

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Meeting held Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. via ZOOM – APPROVED

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, August 4, 2021, via ZOOM.

Board members present: Lynn Dickinson (Chair), Janette Bombardier (1:35 p.m.), Megan Cluver, Ryan Cooney, Dylan Giambatista, Shirley Jefferson, Bill Lippert, Karen Luneau, Jim Masland, Mary Moran, Shawn Tester, Sue Zeller

Absent: Adam Grinold, David Silverman

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton

Chancellor's Office Staff: Donny Bazluke, Network/Security Analyst
Kellie Campbell, Chief Information Officer
Wilson Garland, Director of Transformation Projects
Katherine Levasseur, Director of External & Governmental Affairs
Katrina Meigs, System Director of HR & Benefits Administration
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Kathryn Santiago, Assistant General Counsel
Sharron Scott, Chief Financial/Operations Officer
Toby Stewart, System Controller
Patty Turley, General Counsel
Meg Walz, Director, Program Manager
Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Nolan Atkins, Provost, Northern Vermont University
Tanya Bradley, Director of Financial Aid, Northern Vermont University
Bobbi Jo Carter, Associate Dean of Distance Education Programs, Northern Vermont University
Sarah Chambers, Coordinator of Instructional Technology, Castleton University
Stefanie Cravedi, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Dottie Dearborn, Officer, Financial Aid, Northern Vermont University
Greg Eckman, Assistant Athletic Director of Student-Athlete Development, Northern Vermont University
Jennifer Harris, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, Northern Vermont University
Penny Howrigan, Associate Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Services, Northern Vermont University

Laura Jakubowski, Chief Budget & Finance Officer, Castleton University
Sara Kinerson, Director of Advising & Registration Center, Northern Vermont University
Tom Mauhs-Pugh, Provost, Castleton University
Ryan McClure, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Darcie Miles, Executive Assistant to the President, Northern Vermont University
James Nichols, Head Athletic Trainer, Northern Vermont University
Sandra Noyes, President, VSC Staff Federation, Northern Vermont University
Ann Nygard, Director or Center for Professional Studies, Northern Vermont University
Linda Olson, VP Education AFT-VT, Castleton University
Andy Pallito, Dean of Administration, Community College of Vermont
David Pasiak, Men's Head Basketball Coach, Northern Vermont University
Lauren Philie, Director of Development & Alumni Relations, Northern Vermont University
Patrick Rogers, Director of Admissions, Northern Vermont University
Deneen Russell, Bursar, Northern Vermont University
Opal Savoy, Student Reporter, Basement Medicine, Northern Vermont University
Tyrone Shaw, Faculty, Northern Vermont University
Littleton Tyler, Dean of Administration, Vermont Technical College
Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP, Northern Vermont University

From the Public:

Matt Bunting, Managing Associate, Storbeck Search
Mike Fox, Former Dean of Enrollment at NVU
Steve Leo, Managing Director, Storbeck Search
John Mills, Future Interim President of Northern Vermont University
Jim Page, Former Chancellor, University of Maine System
Alicia Weiss, Community Member

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. Resolution Honoring Elaine Collins

Chair Dickinson read Resolution 2021-019 honoring the service of Elaine C. Collins.

Trustee Moran moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2021-019 Honoring the Exceptional Service of Dr. Elaine C. Collins. The motion was approved unanimously.

Many colleagues shared their best wishes and congratulatory messages for President Collins.

3. Approval of June 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Masland moved and Trustee Moran seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Presentation by Steve Leo/Storbeck Search on search for President of new university

Trustee Cluver introduced Steve Leo and Matt Bunting from Storbeck Search, thanking them for their guidance and assistance in bringing the diverse voices that make up the community to the search process. Storbeck Search Managing Director Steve Leo and Managing Associate Matt Bunting gave an overview of the typical search process and what the market for potential Presidential hires looks like today. The presentation can be found [here](#).

5. Transformation Update – Project Management

The Director of Transformation Projects Wilson Garland gave an update on the transformation work currently underway and planned for the immediate future. Mr. Garland also presented the draft accountability matrix, the purpose of which is to align accountability to the strategic priorities that have been presented by the legislature and the Board (affordability, accessibility, quality, relevance, and financial stability). The presentation can be found [here](#) on pages 15-25.

Northern Vermont University Provost Nolan Atkins discussed the importance of developing a mission and vision for the new combined entity. These will guide the transformation work as the NCE is being created and, according to NECHE standards, the mission of the institution provides the basis upon which the institution identifies its priorities, plans for the future, and evaluates its endeavors.

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Cooney seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2021-020 Adopting Guiding Principles for Developing the Mission and Vision of the New University. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Approval of federal HEERF III Grant Funding

Chief Financial and Operating Officer Sharron Scott explained the request for approval so the VSCS can receive the third round of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF III). These grants can be found in the materials starting on page 26.

Trustee Cooney moved and Trustee Tester seconded the motion to approve the federal HEERF III Grant Funding. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Revision to Policy 301

General Counsel Patty Turley explained the need to revise Policy 301 in response to a change in federal legislation relating to the educational benefits available to veterans.

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Cooney seconded the motion to approve the revisions to VSC Policy 301 Policy on Determination of In-State Residency for Tuition Purposes. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Additional Business

There was no additional business.

9. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

10. Board Trainings

- a. Policy 311, *Non-discrimination and Prevention of Harassment and Related Unprofessional Conduct*
- b. Policy 311-A, *Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking*
- c. Policy 316, *Protection of Minors and Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect*

General Counsel Patty Turley and Assistant General Counsel Kathryn Santiago presented the annual training on current Title IX regulations, Policy 311-A, Policy 311, and Policy 316 to the Board.

11. Executive Session

At 3:39 p.m. Trustee Cluver moved that the VSCS Board of Trustees enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(1)(B) to discuss labor relations agreements with employees; 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) to discuss pending litigation, and 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(F) for the purpose of receiving confidential attorney client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services because premature general public knowledge of these discussions would place the VSC at a substantial disadvantage. The motion stated that no formal or binding action would be taken in executive session. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, the Board invited the Chancellor, and the General Counsel to attend. Trustee Luneau seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Board exited executive session at 4:30 p.m.

12. Action Taken Upon Exiting Executive Session

Chair Dickinson read Resolution 2021-021 Authorizing Settlement related to EBS Licenses.

Trustee Tester moved and Trustee Jefferson seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2021-021 Authorizing Settlement related to EBS Licenses. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Masland moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the NVU-Online Faculty. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Cooney moved and Trustee Masland seconded the motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the VSC Staff Federation. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.