

California State University, Los Angeles Foundation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 28, 2022
11:15 a.m.

California State University, Los Angeles
Golden Eagle, 3rd Floor, Board Room Patio

Present: Larry Adamson, Nelson Algaze, Robert Avalos, Talia Mae Bettcher, Lorraine Bradley, William Covino, Chris Garlington, Devika Hazra, Andrew Klein, Alev Lewis, William Lewis, Rosario Marin, Dwight Nakata, Omel Nieves, Jorge Ramirez, Barry Rondinella, John Tcheng

Absent: Danielle Ares-Duran, Rachel Friedman, Sergio Gonzalez, Bertha Haro, Lina Hu, Nilza Serrano, Robert Velasquez, Joyce Williams

Staff: Susana Moreno, Fiscal Analyst, University Advancement
Jane Rhee, Administrative Assistant, University Advancement

Omel Nieves called the meeting to order at 11:24a

President's Report – Omel Nieves, President

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the January 27, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting was presented for review and approval.

Motion to approve the draft minutes of the January 27, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting was made by William Lewis and seconded by Lorraine Bradley. Talia Bettcher abstained.

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

Resolution

After conferring with management, Mr. Nieves confirmed that the Resolution language is not ready to present to the board for consideration and approval at this time. This action item on the agenda will be deferred to the June board meeting.

University President's Report – William A. Covino

President Covino shared that the structures that will create and house this year's commencement pavilion will commence soon in parking Lot 5, on the north end of campus. Commencement week is scheduled from May 23rd through May 27th, for a total of 10 ceremonies, 2 each day. One of the honorary degree recipients will be Jaime Jarrin, during the Arts and Letters ceremony. Cal State LA advocated in joint efforts with faculty, staff and students for the Governor's revised budget. Negotiation and advocacy efforts included a request for re-occurring funds for compensation. A compensation study was conducted to determine long term compensation aspirations.

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Fall enrollment is strong. Enrollment has fluctuated at other campuses due to COVID and its impact on students and their families. May 1st is enrollment confirmation when deposits are due for fall semester.

At the systemwide level, President Covino reported that former CSU Northridge president, Jolene Koester, has been appointed to serve as interim Chancellor effective May 1st. Another systemwide event is the inaugural Juneteenth Symposium, led by CSU Dominguez Hills. President invited the trustees to participate, as their schedule allows.

There was a brief discussion about enrollment decline throughout the state and the CSU system, noting there were very large fluctuations at some of the other sister campuses. President Covino commented over the past 10 years, the percentage of 1st year freshman and transfer students have been equal, however, there has been a decline in transfer student enrollment, due to less students enrolling in community colleges.

Committee Reports

Audit Committee – Dwight Nakata

2020 Federal 990, CA 199 and RRF-1, ending June 30, 2021 – Mr. Nakata presented the foundation's 2020 Federal 990, the CA 199 and the CA RRF-1 documents for the board's consideration. The committee has reviewed the document with the auditors who prepared the forms.

The motion for board approval of the 2020 Federal 990's, CA 199 and RRF-1, ending June 30, 2021, was made by Dwight Nakata and seconded by Rosario Marin.

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

Development and Gift Acceptance Committee – Rosario Marin

Fundraising Report FY 21-22 Ending March 31, 2021 – Ms. Marin reported that ending March 31, 2021, private giving receivables was \$6.9M, of which \$3.7M was earmarked to the foundation restricted accounts. Total philanthropic productivity commitments were \$15.6M. Donor count is currently 1,673 toward our goal of 5,000. The university has raised \$100.4M towards WE ARE LA: The Campaign for Cal State LA, exceeding the campaign goal of \$75M.

Third Quarter Highlights

Mike and Debe Lucki made their annual donation from their donor-advised fund at the Orange County United Way towards the "Michael and Debe Lucki Scholarship Endowment," in the College of Business & Economics.

Jovian donated \$10,000 to the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology to fund a new Senior Design Program project.

The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation provided a grant of \$16,000 to support a faculty fellowship entitled, "Crime in the Face of Gentrification in Los Angeles" for a faculty member in the College of Business and Economics.

Mark and Jessie Milano Foundation fulfilled a pledge of \$27,500 towards their annual support to Dr. James Garrett Pathways to Professional Success Program.

William Wright donated from an inherited IRA rollover to fund a music scholarship in the College of Arts and Letters, in memory of his sister, Carol Wright, who received her B.A. in English in 1978.

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Clifford Orloff fulfilled a pledge towards the Olga Shalygin Orloff Nursing Scholarship, in honor of his wife, who received her B.S. in nursing in 1977.

The Truman Capote Literary Trust provided a grant of \$50,000, and an additional \$12,000 donation, towards the "Truman Capote Literary Trust Creative Writing Fund" in the College of Arts and Letters.

