



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 16, 2022

Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware was held in the Audion at STAR Tower on March 16, 2022. The meeting began at 9:00 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

John R. Cochran, Chair; Carol Ammon; Dennis N. Assanis; James C. Borel; I.G. Burton III; Allison B. Castellanos; Joan F. Coker; Beth Cooper; James Correll; Claire DeMatteis; William J. DiMondi; Donna M. Fontana; Chaitanya R. Gadde; Michael S. Geltzeiler; Kathleen V. Hawkins; Terri L. Kelly; William M. Lafferty; Nisha Lodhavia; Guy F. Marcozzi; Terence M. Murphy; John W. Paradee; Donald J. Puglisi; Edmond J. Sannini; David W. Spartin; Sean X. Wang; Kenneth C. Whitney.

TRUSTEES EXCUSED:

Christopher W. Baker; John Carney; Joan F. Coker; Debra Hess Norris; Claudia Peña Porretti; Robert F. Rider, Jr.; Whitney Townsend Sweeney.

APPROVED ON A MOTION MADE AND SECONDED:

The Board of Trustees approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the University's Strategic Plan "Forward and Forever: The Strategic Plan for the University of Delaware."

OPENING:

Chairman Cochran convened the meeting at 9:03 a.m. and welcomed all those in attendance for the Board of Trustees special meeting. He then called on Mr. Burton for the Attendance Report and the Report of the Treasurer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion made and seconded, the Board approved the minutes of the Board's special meeting of February 16, 2022.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:

Dr. Assanis welcomed the Board and members of the community in attendance. He reported on the status of the annual President's Report publication as well as a favorable update on full reaccreditation of the University of Delaware by its

accreditor, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Both the men's and women's basketball teams won their conference tournaments to enter the NCAA tournament, a first in the history of the institution. Dr. Assanis shared his optimism for both teams in their respective games.

Dr. Assanis noted the progress on the strategic plan and revisited the planning process. He thanked the Trustees and members of the community for their engagement and feedback on the document and the encouragement of metrics to measure the success of the plan in the future. The plan will be a living document and the administration will be prepared to adapt and adjust to leverage future circumstances. Dr. Assanis presented several potential measurements to consider for monitoring progress.

Dr. Assanis provided an update on several business matters that were approved since the last meeting. The administration is pursuing a property at Delaware Technology Park to acquire laboratory space and support the relocation of research faculty for deferred maintenance projects in existing facilities. The Executive Committee approved pursuing this opportunity on the recommendations of the Committees on Grounds and Buildings and Finance. Dr. Assanis stated he would provide an update on the project in the future. The administration also received approval to explore a public-private partnership on the STAR campus to create a mixed-use building. Dr. Assanis shared the approval of new equipment to be installed in the Genuardi Food Innovation Laboratory, supported by a generous gift from the Genuardi family, to support the production of the ice cream within Worrlow Hall. The administration continues to work on enhancing the interconnectedness of Central campus and STAR campus and is conducting planning efforts for those campuses as well as for the Lewes campus and for housing and student life.

Dr. Assanis thanked the Board for its support and noted two College deans are reporting this morning, a new practice which he hopes to continue.

Chair Cochran thanked Dr. Assanis for his leadership and the refresh of the strategic plan. He recognized the many contributors to the plan from students, faculty, administrators and staff, and lauded the ambition to be recognized among the top 25 public institutions in the country. At this time, he welcomed questions from the Trustees.

Ms. DeMatteis requested an update on the status of COVID-19 on campus, and Dr. Assanis shared the downward trend of virus transmission as monitored through asymptomatic testing on campus. The measures taken at the start of the semester to minimize asymptomatic transmission proved successful. Recently the university modified its mask policy to mandate masks in classroom spaces, healthcare facilities, and on university transportation. In other spaces, masking is not required unless unvaccinated. Dr. Assanis supported the continued use of masks for any members of the community who feel compelled to do so.

Chair Cochran asked what will happen once the plan is approved, and Dr. Assanis informed the Board of the strategic plan website which will house the approved plan and live as a source for understanding progress and present the living document as the institution responds to new opportunities.

At this time, on a motion made and seconded, the strategic plan was unanimously approved.

REPORTS OF THE DEANS:

At this time Dean Kathleen Matt and Dean Maria Aristigueta presented updates on the College of Health Sciences and the Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration, respectively.

Chair Cochran thanked both Dean Matt and Dean Aristigueta for their service to the university and their successful tenures.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Beth G. Brand
Vice President & University Secretary

DRAFT MINUTES