

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Meeting held Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in the 1787 Room at Castleton University, Castleton, Vermont – APPROVED

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees met on Thursday, June 16, 2022 at Castleton University

Board members present: Lynn Dickinson, Megan Cluver (Vice Chair), Janette Bombardier (1:39 p.m.), David Durfee, Adam Grinold, Shirley Jefferson, Bill Lippert, Mary Moran, Perry Ragouzis, David Silverman, Shawn Tester, Sue Zeller

Absent: Karen Luneau, Jim Masland

Presidents: Tom Mauhs-Pugh, Pat Moulton

Chancellor's Office Staff: Kellie Campbell, Chief Information Officer
Wilson Garland, Director of Transformation Projects
Kathrine Levasseur, Director of External and Government Affairs
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Sarah Potter, Chief Human Resources Officer
Kathryn Santiago, Associate General Counsel
Sharron Scott, Chief Financial/Operations Officer
Mike Stevens, Manager of Transformation Projects & Planning
Littleton Tyler, Lead Financial Analyst
Patty Turley, General Counsel
Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Nolan Atkins, Provost, Northern Vermont University
Sarah Chambers, Coordinator of Instructional Technology, Castleton University
Martha Coulter, Wellness Center Director, Castleton University
Laura Jakubowski, Chief Budget & Finance Officer, Castleton University
Cathy Kozlik, Dean of College of Business, Castleton University
Amanda Ley, Admissions Counselor, Castleton University
Gayle Malinowski, Chief Technology Officer, Castleton University
Katie Mobley, Dean of Enrollment, Community College of Vermont
Lori Phillips, Director of Conferences & Events, Castleton University
Linda Olson, Faculty, Castleton University
Maurice Ouimet, Dean of Enrollment, Castleton University
Dennis Proulx, Dean of Students, Castleton University

Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP, Northern Vermont University
Shaun Williams, Assistant Director of Residence Life, Castleton University
Joe Zeitler, Assistant Director of Admissions, Castleton University

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Chair Dickinson introduced Castleton University President Tom Mauhs-Pugh who introduced his cabinet to the Trustees. Chair Dickinson then welcomed new Student Trustee Perry Ragouzis and asked for introductions around the room.

2. Public Comment

Chair Dickinson reminded everyone that public comments have now been moved to the beginning of Board meetings to give everyone a chance to comment on agenda items prior to any pending action being taken by the Board. Beth Walsh shared that she appreciates the face-to-face meetings of the Board of Trustees, she asked that remote access remain an option for all meetings. She expressed her wish that faculty and staff be more involved and included in discussions with the Board and Committees. Beth voiced concerns regarding the VSC posted job openings, including whether existing employees would lose their retiree benefits if they take a non-bargaining unit position and whether employees will need to reapply for their current positions. Finally, Beth voiced appreciation for the recent stipends, but worried some people who have assisted with the transformation work did not receive stipends.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Moran moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2022 meeting. The motion was approved unanimously with two abstentions (Trustees Jefferson and Ragouzis).

4. Report from the Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee
 - a. Vote/approval of New Program Proposal in Aviation Maintenance Technology per VSC Policy 102
 - b. Vote/approval proposed revisions to VSC Policy 301: *Policy on Determination of In-state Residency for Tuition Purposes*
 - c. Academic Transformation Progress Update

Trustee Cluver provided an overview of the May 23rd EPSL Committee meeting, reporting that two items are being brought to the Board for approval, and an update will be provided by Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler.

Vermont Tech President Pat Moulton provided an overview of the Aviation Maintenance Technology Program that is before the Board for approval. President Moulton introduced Robin Guillian, a pilot, and Director of Aviation, who spoke further about the program and answered questions. Further details about the program can be found [here](#) on pages 19-42.

Trustee Grinold moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to approve the New Program Proposal in Aviation Maintenance Technology per VSC Policy 102. The motion was approved unanimously.

General Counsel Patty Turley shared information regarding the passage of Senate Bill 283 directing that certain immigrants be eligible to receive in-state tuition at the Community College of Vermont. EPSL votes to recommend to the Board approval of the proposed revisions to VSC Policy 301 extending this benefit to all eligible immigrants who attend any VSC institution. Ms. Turley added that, since the EPSL meeting, there has been an additional development. The VSC has been contacted by the Director of Vermont's Office of Veterans Affairs about an additional change to the federal law governing in-state tuition for veterans and their family members that is required to be in effect by August 1st. Policy 301 has been further amended to reflect this change.

Trustee Grinold moved and Trustee Tester 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.

Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler gave an academic transformation progress update indicating that there is a lot of critical work occurring over the summer months. Readying academic programs for review, working on updated governance models, and work on the face-to-face plus pilot project are main focus points this summer. Provost Nolan Atkins shared information about the enthusiasm of the faculty participation in the pilot program at a two day retreat held at Lake Morey earlier in the week. More details can be found [here](#) on pages 49-54.