We received a \$50,000 grant from a donor advised fund at the Whittier Trust, towards a project in Student Life. This grant was directed by the John Burton Advocates for Youth Foundation.

We received an \$80,000 gift from a donor advised fund at Vanguard to establish the M. Michele Brickhouse Scholarship Endowment in nursing from M. Michele Brickhouse's estate. She received her B.S. in nursing in 1983.

We received a final distribution from the Estate of Grace Marie Waldrop, in the amount of \$55,901, towards the Hazel Jean Waldrop Professorship in Marketing Endowment.

Maureen and David Williams made provisions in their estate to provide funding towards the Janice Cordova Garden of Well-Being.

Unihealth Foundation provided a grant, of \$143,619, for the LA BioSpace Acceleration Program.

We received a final distribution from the Estate of Yoshiharu Ohara, in the amount of \$145,248, towards the Yoshie L. Ohara Memorial Nursing Scholarship Endowment in memory of his late wife.

Governance Committee – Barry Rondinella

Nominations – Mr. Rondinella reminded the board that he is accepting nominations. At the end of this calendar year, several trustees' terms will end, creating vacancies. Everyone was encouraged to submit nominees (alum and non-alum alike) for further consideration.

Investment and Finance Committee – Alev Lewis

Portfolio Update – Ms. Lewis presented an overview of the endowment's executive summary, reporting on the portfolio value of \$55.2M, ending March 31, 2022. This is a negative 7% compared to the value ending December 2021. In comparison to performance rates from 2021, the returns are still positive 12.6%. She reported that Jewel City Group placed a manager on the watch list, and recommended replacing Skybridge, a hedge fund manager. This manager has been impacted by BitCoin and has shown unexpected volatility. Manager options to replace Skybridge will be presented for consideration at the next committee meeting. They will also be discussions of cryptocurrency and whether that is Ms. Lewis noted that the portfolio did not capture the gains from fossil fuel since the board had divested from fossil fuel. Divesting was untimely, however, the decision was sound based on the university's values, and will serve the university best in the long term.

Investment Policy Statement for Endowment Fund –Jewel City Group recommended increasing the upper limit of Private Real Estate from 5% to 7%. With housing in big demand, the committee would like to request board approval.

Motion to approve the committee's recommendation to increase Private Real Estate upper limit from 5% to 7% in the Investment Policy Statement for Endowment Funds was made by Alev Lewis and seconded by Rosario Marin.

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

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NACUBO 2021 – Jewel City Group shared with the committee some highlights of the NACUBO 2021 Report in relation to the foundation’s endowment compared to the other institutions who participated in the report, and noted the following: Institutions have received more donations compared to prior years; there has been increased spending rates (4.54% average); most institutions have intentions to decrease their spending rate in the next 2-3 years; and, institutions who invested in alternatives experienced a higher rate of returns.

Treasurer’s Report – John Tcheng

Unaudited Financial Statements Ending March 31, 2021

Ending March 31st, the total inflow was \$1.3M and total outflow was \$3.1M for an ending fund balance of \$76.7M. On the *Statements of Activities*, Mr. Tcheng reported the total revenue and supports, the change in net assets, and total expenses for an ending balance of \$76.7M. On the *Statements of Financial Position*, he presented total assets and liabilities, including unrestricted, quasi-restricted, and restricted for total liabilities and net assets of \$79.4M. The page included detailed pledge receivables for award and non-scholarship, endowments, and investments (non-endowed and endowed). The *Detail Statement of Activities* line-itemized the operating budget compared to the approved budget, reflecting available budget of \$287,331 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Executive Director’s Report – Robert Avalos

We Are LA Campaign and University-wide Updates – Spring has been very active for the advancement team. The Alumni Relations office hosted the Alumni Awards Gala on April 8th. On April 21st, the university hosted the President’s Council meeting, followed by the Janice Cordova Garden of Well-Being dedication ceremony and reception. Mr. Avalos reported that the campaign has raised more than \$100 million dollars, from more than 16,000 individuals. He also reported on his Chancellor’s Office visit in late March during the Board of Trustees meeting when he accompanied Mary Levin Cutler, who addressed the Board after the naming of the *Mary Levin School of the Arts* was approved by the California State University trustees.

Mr. Avalos presented two existing trusts for the board to consider designating as quasi-endowments.

Kachigian Living Trust – Motion to designate the proceeds from the Kachigian Living Trust estate as quasi-endowment was made by Omel Nieves and seconded by Lorraine Bradley.

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

Sati Ram Manvi Trust – Motion to designate the proceeds from the Manvi Trust estate as quasi-endowment was made by Omel Nieves and seconded by Lorraine Bradley.

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

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the foundation board is scheduled for June 30, 2022. Meeting location and details will be announced.

Motion to Adjourn

With no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Omel Nieves and seconded by Alev Lewis.

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:23p.