



**Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Trustees  
of the State University of New York  
January 22-24, 2017**

The Board of Trustees of the State University of New York met on January 22- 24, 2017 at SUNY Plaza, Albany, New York, pursuant to a notice sent by the Office of the Secretary of the University, Joel Pierre-Louis, on January 6, 2017.

**January 22, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Trustees Present:** Chairman McCall, Mr. Belluck, Ms. Burke, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Corngold, Mr. Duffy, Dr. Fatta, Dr. Knuepfer, Ms. Lewin, Mr. Spielvogel, Mr. Spiro, Mr. Staller, Ms. Tamrowski.

**Trustees Absent:** Dr. Ehrenberg, Dr. Lichtman, Mr. Litow, Mr. Socarides and Mr. Waldman.

**Others Present:** Chancellor Zimpher and Ms. Hengsterman.

1. **CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Chairman McCall convened the Public Meeting at 6:15 p.m., which was held at Hyland Library, Albany, New York. It was noted there were thirteen members participating, including two non-voting members in person. Chairman McCall declared a quorum and called for an Executive Session to discuss individual personnel matters.

2. **CONVENING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:15 p.m., Chairman McCall called for an Executive Session under provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, as follows:

(1) "discussing matters relating to the appointment and employment of particular persons,"

Upon motion of Mr. Staller, seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was unanimously agreed to convene an Executive Session for the purposes specified by Chairman McCall.

Chairman McCall recessed the Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session by formal vote.

**January 23, 2017**

**12:40 p.m.**

**Trustees Present:** Chairman McCall, Ms. Burke, Mr. Corngold, Mr. Duffy, Dr. Fatta, Dr. Knuepfer, Ms. Lewin, Dr. Lichtman (via video, California), Mr. Spielvogel, Mr. Spiro, Mr. Staller and Ms. Tamrowski.

**Trustees Absent:** Mr. Belluck, Mr. Cohen, Dr. Ehrenberg, Mr. Litow, Mr. Socarides and Mr. Waldman.

**Others Present:** Chancellor Zimpher, Dr. Bringsjord, Dr. Cartwright, Ms. Duncan-Poitier, Mr. Haelen, Ms. Hengsterman, Mr. Lloyd, Ms. McLoughlin, Mr. Pierre-Louis and Mr. Porter.

1. CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

Chairman McCall convened the Public Meeting at 12:40 p.m., which was held at SUNY Plaza, Albany, New York. It was noted there were twelve members participating, including two non-voting members in person and one member who joined by video from California. Secretary Pierre-Louis called the roll of members, at which time Chairman McCall declared a quorum and called for an Executive Session to discuss individual personnel matters and the receipt of legal advice.

3. CONVENING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:45 p.m., Chairman McCall called for an Executive Session under provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, as follows:

(2) “discussing matters relating to the appointment and employment of particular persons,”

In addition, during this time the Board may seek and receive legal advice from the University’s General Counsel, which attorney-client communications are exempt from the Open Meetings Law pursuant to Section 108 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law.

Upon motion of Ms. Lewin, seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was unanimously agreed to convene an Executive Session for the purposes specified by Chairman McCall.

Chairman McCall recessed the Executive Session at 2:52 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session by formal vote.

**January 24, 2017**

**1:50 p.m.**

**Trustees Present:** Chairman McCall, Ms. Burke, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Corngold, Mr. Duffy, Dr. Fatta, Dr. Knuepfer, Ms. Lewin, Dr. Lichtman (via video, California), Mr. Socarides (via video, NYC), Mr. Spielvogel, Mr. Spiro, Mr. Staller and Ms. Tamrowski.

**Trustees Absent:** Mr. Belluck, Dr. Ehrenberg, Mr. Litow and Mr. Waldman.

**Others Present:** Chancellor Zimpher, Dr. Bringsjord, Dr. Cartwright, Ms. Duncan-Poitier, Mr. Haelen, Ms. Hengsterman, Ms. McLoughlin, Mr. Pierre-Louis and Mr. Porter.

1. CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

Chairman McCall convened the Public Meeting at 1:50 p.m., which was held at SUNY Plaza, Albany, New York. It was noted there were fourteen members participating, including two non-voting members in person and two members who joined by video from California and New York City. The Secretary Pierre-Louis called the roll of members, at which time Chairman McCall declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman McCall explained that because of the full agenda, he would suspend his oral report. Chairman McCall then asked Chancellor Zimpher to provide her report.

3. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Zimpher opened her report by recommending to the Board that Dr. Wayne Riley be appointed as President of SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Chancellor Zimpher described Dr. Riley's many accomplishments and credentials. Chancellor Zimpher then moved the recommendation forward to Chairman McCall.

Chairman McCall asked the Secretary to read the resolution.

Appointment of Dr. Wayne Riley as President of the State University of New York Downstate Medical University

Upon motion by Mr. Spielvogel, seconded by Dr. Fatta, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Resolved that the appointment of Dr. Wayne J. Riley as President of the State University of New York Downstate Medical University, effective on or about April

3, 2017, be, and hereby is, approved. Dr. Riley will receive a salary of \$500,000 per year from State appropriated funds and \$175,000 per year from the campus foundation. Dr. Riley will also receive a \$7,500/month housing allowance and either use of a campus automobile or automobile allowance.

(2017-01)

Chairman McCall introduced Dr. Luther Clark, Chairman of the SUNY Downstate presidential search committee, and invited him to say a few words about Dr. Riley. Dr. Clark then introduced Dr. Reverend Cohall, Chairman of the College Council, who then introduced Dr. Riley. Dr. Riley expressed his gratitude to Chairman McCall, Chancellor Zimpher and the entire Board for placing their trust in him.

Chairman McCall continued by asking General Counsel Joseph Porter to present the next resolution. Chairman McCall asked Counsel Porter to read the resolution.

Special Service Commendation for Joel Pierre-Louis, Secretary of the University

Upon motion by Mr. Staller, seconded by Ms. Lewin, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Whereas Joel Pierre-Louis has served as Secretary of the University since April 2014; and

Whereas in that time, Mr. Pierre-Louis has brought a heightened sense of dedication, collaboration, and partnership to the Office of the Secretary and the Office of the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas Mr. Pierre-Louis has been an asset to Chairman McCall and the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas Mr. Pierre-Louis has announced his planned departure to pursue a new professional opportunity - Assistant Vice President for Integrated Learning at the University at Albany; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the Board of Trustees hereby commends Joel Pierre-Louis for his dedicated service to the State University of New York; and be it further

Resolved that the Board of Trustees extends its best wishes to Mr. Pierre-Louis as he undertakes his new responsibilities with the University at Albany.

(2017-02)

Mr. Spielvogel thanked Secretary Pierre-Louis for his service. In addition, Chairman McCall and Chancellor Zimpher said a few words of gratitude and thanked Mr. Pierre-Louis for his service, leadership and dedication. Chairman McCall then asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read the next resolution.

#### Appointment of Joseph B. Porter as Secretary of the State University of New York

Upon motion by Mr. Spielvogel, seconded by Ms. Lewin, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Resolved that Joseph B. Porter be, and hereby is, appointed Secretary of the State University of New York, effective January 26, 2017; and be it further

Resolved that Mr. Porter shall serve as Secretary in addition to his current position as Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel; and be it further

Resolved that Mr. Porter will continue to be compensated at an annual salary of \$250,000, subject to a performance review and increase in accordance with the provisions of the State University Salary and Compensation Plan

(2017-03)

Mr. Porter expressed his gratitude and stated that he would endeavor to serve with the same grace as his predecessor.

Chairman McCall thanked Mr. Porter and then asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to present the minutes from the Board's November 2016 meeting.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### Approval of Minutes of the Board Meetings Held on November 1-3, 2016

Upon motion by Mr. Fatta, seconded by Mr. Duffy, the proposed minutes were approved by affirmative votes from all present as the official minutes of the meetings held.

Chairman McCall then invited the committee members to give their reports.

## COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

### Academic Affairs

Trustee Knuepfer, as acting chair, stated that the committee had met the morning of January 24<sup>th</sup>; he then asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read the first resolution.

### Awarding of Honorary Degrees

Upon motion by Mr. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Cohen, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Resolved that the candidates for Honorary Degrees set forth in a listing which has been filed with the Secretary of the University under date of January 24, 2017 be, and hereby are, approved for conferral of such degrees, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees, as last amended August 2016.

(2017-04)

Trustee Knuepfer then asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read the second resolution.

### Affirmation of Support for Undocumented Students

Upon motion by Dr. Knuepfer, seconded by Ms. Lewin, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Whereas the State University of New York was founded as a University of opportunity, educating all, including those who would not be admitted to other institutions of higher education because of their race, religion, national origin, or other factors; and

Whereas each year, SUNY educates students from more than 100 different countries; and

Whereas the impact of future federal immigration law changes and enforcement with respect to undocumented students is currently unknown; and

Whereas while it has long been SUNY policy that its University police departments do not participate in the enforcement of federal immigration law unless compelled to do so by court order or other legal mandate, the New York State Attorney General has recently issued a valuable guidance document regarding the participation of local law enforcement in federal immigration enforcement entitled *Guidance Concerning Local Authority Participation in Immigration Enforcement and Model Sanctuary Provisions* ("NYS Attorney General Immigration Enforcement Guidance"), a copy of which is attached to this Resolution; and

Whereas it is important to affirm SUNY's support for its undocumented students and its strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the State University of New York hereby affirms its support for the following principles:

1. The University reaffirms its strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, ensuring that SUNY is the most inclusive higher education system in the country and offers a welcoming environment for individuals of all backgrounds.
2. The University reaffirms its strong support for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, as illustrated most recently by Chancellor Zimpher and several SUNY presidents signing a letter to the President-elect strongly supporting continuation of the program.
3. The University will continue its long-standing practice of prohibiting discriminatory actions on the basis of protected class, including national origin. Campuses have well-trained professionals ready to investigate and respond to allegations of discriminatory conduct and hate crimes. University police, student affairs, Title IX, human resources, and affirmative action personnel will investigate any such allegations as potential violations of law and University policy.
4. The University will continue to advocate for federal and state financial assistance for undocumented students. In January 2012, the SUNY Board of Trustees passed Resolution No. 2012-007 affirming its support for legislation that would provide equitable financial aid and educational access to higher education for all New Yorkers, including undocumented students.
5. The University will continue its long-standing practice of vigorously defending the privacy rights of students and requiring a subpoena, court order, search warrant, or other applicable exception to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (such as a health and safety emergency or student waiver), prior to releasing information to law enforcement about a student or group of students. This includes information about national origin, religion, and immigration status.
6. The University will continue its long-standing practice of allowing undocumented individuals to pay resident tuition on SUNY campuses provided that they meet criteria specified by New York State law.
7. SUNY does not and will not consider national origin or immigration status as a factor in admissions.
8. The University will continue its long-standing practice of supporting international and immigrant students through the International Student and Scholar Services (“ISSS”) offices.
9. The University will continue its long-standing practice of developing diverse and inclusive campus populations and will continue inclusivity and diversity training for faculty and staff.

10. The University will continue its long-standing practice of welcoming students of all religions, making reasonable accommodations where necessary to allow students to complete their educational experience while practicing their religion. The University also believes that religious tolerance is maximized through education and encourages persons of all faiths to teach others about their faith and religious practices.
11. The University will expand the resources available for immigrant and international students and strive to make student resources accessible.
12. The University will continue to keep the SUNY community informed of specific actions taken by federal agencies that could affect immigration law and/or enforcement measures; and, be it further

Resolved that on or before April 1, 2017, the president of each State-operated campus shall certify to the Chancellor, or her designee, that his/her *campus* has adopted policies for its University police department that are consistent with the NYS Attorney General Immigration Enforcement Guidance; and, be it further

Resolved that the University strongly encourages its community colleges to work with their local sponsors and local law enforcement authorities to similarly adopt policies consistent with the NYS Attorney General Immigration Enforcement Guidance.

