

California State University, Los Angeles Foundation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 23, 2021
11:15 a.m.

California State University, Los Angeles
Zoom Meeting

Present: Larry Adamson, Nelson Algaze, Danielle Ares-Duran, Talia Mae Bettcher, Lorraine Bradley, William Covino, Janet Dial, Rachel Friedman, Chris Garlington, Devika Hazra, Andrew Klein, Alev Lewis, William Lewis, Dwight Nakata, Omel Nieves, Jorge Ramirez, John Tchong, Robert Velasquez, Mongwei Wee, Joyce Williams

Absent: Sergio Gonzalez, Lina Hu, Rosario Marin, Barry Rondinella, Nilza Serrano

Staff: Robert Avalos, Associate Vice President for Principal and Planned Gifts
Susana Moreno, Fiscal Analyst, University Advancement
Jane Rhee, Administrative Assistant, University Advancement

Guest: Amber Beasley, ASI Student Trustee Nominee
Michael Good, Partner, CohnReznick
Jackie Richman, Senior Manager, CohnReznick

Omel Nieves called the meeting to order at 11:27a

President's Report – Omel Nieves, President

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the June 24, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting was presented for review and approval.

Motion to approve the draft minutes of the June 24, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting was made by Larry Adamson and seconded by William Lewis.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

University President's Report – William A. Covino

President Covino reported that students have returned to campus, and fall 2021 enrollment exceeded fall 2020 by 600 more students. The administration staff have fully relocated to the new Student Services Building with the first floors dedicated to student serving offices. Fall semester curriculum is a hybrid model, approximately half virtual and half in-person. Other new construction includes the new housing complex of 1,500 beds. The university has implemented a vaccination policy for students, faculty and staff who wish to be on campus. Spring semester curriculum is expected to be fully in-person with some virtual classes, but everything is tentative contingent on the pandemic and public health guidelines.

California State University, Los Angeles Foundation

The university held twenty commencement ceremonies on campus, following all public health guidelines in July, for both graduating students from the classes of 2020 and 2021.

Committee Reports

Audit Committee – Dwight Nakata welcomed Michael Good and Jackie Richman from CohnReznick to present the draft audit financial statements beginning July 1, 2020, and ending, June 30, 2021.

GAAP Audit – Mr. Good noted that Page 28 replaced the previous SAS 115 Letter, per CSU-wide audit requirement. Mr. Good reported that this audit was a clean and unmodified opinion. Mr. Good presented an overview of the Financial Statements, including *Financial Position, Activities, Functional Expenses, Cash Flows, and Notes to Financial Statements*. He commented the *Notes* are consistent and reviewed each *Note*. The *Supplementary Information* was created and compiled to satisfy the CSU requirement. Mr. Good concluded there were no internal control related matters to disclose, thus no material weaknesses to address. He then reviewed the required communication letter, the SAS 114. Mr. Lewis inquired about a line item reported on *Functional Expenses* and Dr. Dial clarified the expense item. Net assets increased, and there was a slight change in presentation and format to conform to new accounting standards.

Motion for board approval of the *Audit Financial Statements Beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021*, was made by Dwight Nakata and seconded by Larry Adamson.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

Development and Gift Acceptance Committee – Larry Adamson

Fundraising Report Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Campaign Update – Mr. Adamson reported that ending June 30, 2021, private giving receivables was \$10,127,396, of which \$4.67M was earmarked to the foundation restricted accounts. Total philanthropic productivity commitments were \$10.4M. As of June 30, 2021, the university has raised \$84.78M towards WE ARE LA: The Campaign for Cal State LA, exceeding the campaign goal of \$75M by 9.78M.

Fiscal Year 2021-22 and First Quarter Highlights – The university has raised \$876,621 in private gift receivables through August 31, 2021, of which, \$532,854, is earmarked for Cal State LA Foundation accounts. The philanthropic productivity gift commitments totals (which include new gifts, new pledges, and new testamentary commitments) is \$459,241. The donor count is currently 203.

First Quarter Highlights:

The university received \$500,000 from Kevin Xu toward his pledge to the Rongxiang Xu Fund.

The Kemper Foundation pledged \$130,000 over the next two years: \$80,000 toward The Kemper Scholars Program and \$50,000 toward The Kemper Foundation Faculty Awards Fund.

The university received a realized bequest from Mary B. Rivas, a 1954 alumna from the Charter College of Education in the amount of \$100,000 to establish a named endowed scholarship in Elementary Education.

The Crankstart Foundation pledged \$70,000 over two years to continue their support of the Transfer Scholars Program.

