Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 30, 2015

11:00 a.m.
Tour of the College of Engineering, Technology and Computer Science Senior Design Lab
E&T C Wing, Room 159

11:30 a.m.
Raquel N. Soriano Boardroom, GE 3rd Floor

Present: Lisa Chavez, Yoshiko Fong, Jeanette Gordon, Michael Hagerthy, John Paul Isaacson, William Lewis, Omel Nieves, Leila Ricci, Frank Saito, Sasha Perez, Nancy Warter-Perez, Tony Wong, Mongwei Wee

Absent With Excuse: Marlene Carney, Janet Dial, Jorge Ramirez, Mae Santos, Molly Talcott

Staff: Thomas Leung, University Controller
Lynn Mahoney, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Susana Moreno, Fiscal Coordinator, University Advancement
Mario A. Perez, Associate Vice President for University Advancement
Jane Rhee, Administrative Assistant, University Advancement

John Paul Isaacson called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

President’s Report – John Paul Isaacson

Approval of Minutes
The draft minutes of the January 29, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting was presented for review and approval.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2015 Board of Trustee meeting, as presented, was made by Michael Hagerthy and seconded by William Lewis.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed, by unanimous vote.

University President’s Report – William A. Covino

The President reported that this year’s student enrollment is the highest on record since the 1970’s, with approximately 24,500 student. With the Northridge campus declaring “full impaction”, we can anticipate some of those displaced students amongst our student enrollment in the coming academic year, as they seek enrollment in other southern CA/LA basin CSUs.

There are two new degree programs in development phase: major in women’s studies, and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in creative writing. The MFA program will be a bilingual (English/Spanish) program, and visiting faculty will be contributing to the development of this program. Division of Academic Affairs will be hiring 41 new faculty members starting in Fall 2015, and are recruiting 25 more faculty starting in Fall 2016, the year of semester conversion. President Covino briefly discussed “tenure density” which is the ratio of full-time tenured to part-time/adjunct faculty. There is a strategic plan to bring the university closer to the national average of 70% tenure density.
As part of President Covino’s strategic plan to lessen the budget gap that was created from decreased state allocations, the university is focusing on programs with sources of recurring revenue, such as expanding continuing education programs, increased international student enrollment, and philanthropic funding, particularly endowments and scholarships. The downtown LA campus is under negotiations, and will focus primarily on continuing education initially, offering programs such as: MBA, public administration, and certification courses. These programs will target those who would like to further and continue their professional development.

President Covino also reported on the $1.6M donation to the Dreamers Resource Center, noting that this center is the first and only endowed Dreamers Resource Center in the CSU system, and only the second endowed center in the state. Also in progress is the Billie Jean King Sports Complex and he anticipates more activity and funding for the tennis center in the coming 12-18 months. The branding initiative is almost complete and we can anticipate new creative design implementation by the fall of this year.

There are approximately 6,000 graduating students this year, and each college will have their own commencement ceremony, for a total seven commencements from June 12th through June 14th. If the Trustees would like to attend, then please inform University Advancement office and they can coordinate your participation.

President Covino introduced the new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Lynn Mahoney. Provost Mahoney greeted the Trustees and provided a brief background on her experience at Cal State L.A. and semester conversion. She made special mention of all the hard work that faculty have put forth in redesigning and reinventing their curriculum and coursework and is looking forward to the conversion here on campus.

Committee Reports

Governance Committee – William Lewis

Proposed Amended By-Laws – Mr. Lewis reported that the committee met to review the By-Laws with proposed amendments. There was added language to clarify a process that is already in practice in Section 3.1 concerning the election of Trustees. The other amendment to the By-Laws was the addition of Section 3.5 concerning the establishment of emeriti trustees. On behalf of the committee, Mr. Lewis recommends the approval of the By-Laws with proposed amendments, as presented.

Motion to approve the By-Laws as presented with proposed amendments was made by William Lewis and seconded by Michael Hagerthy.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed, by unanimous vote.

