Promote

**Acceptance of Gifts and Pledges to Oakland University for the Period of January 27, 2024 through April 1, 2024**

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 January 27, 2024 through April 1, 2024.

(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 January 1 – February 29, 2024**

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 January 1 – February 29, 2024.

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

**Final Undergraduate School Report and Final Graduate School Report, Fall 2023 – December 16, 2023**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves granting the degrees more fully described in the Final Undergraduate School Report and the Final Graduate School Report for Fall 2023, each dated December 16, 2023.

(A copy of the Final Undergraduate School Report and Final Graduate School Report, Fall 2023 – December 16, 2023 is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

**Appointment of an Independent Public Accounting Firm**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Andrews Hooper Pavlik as the Board of Trustees' independent public accounting firm to conduct the FY2024 Audit at a projected cost of \$92,000; potential incremental costs relative to additional services that may be required will be discussed with management, if necessary; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees' Audit Committee is charged with reviewing and approving the relative engagement letters and audit scope; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that AHP will report the results of its annual examination of Oakland University's financial statements in draft form to the Board of Trustees' Audit Committee and in final form to the Board of Trustees; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Audit Committee Chair, 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 Audits and the ongoing administration of the Audits; 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, 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.

**Department of English Name Change: Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the change in program and degree title from the Department of English to the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film.

**OUWB School of Medicine O'Dowd Hall Renovation/Addition – Plaza Upgrade**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees (Board) approves the incorporation of the Plaza Upgrade to the current renovation project for the O'Dowd Hall first and second floor renovation and atrium entrance at a not to exceed cost of \$650,000; 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 in connection with the O'Dowd Hall renovation project; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that all 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.

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

**F. New Items for Consideration/Action**

**Commendation of Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards and Human Relations Award**

Mr. Glenn McIntosh, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer, presented the Commendation of Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards and Human Relations Award recommendation as set forth in the agenda item.

**Commendation of Alfred G. Wilson Award to Kyle David Spengler**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its appreciation to Mr. Spengler for his unwavering commitment to campus life at Oakland University; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees commends Kyle David Spengler for the quality of his leadership and extends to him its best wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors.

**Commendation of Matilda R. Wilson Award to Destiny Imani Lashay Williams**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its appreciation to Ms. Williams for her unwavering commitment to campus life at Oakland University; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees commends Destiny Imani Lashay Williams for the quality of her leadership and extends to her its best wishes for continued success in all of her future endeavors.

**Commendation of Human Relations Award to Aisha Zanib**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its appreciation to Ms. Zanib for her unwavering commitment to campus life at Oakland University; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees commends Aisha Zanib for the quality of her leadership and extends to her its best wishes for continued success in all of her future endeavors.

After discussion, Trustee Kramer, seconded by Trustee Ochoa Peters, moved approval of the recommendation, and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.

**Commendation of the Don and Jan O'Dowd Graduate Award**

Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, presented the Commendation of the Don and Jan O'Dowd Graduate Award recommendation as set forth in the agenda item.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its appreciation to Mr. Tamplin for his unwavering commitment to campus life at Oakland University and the surrounding community; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees commends Justin Tamplin for the quality of his leadership and extends to him its best wishes for continued success in all his future endeavors.

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

### **Master of Science in Medical Sciences**

Provost Rios-Ellis presented the Master of Science in Medical Sciences recommendation as set forth in the agenda item.

Provost Rios-Ellis introduced Dr. Christopher Carpenter, Dean of the School of Medicine, who introduced Dr. Victoria Lucia, Associate Professor, Foundational Medical Studies and Director of Graduate Programs for the Medical School, to give a brief presentation on the Master of Science in Medical Sciences.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes Oakland University School of Medicine to offer the Master of Science in Medical Sciences; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost will complete annual reviews of the Master of Science in Medical Sciences degree program to evaluate academic quality and fiscal viability to determine whether the program should continue.

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

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

Dr. Annette Gilson, Associate Professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, addressed the Board regarding OU's future specifically speaking to faculty perspectives on educational mission.

Dr. Karen Miller, Associate Professor of History, College of Arts and Sciences, and past president of the OU Chapter of AAUP, addressed the Board regarding the upcoming contract negotiations.

Dr. Caitlin Demsky, Associate Professor of Organizational Behavior, School of Business Administration, and vice president of the OU Chapter of AAUP, addressed the Board regarding the survey conducted by the OU-AAUP regarding Faculty Workplace Satisfaction.

Dr. Michael Latcha, Associate Professor of Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science, and current president of the OU Chapter of AAUP, addressed the Board regarding the upcoming contract negotiations.

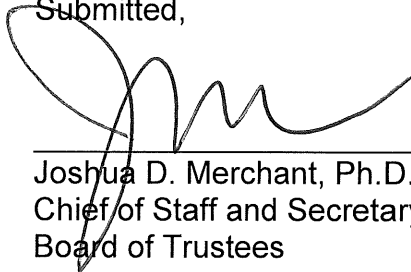
Mr. John Stewart, Attorney and former state legislator whereas he was the Chair of Higher Education Appropriations. Mr. Stewart also delivered the Commencement address at OU in 2005. He addressed the Board regarding the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Meadow Brook.

Mrs. Beth Stewart, Executive Director of the Michigan Philharmonic, addressed the Board regarding the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Meadow Brook.

**H. Adjournment**

Chair Schostak adjourned the meeting at 11:49 a.m.

Submitted,



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Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.  
Chief of Staff and Secretary to the  
Board of Trustees

Approved,

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Robert Schostak  
Chair, Board of Trustees