(2017-05)

Trustee Knuepfer then stated that Provost Cartwright gave a report on the progress of the system-wide performance system called SUNY Excels, which represents the university's commitment to continuous improvement and to excellence. On this effort, it was noted that Chief Financial Officer Eileen McLoughlin and her team have met with 36 campuses, with the remaining meetings scheduled to conclude by mid-March. The conversations with these campus constituents have focused on the progress each campus has made towards their goals on the performance improvement plans such as their individual strengths, challenges, opportunities and even threats. There have also been discussions on how SUNY can help meet their goals, hopes and aspirations. A few key takeaways that Provost Cartwright highlighted from these conversations include a commitment to building on campuses existing areas of strengths and expertise, their plans for academic program expansion, their plans for investment in faculty and staff, professional development and expanded use of data analytics.

Trustee Knuepfer noted that Provost Cartwright also gave a report on the importance of the emerging network of campus Chief Diversity Officers. Then Vice Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer Carlos Medina provided an overview on the recently submitted Campus

Strategic Diversity and Inclusion Plans, which have been received from all 64 campuses. It was indicated that the committee urged Dr. Medina to compile some of the best practices that have come out of the exemplar plans to share, not only with the committee and with the Board, but across the campuses, in order to facilitate improvement for everyone.

To conclude, Provost Cartwright provided an overview of a New York Times article entitled *America's Great Working-Class Colleges* and highlighted the latest effort of The Equality of Opportunity Project noted on the creation of the Mobility Report Cards. This study analyzed the role of colleges in upward income mobility by using publicly available data to construct mobility report cards that are based on the estimates of student's earnings in their early 30s and their parents' income. It looks at where the students started out, in terms of their family income, to where they've gotten to as they've moved through their own personal careers upon graduation from college. In the report, Stony Brook University was ranked as one of the top 10 in the country in terms of upward mobility of students who enter from the lower 20 percentile of income. Stony University and Binghamton University were ranked number one and two respectively amongst the best on highly selective public research universities in this area. Other SUNY campuses were ranked very highly in their respective areas as well. Trustee Knuepfer then noted that helping students achieve their American dream is a fundamental value of the SUNY education.

Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Knuepfer for the report, and asked Trustee Staller, Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, to give his report.

### Finance and Administration

Trustee Staller began his report by indicating that the Finance and Administration received an update from Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer Eileen McLoughlin who described a number of items including the 2017/18 Executive Budget and the 2017/18 Operating and Capital Budget Request. The Finance and Administration Committee approved three resolutions. Trustee Staller then asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read the first resolution:

#### Adjustment to Approved Insurers for the State University of New York Optional Retirement Program and SUNY Tax-Deferred 403(b) Savings Program

Upon motion by Mr. Staller, seconded by Mr. Fatta, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Whereas Article 8-B of the New York State Education Law authorizes SUNY to establish an Optional Retirement Program (“ORP”) to serve as a defined contribution plan providing retirement and death benefits to participating employees through the purchase of contracts from qualified insurers; and

Whereas pursuant to Section 391(2) of New York State Education Law, the Board of Trustees is authorized to designate the insurers for the ORP; and

Whereas a participating employee contracts directly with a designated ORP insurer, selects investments offered by the designated insurer under the contract, and has sole ownership of the contract; and

Whereas the Board of Trustees has designated insurers over time as follows: Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association and College Retirement Equities Fund (now “TIAA”) (1964); Aetna Life Insurance and Annuity Company (now “Voya”), MetLife, the Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company (“VALIC”) (1992); and Fidelity Investment Services Company (“Fidelity”) (2014); and

Whereas the Board of Trustees also approved TIAA, Voya, MetLife, VALIC, and Fidelity as insurers from which annuity contracts may be purchased, or companies from which mutual funds may be purchased under SUNY’s special annuity and custodial account program authorized by Article 8-C of the New York State Education Law (“IRS §403(b) Program”); and

Whereas MetLife has been acquired by the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (“MassMutual”), and therefore MassMutual agents would potentially be servicing the SUNY account; and

