



**Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

August 3, 2021

9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Remote Meeting and Allworth Conference Room (207), Memorial Union  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon

**MINUTES**

**Trustees Present:** Mike Bailey, Rani Borkar (*chair*), Julia Brim-Edwards, Darry Callahan, Michele Longo Eder, Lamar Hurd, Khawater Hussein, Becky Johnson (*ex officio*), Paul Kelly, Julie Manning, Preston Pulliams, Kirk Schueler (*vice chair*), Stephanie Smith, and Mike Thorne

**University Staff Present:** Charlene Alexander, Jennifer Almquist, Jon Boeckenstedt, Jessica Brubaker, Steve Clark, Robert Cowen, Debbie Colbert, Katie Fast, Ed Feser, Alix Gitelman, Becca Gose, Mike Green, Jenny Haubenreiser, Colin Hesse, Steve, Hoelscher, Paul Odenthal, Dana Reason, Lauren Skousen, and Irem Tumer

**1. Call to Order/Roll/Declaration of a Quorum**

Board Chair Rani Borkar called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., asked the board secretary to call the roll, and noted a quorum. Borkar then made a land acknowledgement statement.

**2. Consent Agenda**

- a. **Minutes of the May 21, 2021 Board Meeting**
- b. **Minutes of the May 21, 2021 Executive Session**
- c. **2023 and 2024 Board Calendars**

Borkar noted the inclusion of consideration of the Board's 2023 and 2024 meeting calendars on the consent agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve all items on the consent agenda. The motion carried.

**3. Action Items\***

a. **New Academic Program: Contemporary Music Industry BA/BS**

Borkar asked Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Alix Gitelman and Assistant Professor Dana Reason to present this item. Gitelman began by noting intentionality and connections of this program to community college and providing students with an additional pathway to a four-year degree. Reason shared that the goal of the program is to connect today's music makers and cultural thinkers about music with the four-year college experience. Students can come to this four-year college experience from a two-year degree or may be interested in returning to complete an degree. Reason described how students immediately have opportunity to connect with faculty and people in the industry to learn about the ways in which they can have a viable career in contemporary music. She shared that the goal is to connect the skill sets of students that are highly musical with experts and mentorship and build a portfolio together.

Trustee Mike Bailey asked about the size of the cohort expected, and in response, Reason shared that the college is planning for about 40 to 50 students

per year with potential to expand. In response to a follow-on question from Bailey, she shared that the program will be delivered exclusively through Ecampus at this time. In response to a question from Vice Chair Schueler, Reason shared that the most closely comparable competitor is a program at the University of Southern California but that program is focused on performance and is not offered online. While there are some programs emerging, at this time there are no competitors delivered as an online program. Trustee Julie Manning asked about the future employment opportunities for students that earn this degree, and Reason shared that graduates could be entrepreneurs and could curate music for industry such as broadcasting, gaming, and advertising. In response to a question from Trustee Michele Longo Eder, Reason talked about creative ways to help fund students through stipends, small grants for purchasing software and short intern experiences that foster relationship with mentors. In response to a question from Trustee Khawater Hussein, she talked about existing faculty and how they will pivot to offer courses under this program, building out further by networking with those in the industry that might work part-time offering courses as needed.

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the establishment of a B.A/B.S. in Contemporary Music Industry, effective in winter 2022, pending the support of the Statewide Provosts Council and the approval of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. The motion carried.

**b. Reorganization of the School of Arts and Communication**

Borkar asked Provost Edward Feser and Interim Director of the School of Arts and Communication Colin Hesse to present this item. Feser introduced the proposal to create two distinct schools from one existing school in the College of Liberal Arts. He noted that anytime the university considers restructuring the goal is to create strong mission and vision alignment. He expressed his support for the reorganization, sharing that the current structure is not serving the faculty and students as envisioned when the College of Liberal Arts was organized into six schools a number of years ago. The proposal is to create two schools of communication and a school visual performing and design arts, bringing the College of Liberal Arts to a total of seven schools. These effectively operate as departments seen in other colleges. Hesse went on to share that this reorganization would better focus the visions and goals for undergraduate and graduate programs and provides for a more effective administrative structure, and responds to faculty and student sense of where they fit in terms of schools and buildings. In response to a question from Trustee Julia Brim-Edwards, Feser shared the number of undergraduate majors and faculty and the anticipated split expected across the two schools. In response to a question from Bailey, Hesse described how faculty will be distributed across a number of buildings and shared that there are a number of discussions taking place about how to help promote collaboration and synergy.

