

**Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Finance and Facilities Committee held Monday, April 29, 2019 at the Chancellor's Office, Conference Room 101, Montpelier, VT-
APPROVED**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Finance and Facilities Committee met on Monday, April 29, 2019, at the Chancellor's Office, Montpelier, VT.

Committee members present: Churchill Hinds (Chair), David Silverman (Vice Chair), Lynn Dickinson, Peg Flory, Adam Grinold, Linda Milne, Mike Pieciak

Other Trustees present: Karen Luneau

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

Chancellor's Office Staff: Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor
Tricia Coates, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Steve Wisloski, Chief Financial Officer
Sophie Zdatny, General Counsel
Alicia Batchelder, NVU-Lyndon Intern
Matthew Bean, NVU-Lyndon Intern
Ethan Bean, NVU-Lyndon Intern

From the Colleges: Nate Ball, Assistant Director of Admissions, VSCUP Vice President, Vermont Technical College
Kate Gold, Director of Advising Resources, VSCUP President, Northern Vermont University
Laura Jakubowski, Chief Budget & Finance Officer, Castleton University
Maurice Ouimet, Dean of Enrollment, Castleton University
Andy Pallito, Dean of Administration, Community College of Vermont
Sharron Scott, Dean of Administration, Northern Vermont University
Littleton Tyler, Dean of Administration, Vermont Technical College

Chair Hinds called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

1. Consent agenda and approvals:
 - a. Minutes of April 1, 2019 meeting

Trustee Flory moved, and Trustee Dickinson seconded the approval of the minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Legislative update

Director of External and Governmental Affairs Tricia Coates shared that with May 17th being the anticipated close date for the Legislative Session, the Senate Appropriations Committee is likely to finalize its budget proposal within the week, with the full Senate completion the following week. The next few weeks remain important for the VSCS as the \$3 million base increase proposed by the Governor and passed by the House is still under consideration in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

3. Review of 3rd quarter FY2019 financial reports

Chief Financial Officer Steve Wisloski shared the executive summary of financial results, stating that there has been an improvement in aggregate of about \$1.3 million from the second quarter spread broadly across the institutions due to better than expected enrollment-driven revenue. Chair Hinderes thanked the financial team for working hard to get these summaries to the board in a much timelier manner than was possible in the past.

4. Review of April 15 admissions summaries and latest budgeted enrollments

Mr. Wisloski shared that the most relevant metric in the admissions summary at this point in the process is student deposits. Budgeted enrollments were also unchanged from the previous meeting's levels. Mr. Wisloski stated that the materials represent the currently-budgeted full time and full paying equivalent (FTE/FPE) numbers, defined as the equivalent number of students enrolled in 12 credits per semester, for this point in time, taking into consideration there are numerous factors in play and this is the beginning of the process. He noted that students do not generally begin enrolling until June 1, so the Committee focused on current deposits, which provide some indication of likely enrollment figures. The numbers show this year's deposits as compared to the same numbers at this time last year.

5. Review of "second pass" FY2020 operating budgets

Mr. Wisloski reviewed the presentation of "second pass" FY2020 operating budgets and projections at the System level and noted that the current projection of just under a \$3 million deficit corresponded closely with the "central case/most likely" scenario presented in connection with the "first pass" budgets at the April 1 meeting. The Committee will review the "third pass"

and final FY2020 budgets at its next meeting on May 29 and will be asked to vote to recommend them for approval to the full Board of Trustees at its June 20 meeting.

6. Discussion of Resolution repealing Policy 410, Financial Aid and Other Financial Awards

Mr. Wisloski discussed that the last update of Policy 410 was in 1999. This Policy limits institutions' financial aid awards in three ways: limits overall financial aid to 5% of general operating budgets; limits awards to non-residents to 50% of overall aid; and limits awards of non-need-based aid to 50% of overall aid. A draft resolution repealing Policy 410 was presented for consideration. Trustee Milne requested a presentation of backup figures and more details regarding the current scholarship discounts. Chancellor Spaulding requested that Mr. Wisloski present the Committee with a revised or alternative policy at the next meeting.

7. Discuss Resolution changing FY2020 maximum tuition and room rates

Mr. Wisloski presented a draft resolution with two parts. The first part addresses reversing the 2.9% increase in tuition currently slated to occur next year for undergraduate Vermonters. The second part addresses a room rate increase. Chancellor Spaulding recommended delaying consideration of this resolution until the legislature adjourns.

8. Discussion of FY2021 tuition, fees, room and board rates

Chancellor Spaulding reminded the Committee that for the past several years tuition rates have been set in the spring, over a year in advance, to assist with financial aid packaging. He proposed delaying setting FY2021 tuition until September, after the residential colleges had a better sense of how the current admissions class responded to pricing strategies. Mr. Wisloski briefly touched on the tables in the materials and held this discussion over until the next meeting.

9. Quarterly cash and investments summary

Provided for information.

10. Quarterly grant tracking report

Provided for information.

11. Other business

Trustee Silverman shared that the Union Bank has VSCS interns as well as 20 employees that are VSCS graduates.

12. Comments from the public

There were no comments.

13. Adjourn

Chair Hinderes adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.