

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Meeting held Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at Lake Morey Resort, VT – APPROVED

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at Lake Morey, VT.

Board members present: Lynn Dickinson, Megan Cluver (Vice Chair), David Durfee, Bill Lippert, Karen Luneau, Jim Masland, Mary Moran, Perry Ragouzis, Sue Zeller

Absent: Janette Bombardier, Adam Grinold, Shirley Jefferson, David Silverman, Shawn Tester

Presidents: Parwinder Grewal, Joyce Judy

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

From the Colleges: Nolan Atkins, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Northern Vermont University
Jae Basiliere, Chief Diversity Officer, Northern Vermont University
Maurice Ouimet, Vice President of Admissions, Castleton University
Sylvia Plumb, Director of Marketing & Communications, Northern Vermont University
Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP, Northern Vermont University

From the Public: Jim Page, Former Chancellor, University of Maine System

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.
2. Public Comment

Beth Walsh inquired whether the potential reduction of personnel discussed as part of the “what if” scenarios at the September 20, 2022 meeting would apply to currently open positions, as well as the current total personnel. Chief Financial and Operating Officer Sharron Scott replied that this would include vacant and filled positions. Ms. Walsh expressed gratitude for the tuition discussion and the number of options that were discussed. She expressed her approval of the rejection of a proposal that would have reduced tuition only for students entering the new university in the fall of 2023. Ms. Walsh’s final comment was that she loved hearing career development and career readiness being highlighted as part of the student success transformation work and that she and her colleagues would love to take career services from being transactional to transformational.

3. Approval of August 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Moran moved and Trustee Ragouzis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of August 3, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Report of Finance and Facilities Committee

- a. Motion/vote on CCV Correctional Post-Secondary Education Initiative
- b. Motion/Vote on Life Insurance Transfer Policy
- c. Motion/Vote on Tuition for Vermont State University

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy shared that CCV has received a \$4.5M grant from the US Department of Justice for its Correctional Post-Secondary Initiative. This grant expands access to post-secondary education to persons incarcerated in any of Vermont’s six correctional facilities, as well as offering access to college programs for Vermont Department of Corrections personnel.

Trustee Lippert moved and Trustee Moran seconded the motion to approve receipt of the congressionally directed spending to support educational opportunities for incarcerated Vermonters and corrections officers at the Community College of Vermont. The motion was approved unanimously.

CFOO Scott Sharron explained that Northern Vermont University is seeking permission to transfer ownership of a life insurance policy to the University of Vermont Foundation. Further information can be found [here](#) on page 21.

Trustee Zeller moved and Trustee Moran seconded the motion to approve the transfer of the ownership of Genworth Policy 8,287,111 to the University of Vermont Foundation, as requested by Barbara Fiddler. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vermont State University Parwinder provided a revised presentation on Vermont State University’s tuition proposal for 2023-2024. Slides for this discussion can be found [here](#).

Trustee Ragouzis moved and Trustee Moran seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-015, Approval of Vermont State University Tuition and Fees for AY 2023-2024. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Report of Education, Personnel and Student Life Committee

Trustee Cluver shared an update from the EPSL Committee that included highlighting the five priorities the Committee will focus on in the coming year. These priorities include: (1) monitoring VTSU program array work; (2) incorporating student, faculty, and staff perspectives on EPSL work; (3) revising academic policies to align with the new configuration of the system; (4) understanding the student experience at CCV and VTSU and how that will unfold in the transformation plans; and (5) focusing on talent management in the system beginning with retention practices, key gaps, salaries, compensation, hybrid work, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

6. Reports from the Presidents

Community College of Vermont President Joyce Judy gave an update and highlight of CCV's Strategic Plan accomplishments. CCV has seen increases in enrollment each semester in the last two years. Maintaining this increase has been significant. CCV is not seeing a strong interest from students in returning to in person classes. Eighty percent of CCV's classes are remote and twenty percent are in person. CCV is now offering four different options of online and remote courses to accommodate all types of student learners. CCV is also seeing a significantly increased interest in Early College enrollment. President Judy went on to share that CCV's strategic plan is based on a guided pathways model and involves implementing and using technology like Aviso and Slate to facilitate proactive communication with students. CVV has also moved from an advising model to a coaching model, effectively putting the student in charge.

President Grewal shared that he has engaged in listening sessions on each of the campuses to learn of the issues needing focus immediately and identifying the need for targeted campus forums to pinpoint unique features of each campus for marketing and success. President Grewal has been building his leadership team and he introduced those who were present in the room. Together, the team has developed four strategic priorities:

1. Build a vibrant and sustainable university.
2. Provide access to innovative academic programs.
3. Build an innovative student success model.
4. Build mechanisms for establishing VTSU as an engine for workforce, economic and community development in the state.

7. Discussion of Trustees' Fiduciary Duty and Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest

General Counsel Patty Turley reminded the trustees that she and Associate General Counsel Kathryn Santiago are always available to answer any questions. The Board's membership with the Association of Governing Boards is also a valuable source of information and reference.

8. Executive Session

At 11:26 a.m. Trustee Cluver moved that the Board of Trustees enter executive session, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(B) to consider labor relations agreements with employees, 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) to consider pending or probable civil litigation; and 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(F) to consider confidential attorney-client communications, because premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body involved at a substantial disadvantage. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, in its

discretion, the Board invited the Chancellor, the Chief Financial and Operating Officer, and the General Counsel to attend the executive session. Trustee Moran seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Board exited executive session at 12:29 p.m.

Trustee Moran moved and Trustee Zeller seconded the motion to approve the collective bargaining agreements as negotiated with the Vermont State Colleges' United Professionals and the Vermont State Colleges' Staff Federation. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Additional Business

There was no additional business

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.