Whereas SUNY’s approved Authorized Vendor Policy allows only authorized vendors to service the SUNY account, and SUNY has no agreement with MassMutual for the ORP and IRS 403(b) Program; and

Whereas removal of MetLife as an approved insurer will prevent employees’ current ORP and IRS 403(b) accounts with MetLife from receiving new contributions and require these employees to redirect future contributions to contracts with another approved insurer; and

Whereas employees with ORP and IRS 403(b) accounts with MetLife will be able to maintain their existing balances with MetLife or transfer such balances to another approved insurer; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the removal of MetLife as an insurer for the ORP and IRS 403(b) programs is approved; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be and hereby is authorized to take appropriate action to remove the services of MetLife as an insurer to provide investment funds in the ORP and IRS 403(b) Program.

(2017-06)

Trustee Staller outlined the second resolution and asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read

it.

## Ground Lease – State University College at Purchase

Upon motion by Mr. Staller, seconded by Mr. Spielvogel, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Whereas the State University of New York College at Purchase wishes to attract and retain student candidates for all academic levels and areas of study, and in support of this objective has established a business plan to develop alternative, attractive housing and provide for the construction and operation of a suite style housing complex for a total of 300 beds; and

Whereas the members of the Purchase College Council have preliminarily approved the plan for the construction of a new residence hall facility contingent upon receipt by the college of all the necessary approvals and financing for the project at which time they will authorize final approval of the project; and

Whereas The Alumni of the State University of New York College at Purchase (“Alumni Association”), a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, is dedicated to assisting and promoting the interests of the college and maintaining and promoting the loyalty of its alumni; and

Whereas in accordance with Education Law §355, the Alumni Association is authorized to enter into arrangements with the University for the development and operation of student housing and is willing to do so, upon mutual agreement as to reasonable underlying terms to be negotiated by the parties; and

Whereas Education Law §355 authorizes the University, subject to the approval of the Attorney General and the State Comptroller, and on terms and conditions determined by the Board of Trustees, to enter into a ground lease with the Alumni Association for the exclusive purpose of developing student housing on the campus of Purchase College; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is authorized in accordance with the provisions of Education Law §355 to enter into a ground lease agreement with the Alumni Association for a parcel on Purchase College’s campus (the approximate location of which is indicated on the map attached hereto), upon such terms as the Chancellor, or designee, may deem advisable, as agreed upon by the Alumni Association, under which the Alumni Association, or any duly approved sub-lessee, will develop student housing; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is authorized in accordance with the provisions of Education Law §355 to approve any amendments, modifications, or waivers of any provisions in the ground lease and related documents, including any sublease, which confer on the University or any of its officers or employees any rights of approval in regard to the student housing facility; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be, and hereby is authorized in accordance with the provisions of Education Law §355 to provide all other approvals, notices, assurances or instruments or take such other actions in connection with the student housing facility as may be necessary from time to time, under the ground lease and related documents, including any sublease; and, be it further

Resolved, that the authority granted by this Resolution shall be contingent upon final and formal approval of the proposed transaction by the College Council and Alumni Association.

(2017-07)

Trustee Staller described the third resolution and asked Secretary Pierre-Louis to read it.

### Residence Hall Program Bonds Issue for the State Fiscal Year 2017-18

Upon motion by Mr. Staller, seconded by Ms. Lewin, the following resolution was approved by affirmative votes from all present:

Whereas pursuant to Resolution 95-181, adopted September 20, 1995, the State University of New York and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (“DASNY”) entered into a Lease and Agreement, dated as of September 20, 1995, in support of a financing program for State University residence halls and related facilities (“1995 Lease and Agreement”); and

Whereas pursuant to Resolution 2003-82, adopted September 16, 2003, and in connection with a restructuring of the residence hall program, DASNY and the State University entered into an Eighth Supplemental Lease and Agreement, dated as of September 24, 2003, amending and restating in its entirety the 1995 Lease and Agreement (the “2003 Lease and Agreement”); and