Revised Financial Policy – In accordance with the approved increased minimum to establish an endowment from $10,000 to $25,000, effective July 1, 2015, the committee reviewed the revised financial policy reflecting this new minimum. On behalf of the committee, Mr. Lewis recommends the approval of the revised financial policy, as presented.

Motion to approve the revised Financial Policy as presented was made by William Lewis and seconded by Sasha Perez.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed, by unanimous vote.

Audit Committee – Mongwei Wee

No Report
Development and Gift Acceptance Committee – Mario A. Perez
Dr. Mario Perez will present on behalf of Dr. Janet Dial, who was unable to attend this meeting.

Dr. Perez reported on year-to-date gift totals of $8M (compared to last fiscal year’s $6M. Dr. Perez reported on some of the donation and pledge highlights including The Sikand Foundation donation of $1M to establish the Gunjit S. Sikand Faculty Endowment for Research Sustainability. President Covino affirmed that this is a lead gift towards the Center for Urban Sustainability. We received notification of a six-figure bequest from an estate towards the Jose Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will fund scholarships to students with disabilities. There was another six-figure pledge commitment towards the Olga Shalygin Orloff Nursing Scholarship that will benefit nursing students in the College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Walter Zelman, a public health professor received a grant from The California Endowment to wards his project, “CSU Public Health Visit to Sacramento Project”. Last gift to mention was the $55,000 grant awarded to the Applied Gerontology Institute from The California Community Foundation to launch a training program for adults caring for family members with Parkinson’s disease and related brain disorders.

Investment and Finance Committee – John Paul Isaacson
Portfolio Update – Mr. Isaacson reported that the Foundation endowment level has reached $29M. He briefed the Board on the committee’s discussions with The Stone-Beck Group, including the positive results of allowing manager flexibility in the accounts, the tactical allocations, and elaborating on various investment strategies. There was a discussion on some of the differences between state university Foundations and Ivy League Foundations.

Treasurer’s Report
Unaudited Financial Statements – Thomas Leung
Mr. Leung presented and reviewed the unaudited financial statements for FY 14-15, ending March 31, 2015. The Financial Summary reflected total inflows of $6.34M, total outflows of $1.38M, for net flow of $$4.95M, with ending fund balance of $37.29M.

Mr. Leung reviewed total assets in Unrestricted Fund, Temporarily Restricted Fund, and Permanently Restricted Fund as reflected on the Statement of Financial Position, for a total of $38M, ending March 31, 2015. There was an inquiry of how many students receive scholarship monies. There was another inquiry of how many students receive loans versus scholarships. Staff agreed to research the data and report to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Leung proceeded to review the Statements of Activities and the Detail Statement of Activities – Unrestricted General Fund.

Executive Director’s Report – Mario A. Perez
Dr. Perez reported that four of the colleges have a dedicated development director to assist with their respective fundraising plans and college specific program and scholarship initiatives. Starting late May, we will have a development director for Arts & Letters, and recruitment is in progress for the Foundation and Corporate Relations development director. The Division is still in the process of converting to Raisers Edge, and we are still on schedule to “go live” in the new database system late July.

Dr. Perez introduced Maria Ubago, Executive Director of Alumni Relations, who provided more details on the 40th Alumni Awards dinner, which is in two weeks.
Other Business

Upcoming Events
May 4th – Annual Athletics Golf Tournament
May 15th – Alumni Awards Gala
Oct. 23rd-24th – 50th Alumni Reunion
Oct. 24th – BJK & Friends Gala Dinner

Dr. Perez shared the most recent video of Cal State L.A. with the Trustees, stating that this will be a part of the university’s outreach and media relations, creating more visibility for the university.

Next Meeting
The next CSULA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting will convene Thursday, June 25, 2015, at Cal State L.A., at the Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center.

With no further comments, the Trustees conducted a verbal vote and the motion passed, by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.
Approval of Board Minutes

As Secretary of the CSULA Foundation, the draft minutes of April 30, 2015 meeting have been approved as presented at the June 25, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting.

Jeanette L. Gordon
Date
June 25, 2015