Following this discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the reorganization of the School of Arts and Communication into two separate schools – the School of Communication and the School of Visual, Performing, and Design Arts. The motion carried.

c. **Capital Project Stage Gate II: HMSC Research Seawater System Renewal**

Borkar asked Senior Associate Vice President for Administration Paul Odenthal and Director of the Hatfield Marine Science Center Bob Cowen to present this item. Cowen began by describing the seawater system as one of Hatfield's core assets, noting its importance to the quality of research and how it distinguishes the center from most other marine facilities in the quantity and the quality of seawater available. Cowen talked about how access to seawater enables state and federal partnership and unique laboratories such as the marine veterinary hospital. Odenthal noted risks associated with the existing causeway and pumphouse and potential for loss in animals and experimental research when the seawater supply is disrupted. Odenthal described the scope and unique risks associated with working in a tidally influenced area. He described approaches to address this risk through survey data, selection of experienced contractors, and compliance with permitted construction windows to protect habitat. In response to a question from Schueler, Cowen shared the system in its current state was put in place in the early 1970s, with this effort being the first significant upgrade since that time. In response to a follow-on question, he noted that the new system is expected to have a 50-year lifetime. In response to a question from Bailey, Cowen discussed overall seawater cycle from intake to outfall.

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the total capital budget of \$5.0M for the Hatfield Marine Science Center Research Seawater System Renewal project and advancing to the construction phase. The motion carried.

d. **Recommendation of Potential Candidates for Anticipated Vacancies**

Borkar asked President Becky Johnson to present this item. Johnson began by reminding trustees that the Executive & Audit Committee reviewed the Board's current composition and skills in light of two anticipated vacancies last fall. At that time, trustees identified a number of skills and attributes desired in potential candidates to fill these positions and later recommended a group of talented and dedicated candidates that fit those needs. Those names were submitted by the Chair of the Board. Johnson shared that, in late spring, one of the candidates was elected as the next chair of the OSU Foundation Board and the Governor's Office reached out for additional names to ensure a robust pool. She went on to share highlights of two additional candidates presented for the Board's consideration, noting the strengths and experience of each potential candidate and asking the Board to endorse forwarding the candidates' names to the Governor's consideration. In response to a question from Trustee Mike Thorne, Borkar clarified that with these additions the pool would total five candidates for the Governor's consideration. Trustee Darry Callahan commented on his experience working with one of the candidates and the experience and leadership potential they would bring to the Board if appointed.

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to accept the President's recommendations for potential candidates for submission to the Governor. The motion carried. Borkar closed by expressing her enthusiasm for the talented pool of candidates being put forward for the Governor's consideration.

#### 4. Executive Session

At 10:05 a.m., Borkar announced that the Board was moving to an executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Borkar stated that representatives of the news media and designated university staff would be allowed to attend the executive session. Other members of the audience were not allowed to attend the session. Borkar noted that no decisions would be made in executive session.

Trustee Manning shared that given her role with Samaritan Health Services, she would be recusing herself from any action or discussion during the executive session and the public action on the Wellness Clinic Lease Agreement to prevent any potential or actual conflict of interest. Borkar acknowledged Manning's recusal and the remaining trustees proceeded to the executive session.

Borkar closed the executive session and at 10:52 a.m. trustees returned to the public session of the meeting.

#### 5. Action Item\*

##### a. Wellness Clinic Lease Agreement with Samaritan Health Services

Borkar asked Vice President for Finance & Administration Mike Green to present this item. Green began by noting that the action before the Board is consideration of key terms for a lease agreement with Samaritan Health Services, which would create a new campus wellness clinic offering year-round access to expanded health care and wellness services for students, faculty, staff and community members as part of the Reser Stadium West Grandstands project. He shared that the university and Samaritan successfully negotiated the key terms for the prospective contractual partnership on the new Wellness Center, which will inform the full lease agreement efforts underway. Green noted that the Wellness Clinic would be funded through existing fees and existing and incremental insurance billing revenue collected by Student Health Service, as well as lease revenue from Samaritan. He shared that the key lease terms were included in the docket materials and fall within the pro forma assumptions presented to the Board for the Reser Stadium West Grandstand project.

With no further discussion, a motion that the Board authorize OSU to move forward with the negotiation of a Lease Agreement between OSU and Samaritan consistent with the lease terms set forth in the Term Sheet and authorize the President, acting alone and without further authorization from this Board to execute a Lease Agreement that the President in her discretion determines is consistent with the Term Sheet. The motion carried. Borkar closed by acknowledging the hard work of staff in developing such a great community partnership.

#### 6. Adjournment

With no further business proposed, Chair Rani Borkar adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Colbert  
Board Secretary