

**Minutes of the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees regular meeting held Thursday, September 29, 2016—APPROVED November 30, 2016**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees held a regular meeting Thursday, September 29, 2016 at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, Vermont.

The following were present:

Trustees: Jerry Diamond, Lynn Dickinson, Morgan Easton, Kraig Hannum, Church Hindes, Tim Jerman, Bill Lippert, Karen Luneau, Jim Masland, Linda Milne, Martha O'Connor, Mike Pieciak

Absent: Chris Macfarlane, Aly Richards

Presidents: Nolan Atkins, Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton, Dave Wolk

Office of the Chancellor:

Tricia Coates, Director of External and Governmental Affairs  
Kevin Conroy, Vice Chancellor for Technology Services  
Sheilah Evans, System Controller and Senior Director of Financial Operations  
Bill Reedy, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs  
Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor  
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor  
Steve Wisloski, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration  
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel  
Yasmine Ziesler, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

From the Colleges:

Connor Cyrus, Student, Lyndon State College  
Jonathan Davis, Dean of Students, Lyndon State College  
Terry Dwyer, VSCF Union Steward  
Jennifer Harris, Director of Development, Lyndon State College  
Loren Loomis Hubbell, Dean of Administration, Lyndon State College  
Sandy Noyes, VSCSF Unit Chair  
Sylvia Plumb, Executive Director of Marketing, Lyndon State College  
Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Johnson State College  
Beth Walsh, VSCUP President

From the Public:

Kyle Midura, WCAX  
Adam Norton, VSEA Strategic Analyst  
Tiffany Pache, VT Digger  
Cindy Polinsky, AFT Field Rep

Chair O'Connor called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Approval of July 20-21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Jerman seconded the approval of the minutes. The Board approved the minutes 11-0-1. Trustee Milne abstained.

2. Consideration of Chancellor's Proposal for Unification of Johnson State College and Lyndon State College

Chancellor Spaulding briefly reviewed his presentation regarding unification from the day before. The Board further discussed the issue. Trustee Jerman read aloud and moved the resolution to unify Lyndon State College and Johnson State College. Trustee Diamond seconded the resolution. Chair O'Connor invited President Collins to make some remarks. Chair O'Connor opened the floor to public comment. The Board approved the resolution unanimously.

3. Report of the Finance & Facilities Committee

Trustee Hindes moved and Trustee Diamond seconded the consent agenda. The Board approved the resolution unanimously.

4. Report of the Long Range Planning Committee

Trustee Diamond stated the Committee's most recent work has culminated in the approval of the unification resolution.

5. Report of the Audit Committee

Trustee Milne reported that the Committee met in August to receive the report of the internal audit. She stated that the Committee recommends the establishment of an internal audit policy.

Chair O'Connor notified the Board that the 11/30-12/1 meeting may possibly be shortened to a one-day meeting on 11/30. The Board will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

6. Report of the Hall of Fame Planning Committee

Trustee Luneau shared that planning for the next event, March 16, 2017, is underway and encouraged the participation of the entire Board.

7. Discussion of Legislative Funding Request

Chancellor Spaulding discussed with the Board proposed plans for budget adjustment request appropriations request, and capital appropriations request.

8. Executive Session: Presidents' Performance Evaluations

This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

B. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

1. Report of the VSCSA

Chair O'Connor asked Trustee Easton to provide the report of the VSCSA.

2. Presidents Reports

Presidents Atkins, Collins, Judy, Moulton, and Wolk provided college updates.

3. Other Business

There was no other business.

4. Comments from the Public

Audience members Beth Walsh and Loren Loomis Hubbell made comments.

Previous Item 8. Executive Session: Presidents' Performance Evaluations

Trustee Jerman moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 VSA §313 (a)(3) and (6) through 1 VSA §317 (c)(4) and (9) to discuss the evaluations of the presidents, with Chancellor Spaulding permitted in the executive session. Trustee Lippert seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to enter executive session at 11:52 a.m. The Board exited executive session at 12:45 p.m. and took no action.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RESOLUTION

Unification of Lyndon State College and Johnson State College

- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, in their July 21, 2016 resolution, affirmed their commitment to both the Lyndon State College and the Johnson State College campuses and their value to the regional economy, to the state, and to the VSC mission; and
- WHEREAS, Unification will expand opportunities for students through new academic programs, access to more courses and faculty, shared extra-curricular events, organizations, and opportunities; and
- WHEREAS, Unification will help achieve a strengthened financial position due to consolidated leadership positions, shared resources, and enhanced opportunities to grow enrollments and revenues; and
- WHEREAS, Faculty, staff and students are actively engaged in considering unification: what will make it successful, what challenges will be involved, how to preserve the identity of each college, and whose ideas, perspectives, and talents will shape the future of the unified college; and
- WHEREAS, The appointment of a single executive leadership team will help achieve immediate budget savings, work with faculty, staff, and students to determine the specifics of unification, and maintain a presence on each campus after unification; and
- WHEREAS, The proposed unification timeline reflects input received about appropriate preparation time for accreditation, state and federal agency processes, for the development and marketing of a brand for the unified college, and for continued and structured input and planning by faculty, staff, and students; and
- WHEREAS, Unification will bring together the unique attributes of each college, will create a larger, stronger college that offers more opportunities for students, will maintain two campuses and access to quality postsecondary education in the northern region of Vermont, and will strengthen the finances that will support this work; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approves the unification of Johnson State College and Lyndon State College into one single, accredited college with two distinctive campuses; and be it further

RESOLVED, That to provide executive leadership for the transition, Dr. Elaine Collins will serve as the single president of both colleges beginning July 1, 2017, and will be president of the unified college on July 1, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Dr. Collins should name a unified executive leadership team that includes strong representation from both campuses by the end of October, 2016 to guide transition planning and implementation of unification; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Chancellor, with advice from Dr. Collin's unified leadership team and the Unification Advisory Committee, should make a recommendation on a name for the new entity for the Board's consideration at, or before, its December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

September 29, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

VSC Finance and Facilities Committee Business: Consent Agenda

WHEREAS, At its August 24 and September 28, 2016 meetings the VSC Finance and Facilities Committee discussed the business items outlined below; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Committee has voted to approve the items outlined below and recommends them to the full Board:

- Approval of the VTC VSTEER Working Families Grant in the amount of \$4,000,000
- Approval of minor revision to Policy 417, Tuition Waiver for Students Age 65 and Over
- Approval of change to endowment terms for JSC's President's Fund for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

September 29, 2016