

**Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Retreat Meeting held Thursday, September 27, 2018 at the Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont – APPROVED**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees met on Thursday, September 27, 2018, at the Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, Vermont

Board members present: Churchill Hinds (Chair), Janet Bombardier, Jerry Diamond, Lynn Dickinson, Dylan Giambatista, Karen Luneau, Chris Macfarlane, Jim Masland, Linda Milne, Aly Richards, David Silverman and Jesse Streeter

Absent: Mike Pieciak, Bill Lippert

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton, Karen Scolforo

Chancellor's Office Staff:     Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor  
  Kevin Conroy, Chief Information Officer  
  Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs  
  Todd Daloz, Associate General Counsel  
  Sheilah Evans, System Controller & Senior Director of Financial  
  Operations  
  Jen Porrier, Administrative Director  
  Steve Wisloski, Chief Financial Officer  
  Sophie Zdatny, General Counsel  
  Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges:     Michael Fox, Dean of Enrollment & Marketing, Northern Vermont  
  University  
  Laura Jakubowski, Director of Finance, Castleton University  
  Maurice Ouimet, Dean of Enrollment, Castleton University  
  Sharon Scott, Dean of Administration, Northern Vermont University

Chair Hinds called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Chancellor's 2018-2019 Goals and Status, with discussion

Chancellor Spaulding led a discussion on the VSCS goals and status for 2018-2019. He stated that the highest priority of stabilizing the finances of the VSCS and its member institutions remains the same. The goal is to stay on budget and finish FY 2019 with balanced budgets, heading into FY2020 with some positive margins. The Chancellor discussed the Board approved six strategic priorities and the goal of maintaining focus on those, as well as increasing the understanding across the campuses about the realities of changing demographics. The Board discussed that the System should consider coming up with themes for possible Op/Eds for publication. A discussion ensued on strategies to obtain funds for campus physical-plant maintenance.

Executive Session

At 9:47 a.m. Trustee Diamond moved the VSC Board of Trustees enter executive session, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to discuss the evaluation of a public employee. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, the Board invited the Chancellor to attend. The Board returned from executive session at 10:15 a.m. and took no action in open session.

The Board of Trustees business meeting started at 10:26 a.m.

1. Approval of June 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes

**Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Diamond seconded the approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously with one abstention.**

2. Report of the Executive Committee

a. Hall of Fame Discussion and Decision

**Trustee Milne moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to accept the nominees for the 2019 VSCS Hall of Fame. The motion passed unanimously.**

The presidents will now approach the nominees to let them know of this honor.

Trustee Luneau gave a brief review of past HOF successful events and solicited commitments from those present for donations for the March 14, 2019 event. The Board discussed a more streamlined registration process for sponsors and donors; this will be rolled out in the future.

b. Ad Hoc Committee on Senior Leader Compensation

As a follow up to a conversation at the June 21, 2018 Board Meeting at NVU-Lyndon, Chair Hinder informed Trustees that an Ad Hoc Committee on Senior Leader Compensation will be formed. They will have an open charge to review compensation for senior leadership at VSCS and give recommendations. It was proposed this recommendation be brought to the Board of Trustees at the March 23, 2019 meeting.

3. Report of the Finance & Facilities Committee

a. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of Karii Cloud Memorial Scholarship Endowment (NVU-Johnson)
- ii. Approval of the Dick & Nancy Collins Endowment for the Vail Museum (NVU-Lyndon).

**Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Giambatista seconded the approval of the consent agenda. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.**

- b. Proposed Amendment to Policy 403, Annual Operating Budget  
Chief Financial Officer Wisloski explained the proposed reallocation of the State appropriation is phased in over four years, and is weighted 25% to the current allocation (which provides 40% of the appropriation to NVU; 20% to the other three VSC

institutions), 50% to net student revenues, and 25% to degrees and credentials conferred, with the latter two components being trailing three-year averages. The three components were chosen to account for the relative weight of the Institutions within the System using both financial and academic measures, and for NVU's need to maintain two campuses.

**Trustee Diamond moved and Trustee Masland seconded the motion to approve the amendment to Policy 403. The resolution was approved unanimously.**

4. Report of the EPSL Committee

Trustee Richards updated the Board on "Start to Finish" and highlighted the academic retreat in May, 2018 that aligns with "Start to Finish," initiative that will come together with the final component of the incoming students. Advisors have a new and streamlined message including "15 to Finish". Data is being tracked across colleges on students who are taking 15 credits. There is a group going to a Complete College of America conference to learn new tactics for furthering this work.

5. Report of the Audit Committee

Trustee Milne explained that the auditors finished their field work in last week of August and the audit reports will be available for action by the next Audit meeting on October 24, 2018.

6. Report of the Long Range Planning Committee

- a. Approval of the NVU Strategic plan

**Trustee Diamond moved and Trustee Macfarlane seconded the motion to approve the Northern Vermont University Strategic Plan. The resolution was approved unanimously.**

7. Legislative Report and Planning

Director of Governmental and External Affairs, Tricia Coates, informed trustees that the Chancellor's office is working with the Governor's office to develop possible budget requests. The VSCS will have an official request to the Governor in December with a focus on the "cradle to career" effect. For the capital appropriation, VSCS is considering asking for \$1 million of additional funding to cover deferred maintenance, bringing our total funds to \$3 million

8. Hall of Fame Discussion and Decision

This was discussed during item 2 on the agenda.

9. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

10. Next Meeting is Thursday December 6, 2018 at Vermont Technical College

VSCS Board of Trustees Annual Retreat  
September 27, 2018 Minutes UNAPPROVED

**Chair Hinde adjourned the meeting at 11: 28 a.m.**