Whereas pursuant to Resolution 2013-014, adopted March 19, 2013, authorizing the restructuring of the financing program for the State University in accordance with Chapter 57 of the Laws of New York 2013, Part B, the State University and DASNY executed the 2013 Lease Amendment and 2013 Financing and Development Agreement; and

Whereas DASNY and the State University intend to finance the acquisition, construction, renovation, development, and equipping of certain dormitory facilities (collectively, the “Projects”) and/or refinance prior bonds, where beneficial for the State University to do so; and

Whereas in order to finance the Projects and/or refinance prior bonds, DASNY expects to issue one or more series of revenue bonds (the “Bonds”); now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be and hereby is authorized to undertake and complete the financing of the Projects, in an amount not to exceed \$150 million, and to refinance prior bonds, where beneficial, during the State fiscal year 2017/18; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor, or designee, be and hereby is authorized, in the name and on behalf of the State University to negotiate, execute, deliver and/or

approve the following documents, and any other documents necessary in connection with the sale and issuance of the Bonds:

- a) Preliminary Official Statement and Official Statement to be distributed in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds;
- b) Agreement to Provide Continuing Disclosure; and
- c) any further instruments, agreements, certificates, evidence of indebtedness or other documents which may be necessary or appropriate to complete the issuance of the Bonds or to carry out the foregoing.

(2017-08)

Trustee Staller concluded his report. Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Staller for the report, and asked Trustee Corngold, Acting Chairman of the Academic Medical Centers and Hospitals Committee, to give his report.

#### Academic Medical Centers and Hospitals

Trustee Corngold reported that the committee received a presentation from Dr. Ricardo Azziz, SUNY's Chief Officer of Academic Health and Hospital Affairs. His report was entitled *Vision for System Academic Health and Hospital Affairs Office and Initiatives Underway*. Dr. Azziz provided fundamental information on academic health centers, national trends, and their importance to the state and country. He discussed medical education and the role SUNY Academic Medical Centers play. He outlined some of the challenges and opportunities, both internally and externally, that the academic medical centers will face in the future.

Dr. Jean Moore and Dr. Robert Martiniano from the Center for Health Workforce Studies gave a report on the New York State Workforce Planning Data Guide. They were joined by Dr. Ronjay from Stony Brook University Center of Excellence and Wireless and Information Technology. The presentation provided the history and operations of the Center for Health Workforce Studies, and gave a preview of the latest data guide.

It was noted that the committee had a brief executive session where no action was taken.

Trustee Corngold concluded his report. Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Corngold for the report, and asked Trustee Tamrowski, Acting Chairwoman of the Community Colleges Committee, to give her report.

## Community Colleges

Trustee Tamrowski, Acting Chairperson, began her report by stating that the committee opened with a discussion about the proposed executive budget and its impact on community colleges. She also described how SUNY's related advocacy efforts are impacted by the budget. It was noted that Governor Cuomo's proposal Excelsior Scholarship Program includes many opportunities as well as challenges for community colleges. She also noted that Trustee Litow spoke over the phone on the importance of a community college degree in obtaining employment and strengthening economic development for New York State. Trustee Litow also stated that the proposal for free tuition was an opportunity to make New York more competitive, and highlighted that initiatives such as P-Tech should be included in the Excelsior plan. In addition, Trustee Litow reaffirmed SUNY's leadership in the area of STEM programming and evidence-based remedial education efforts.

The committee also received an update on several important initiatives, including an initial report on the nine regional community college councils, SUNY's participation in the Community College Research Center's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event with Dr. Jill Biden in December 2016, the fourth convening of the state-wide Empire STEM Learning Network, and SUNY Math Pathways updates.

To conclude, Trustee Tamrowski noted that a comprehensive overview of the results of the Tech Grant is scheduled for the March Board meeting. This report involved 30 community college advanced manufacturing grants and how 350 business partnerships have impacted over 5,000 students. It was indicated that prior to adjourning the committee held an executive session and no action was taken during that meeting.

Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Tamrowski for her report. He then invited the Research and Economic Development Chairman, Trustee Fatta to give his report.