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics received \$50,000 from an anonymous donor to fund the Men & Women's Track and Field and Cross-Country teams.

California State University, Los Angeles Foundation

The university received \$45,000 from STEM Advantage to fund their annual scholarship awards for student who are majoring in STEM-related majors.

John David Rees, an emeritus geology faculty, made provisions in his estate to establish a named Geosciences Endowment Fund.

A \$25,000 gift from an anonymous donor was received to fund the Police Orientation and Preparation Program (POPP) in the Rongxiang Xu College of Health and Human Services.

Governance Committee – Barry Rondinella

ASI President Designee – Andrew Klein

Mr. Rondinella welcomed Andrew Klein, who will serve as the A.S.I. President Designee for FY 2021-22. Mr. Klein currently serves as the student representative for the College of Business and Economics and looks forward to serving on the board.

Student Trustee Nominee for Fiscal Year 2021-22 – Amber Beasley

Mr. Rondinella welcomed and introduced Amber Beasley, a nominee to serve as Student Trustee for FY 2021-22. Ms. Beasley is a sociology graduate student. This is her second year in A.S.I. and she is serving as the Vice President for Academic Governance. She is committee chair for the Cabinet of Academic Senators and Shared Governance Council.

Motion to approve A.S.I.'s nominee, Amber Beasley, to serve as student trustee for FY 2021-22, was made by Barry Rondinella and seconded by Janet Dial.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

Investment and Finance Committee – Alev Lewis

Portfolio Update – Ms. Lewis presented the executive summary of the endowment, reporting on the portfolio value of \$62.8M ending August 31, 2021. She presented net investment gain/loss for 2021 YTD, 2020 prior, trailing 3 and 5 years, and since inception, commenting that the portfolio has earned 7.6% annually. She shared the portfolio's performance overview, including top performing managers and detractors.

She shared the portfolio's asset allocation compared to the NACUBO – aligned with our IPS and similar class endowments. Periods between meetings, the rebalancing activities made by Jewel City Group are listed.

Investment Policy Statement – Ms. Lewis reported on Jewel City Group's recommendations (based on a 3rd party reviewer, Clearwater Analytics) for the endowment investment policy statement, including adjustments to upper and lower limits, and some language. The committee reviewed and approved those changes to the document.

Property Listing – The committee reported that they have reviewed the documentation from RedFin and presented their recommendation to proceed with authorizing and listing the sale of the property located at 2339 Lillyvale Avenue, Apt #158, Los Angeles, CA, 90032, for \$429,000, and sell for no less than \$400,000.

Motion to list the property for sale at \$429K was made by Alev Lewis and seconded by Larry Adamson.

California State University, Los Angeles Foundation

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

Authority to Sell Property – The committee recommends board approval to grant authority to the Executive Director to act on behalf of the Foundation, as provided in Article III, Section 2, and sell the Lillyvale property.

Motion to approve the *Granting Authority to Sell Property* Resolution was made by Larry Adamson and seconded by Omel Nieves.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – John Tcheng

No Report.

Executive Director's Report – Janet Dial

We Are LA Campaign and University-wide Updates – Dr. Dial reported that they have now raised over \$94M towards the campaign's aspirational goal of \$100M. She shared there was a \$10M gift, withholding name and gifts details, stating an official press release will be forthcoming. This was the largest gift to date. There are other gifts the fundraising team is cultivating. There are various events and activities planned for the 75th anniversary of the university, which coincides with the close of the campaign in 2022. There will be red ribbon-cutting ceremonies and special grand openings of naming events such as the Virtual Reality Lab and the Well-Being Garden. More details will be shared as they become available.

The Alumni Awards are in the planning stages for a spring event. Included in the slate of honorees is alumnus of the year, Willie Zuniga, president of Grifols Biologicals, Inc. We are planning for an in-person event that will include an outdoor reception and then an indoor awards ceremony at the Luckman Theatre.

The Luckman Gallery is presenting one of their permanent collections of Andy Warhol pieces. There will be an opening ceremony on October 1, 2021. We hope to have a traveling show sometime in the future.

The first live main event on campus in 2022 will be held at the Luckman Theatre for a three-night event of Ballet Folklorico: March 25th, 26th, 27th – more details will be shared as they become available.

Dr. Dial shared there are vacancies throughout the division, but reported the Alumni office is fully staffed with a new Assistant Director, and that recruitment efforts are in progress.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the foundation board is scheduled for January 27, 2022. Meeting location and details will be announced.

Motion to Adjourn

With no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Larry Adamson and seconded by William Lewis.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40p.