5. Report from Finance & Facilities Committee
 - a. Vote/approval of Resolution 2022-012, Banking and Investment
 - b. Vote/approval of Resolution 2022-013, Vermont State Colleges System Annual Operating Budget

Trustee Silverman noted that Resolution 2022-012 is a standard annual resolution and has been vetted by the Finance & Facilities Committee.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Tester seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-012, Banking and Investment. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Silverman went on to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The committee met four times to work on this budget, during which time the anticipated budget deficit for FY23 was reduced from around \$23M to \$19.9M. The final budget reflects a \$1.078M deficit, with the inclusion of one-time state funding support. Trustee Lippert noted the significant leadership turnover that is occurring in the state house, reminding everyone of the importance of continuing to engage with and educate the legislature on the value of the VSC and its role in the transformation.

Trustee Jefferson moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-013, Vermont State Colleges System Annual Operating Budget. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Vote/Approve Vermont Tech/University of Vermont Grant

Chair Dickinson shared that Vermont Tech is looking to partner with the University of Vermont on an EPSCoR grant. The goal of the grant is to “advance inclusivity with high school and middle school students to cultivate and prepare students for STEM fields”. She then noted that this grant proposal does not meet the dollar threshold to require Board approval so no vote to

approve is required. More information about this grant can be found [here](#) on pages 62-66. Trustee Grinold requested that the VSC seek to find such opportunities for the southern part of Vermont. President Moulton explained that this grant proposal is a statewide program and is not limited to the Chittenden County. There was a general discussion regarding the collaborative work between the VSC and the University of Vermont.

7. Report from the Executive Committee

- a. Discussion regarding planning for Board's annual training and self-assessment
- b. Discussion regarding the future of the Long Range Planning Committee
- c. Vote/approval on Chancellor and President reappointment recommendations

Chair Dickinson solicited input for ideas on helpful ways to conduct self-evaluation and development for the Board inclusion at September's Board Retreat. She invited the trustees to provide feedback privately as well.

Chair Dickinson then asked for feedback on whether or not to revive the Long Range Planning Committee, which was suspended in early 2021. After discussion, it was agreed that a great deal of work was being accomplished through transformation, and that the Long Range Planning Committee should remain on hiatus for a couple of years as the full Board is continuing to monitor the transformation action plans.

Chair Dickinson then shared that the Executive Committee met on June 6th and June 13th for the evaluation of President Joyce Judy and Chancellor Zdatny and the Committee recommended that the Board reappoint President Judy and Chancellor Zdatny.

Trustee Jefferson moved and Trustee Moran seconded the motion to approve the reappointment of President Joyce Judy of Community College of Vermont and Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor, to their positions for the 2022-2023 academic year. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Report from Nominating Committee

- a. Vote on slate of Board Officers
- b. Vote on slate of members for the Audit & Risk Management Committee

Trustee Grinold shared that at the June 10th meeting, the committee nominated the slate of Board officers, and the slate of members for the Audit & Risk Management Committee. The Trustees were asked whether anyone wished to nominate anyone else or themselves. No other names were put forward for consideration.

Trustee Grinold moved and Trustee Bombardier seconded the motion to re-elect Lynn Dickinson to serve as Board Chair for a two year term. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Grinold moved and Trustee Bombardier seconded the motion to re-elect Vice Chair Cluver, Treasurer David Silverman and Secretary Karen Luneau to serve one year terms. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trustee Grinold moved and Trustee Bombardier seconded the motion to re-elect Sue Zeller, David Silverman, David Durfee, Mary Moran and Shawn Tester as members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Transformation Update

- a. Transformation Project Progress Update
- b. Update on Shared Services
- c. Accountability Dashboard Update

Director of Transformation Projects Wilson Garland shared a progress report on transformation which can be seen [here](#), (pages 1-10). Core Team leads also provided updates on student experience, academic operations, administrative operations, and workforce development (pages 11-13).

Chief Information Officer Kellie Campbell then gave an update on systems projects which can be seen [here](#) on pages 16-20.

Chief Financial and Operating Officer Sharron Scott gave a transformation budget update which can be found [here](#) on pages 22-24.

Dr. Campbell then presented a shared services update that can be found [here](#).

Mr. Garland concluded with a presentation on the accountability dashboard that can be found [here](#).

The Board expressed gratitude for the presentations and appreciation for the volume and complexity of the transformation work. The Board also recognized the hard work and accomplishments of the many individuals participating in the transformation work.

10. Vote/approve proposed Board Calendar for 2022-2023

Chair Dickinson presented the proposed calendar for 2022-2023. Trustee Lippert inquired as to whether it was possible to livestream in person Board meetings. Chancellor Zdatny responded that there are technology challenges that still need to be addressed before that becomes possible, but that efforts are being made.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to approve the Board calendar for 2022-2023. The motion was approved unanimously.

11. Additional Business

President Moulton wished to thank the Board for her appointment as Director of Workforce Development, as this was her last Board meeting as President of Vermont Tech. She expressed excitement for the future and appreciation for the support of the trustees. Chair Dickinson thanked President Moulton for stepping into the Executive Director of Workforce Development role.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.