## Research and Economic Development

Trustee Fatta began by stating that the committee received a report from Provost Cartwright on the third data brief of this academic year, one that was focused on New York State funded research and sponsored programs. It was noted that New York State agencies have played a significant role; approximately 15% total of SUNY's research funds come from within New York State. It was also stated that the university centers and doctoral degree granting institutions account for more than 90% of sponsored programs from New York State

sources. Furthermore, Provost Cartwright stressed on the importance for SUNY to increase the number of active researchers in order to strengthen SUNY's overall research enterprise and better serve state and local communities. During the meeting, Trustee Staller stated that SUNY would benefit from New York State programs targeted at supporting graduate students working to develop future researchers.

The committee welcomed and heard from the newly appointed Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, Dr. Grace Wang who identified a preliminary set of overarching goals. These are as follows:

- 1- To identify research and economic development opportunities
- 2- Catalyze collaborations across the system.
- 3- Enable dynamic and energetic graduate education.
- 4- Stimulate innovation and entrepreneurial thinking.
- 5- Promote SUNY Research and the Economic Development brand.

Dr. Wang reported that she has been working closely with the President of SUNY Research Foundation, Dr. Jeff Cheek, to define their respective responsibilities and opportunities. She also laid out a plan of how to connect with various stakeholders to develop a clear strategy of SUNY Research and Economic Development moving forward.

Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Fatta for the report, and asked Trustees Cohen and Lewin, who co-chair the Student Life Committee, to give their report.

### Student Life

Trustee Lewin began her report by stating that there was a lively discussion on the topic of student hunger. She noted that this issue has been highlighted in several national reports and was brought forward to the committee. Representatives from SUNY Oswego, Stony Brook University and a student from the University at Albany reported on their experience with the issue of student hunger. They discussed how they became aware of food insecurity and other issues that impacted students and how they established programs to meet the need. Campuses have found ways to meet the needs from holding collection drives, establishing food pantries, clothing boutiques, and expanding awareness of the issue with campus-wide programs. Many campuses collaborate with community agencies and are exploring ways to expand these services. Trustees feedback centered on three areas: 1- conduct a survey to assess campus needs and common practices; 2- examine service contracts and how they address student hunger; 3- explore SUNY wide and regional collaboration. She stated that

Provost Cartwright, Chief Financial Officer McLoughlin and General Counsel and Board Secretary Joseph Porter will guide the committee with these efforts. The committee hopes to bring initial findings and recommendations to the March Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Cohen continued by stating that the students have been grateful for the SUNY Board's engagement with them, and are very appreciative to the Board for permitting and encouraging the Student Life Committee to move forward.

Chairman McCall thanked Trustees Lewin and Cohen for their reports and called upon Trustees Tamrowski and Knuepfer to report on faculty activities.

##### 5. FACULTY UPDATES

Trustee Tamrowski began by stating that at the Fall Plenary they approved a statement in support of strengthening community colleges student governance, campus inclusivity and civil discourse. She also indicated that at their Fall Plenary, the Faculty Council for Community Colleges (FCCC) passed several resolutions. These are as follows: Faculty Purview over Micro-credentialing; Prior Learning Assessment and Competency-based Education; Support of Maintenance of Effort Funding for Community Colleges; and Support of Child Care Funding. Trustee Tamrowski noted that the childcare allocation was reduced in the Governor's budget as well as the maintenance of effort which was left out of the budget. The council plans to move forward on lobbying and advocating in those areas.

Trustee Tamrowski indicated that on January 6, 2017 the CUNY University Faculty Senate (UFS) and SUNY UFS as well as FCCC met to discuss a common statement on "Civil Discourse and Campus Climate". She then described the issues that will be discussed during the UFS Spring Plenary which include Academic & Student Affairs Committee: Veteran services, survey on P-Tech and the Board of Trustees/NYS Attorney General recommendations for campus inclusion/safety. She also announced that every year the faculty council gives an award for distinguished service, and the recipient this spring is Chancellor Zimpher.

Chairman McCall thanked Trustee Tamrowski for the report, and called upon Trustee Knuepfer to provide his report on the Faculty Senate.

Trustee Knuepfer began by indicating how pleased he was to provide support for the organizing and implementing of the diversity conference that Dr. Medina led last fall. He also

indicated that the Faculty Senate passed a resolution suggesting that it would be helpful to find some funds to incentivize graduate students to apply for fellowships, starting in the area of National Institute of Health fellowships and of National Science Foundation fellowships. With limited but significant funding from SUNY Research Foundation and the Provost's Office, the Faculty Senate was able to work with 20 Ph.D. students last year and 18 students this year. Trustee Knuepfer indicated that SUNY invested about \$40,000 into this program.

Trustee Knuepfer also indicated that the Faculty Senate decided to be signatories to the President's statement on DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). Chancellor Zimpher is a signatory, as well as eight or more of SUNY college and university campus Presidents. This petition letter was written to then President Elect and now President, urging him to retain the DACA program. He also noted that there was also a petition on sanctuary campuses asking the Board and Chancellor Zimpher to consider declaring SUNY campuses to be sanctuary campuses which will encourage SUNY campuses to refuse to comply with ICE officials beyond what is minimally required by the law.

Trustee Knuepfer also noted that a resolution was passed last fall seeking faculty membership on college councils at SUNY campuses. Trustee Knuepfer then concluded his report.

Chairman McCall went on to state that there had been a hearing earlier on Higher Education, attended by legislative committees, at which Chancellor Zimpher made a presentation. Chairman McCall called upon Chancellor Zimpher to brief the Board on the hearing.

Chancellor Zimpher remarked that Trustee Marc Cohen, Stacey Hengsterman, Eileen McLoughlin and Bob Haelen had attended the hearing with her. She indicated that there were about 25 members from the Assembly and the Senate, led by Assemblyman Herman "Denny" Farrell and Senator Kathy Young. The meeting lasted about 2 ½ hours and included the Finance Committee and the Chairs of the Higher Education Committee and the Assembly and the Senate, which included Senator Kenneth LaValle and Assembly member Deborah Glick. Chancellor Zimpher indicated that every item of the SUNY budget request was discussed, from the Disproportionate Share Hospital program (DSH) payments, the community colleges, and the rational tuition, but the majority of the time was spent on describing the Governor's Excelsior scholarship and how that will affect the students. SUNY was able to advocate for the program and informed the assembly that about 80,000 students of the current enrollees might be eligible

for the scholarship. Chancellor Zimpher indicated that Chairman McCall, Stacey Hengsterman and herself met with Speaker Heastie after the hearing. She then concluded her report.

Chairman McCall elaborated on the topics addressed during their meeting with Speaker Heastie. The speaker's agenda was to discuss areas on broadening the Excelsior Scholarship Program in order to cover the lower income students who have been identified as already having free tuition, but needed other services. He also talked about looking at this program in a sense of making college affordable and finding possibilities of allowing students to restructure college debt. The speaker and his colleagues have listened to the concerns of their members and they will be fashioning some adjustments to the Excelsior Program. Speaker Heastie has committed to keeping in touch and to involve SUNY in those efforts as it moves forward.

Chairman McCall then invited the Trustees to present any other matters to come before the Board, at which point Trustee Cohen asked to speak.

Trustee Cohen informed the Board that it was the last Board meeting for David Belsky, Director of Marketing and Creative Services. He thanked Mr. Belsky for his service and went on to read the resolved clause of a resolution the Student Assembly passed. The resolution read:

Resolved that on behalf of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York, we extend official congratulations and best wishes on Mr. Belsky's future endeavor as Senior Director of Communications at the Fund for Public Schools, and resolve that David Belsky is recognized as an honorary and lifetime member of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York and a friend of the students of the State University of New York and, finally resolve that because of his endless contributions to the students of SUNY and to the Student Assembly, David Belsky be granted the title of *Advisory Emeritus*.

Chairman McCall congratulated David Belsky and thanked him for his service.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, upon motion of Ms. Lewin, seconded by Mr. Fatta, the meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m.