

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Utah State University, Logan, Utah
January 6, 2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held via Zoom videoconferencing, commencing at 9:04 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kent K. Alder (Chair)	Kacie Malouf
John Y. Ferry (Vice Chair)	Wayne L. Niederhauser
Clara Alder	David A. Petersen
Gina Gagon	Jacey Skinner
David Huntsman	Tessa White

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Janet Anderson	Senior Vice Provost
Jodi Bailey	Chief Audit Executive
Lisa Berreau	Vice President, Research
Janalyn Brown	Secretary, Board of Trustees
Noelle E. Cockett	President
Dave Cowley	Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services
Rich Etchberger	Interim Vice President, Statewide Campuses
John Ferguson	President, USU Faculty Senate
Nancy Hanks	Executive Assistant to the President
Jane Irungu	Vice President, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Mica A. McKinney	General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs
Eric Olsen	Interim Vice President, Student Affairs
Bill Plate	Vice President, University Marketing and Communications
Larry Smith	Provost
Brian Steed	Special Assistant to the President, Executive Director
Robert Wagner	Executive Vice President
Joe Ward	Dean, College of Human and Social Sciences
Ken White	Vice President, Extension
Matt White	Vice President, Advancement
Devin Wiser	Vice President, Government and External Relations

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT

Jessellie Anderson	Board Member, Utah Board of Higher Education
Julie Hartley	Associate Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education
Scott Theurer	Board Member, Utah Board of Higher Education

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Chair Alder called the meeting to order. He welcomed and thanked those present on Zoom for their attendance. Chair Alder noted the 2023-2024 Trustee meeting calendar had been uploaded in OnBoard and invited board members to reach out with questions or conflicts.

2. CLOSED SESSION

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

3.1 Audit Committee Chair Petersen shared the audit committee has been busy and acknowledged the hard work done by Jodi Bailey and team. Bailey presented the Annual External Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. This report included audits of Utah State University and Edith Bowen Laboratory School (completed by state auditor) and Space Dynamics Laboratory and Utah Public Radio (completed by Jones Simpkins). Bailey explained Utah State University was found to have an immaterial deficiency regarding financial aid monies, which were returned to the State of Utah but not in a timely manner. USU Controller's Office has put controls in place, so this kind of delay does not happen again. Trustee Petersen and the committee accepted the report and recommended it be voted on in the action agenda. Bailey and Petersen will take the internal audit report to the Utah Board of Higher Education in March 2023.

3.2 Academic Approval Committee Chair Niederhauser began with a reminder of what a R411 is. A R411 requires academic programs be reviewed in detail at least every seven years. At Utah State University, the Office of the Provost is responsible for this review process. Approximately 60% of the programs are reviewed internally, by the institution itself. The other 40% of the academic programs are reviewed by external professional accreditation agencies in order to retain accreditation of each program. These reviews are thorough and can take up to one year to complete. A report is prepared, and this information is used by the department to make strategic decisions about current and future programs. The reports are presented to the Board of Trustees Academic Approval Committee for review and recommendation to the full Board of Trustees to approve. Once accepted and approved, the reports go to the Utah System of Higher Education for their review and approval. Niederhauser cited these reviews are on the consent agenda as well as two new R401 proposed programs in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences which will be voted on in the action agenda.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cockett stated it is difficult to decide what to share with the Board of Trustees because there are so many good things happening at Utah State University. Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Jane Irungu recently presented for approval the DEI strategic plan to the President's Executive Committee. This plan is found at www.usu.edu/dei/strategic-goals/roadmap.

President Cockett also shared the Charles Koch Foundation 5th Anniversary Stewardship Report. It has been five years since Utah State University has received a \$25 million grant. USU created the Center of Growth and Opportunity with these funds which has helped to implement the several graduate and undergraduate research programs as well as interactive curriculum which has impacted and involved 3,500 students. This does not only impact the students in the Huntsman School of Business, it also effects the College of Natural Resources, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Institute of Land, Water, and Air 2022 report has been delivered to Utah Governor Spencer Cox. This institute is gaining traction and Executive Director Brian Steed is

actively engaged with the state legislature primarily over water issues as well as the Great Salt Lake. This information is very timely.

The strategic plan “Aggie Action 2028” is in place and the team has reached out to the entire campus for strategies to move the plan forward. The deadline for input is January 20, 2023, at which point the strategic plan committee will evaluate the input. President Cockett ensured the group the plan will work for the new administration team as it defines who, what and how USU is successful. In the next six months, President Cockett will be looking for strategies she can fund or endorse over the short term. The plan is a living document and embodies what the institution values.

President Cockett explained the Board of Higher Education’s performance metrics and how Utah State was digging into them, specifically the high-yield category. The President and her team are watching them closely, moving forward with a deep commitment, and she is confident Utah State University will be successful.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1 Approve:

Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting held December 2, 2022

5.2 Approve:

Individuals to be recommended for 2023 Honorary Degrees

5.3 Approve:

Master of Anticipatory Intelligence - Utah State University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences

5.4 Approve:

Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice – Utah State University’s Departments of Sociology and Anthropology and Wildland Resources

5.5 Approve:

Program Reviews for the following:

- College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences’ Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Science Program Review
- Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services’ Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education Listening and Spoken Language Graduate Training Program Accreditation
- Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services’ Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education Communication Sciences MS Degree New Program Review
- Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human

- Services' School of Teacher Education and Leadership Graduate Degrees Program Review
- College of Engineering's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Program Review
- College of Engineering's Department of Biological Engineering Program Review
- College of Engineering's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Program Review
- College of Engineering's Department of Engineering Education Graduate Program Review
- College of Engineering's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Program Review
- College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Department of Communication Studies and Philosophy Communications studies MS New Program Review
- College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Department of World Languages and Cultures Portuguese Language BA New Program Review
- College of Science's Department of Computer Science Program Review
- S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources' Department of Wildland Resources Program Review

Action: Trustee Ferry moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Trustee White seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

6. Action Agenda


6.1 Review and Accept:

External Audit Reports – Vice President Cowley stated the Board of Trustees Audit Committee has reviewed and recommended the external audit reports for approval process. Vice President Cowley clarified the immaterial finding or weakness was related to federal financial aid funds. The Controller's Office receives an estimate from the Financial Aid Office of how much is needed, which is then drawn from federal funds and distributed to students. The unused remainder should be returned within three days. Corrective action has been put in place by Bailey's team to ensure this does not happen in the future.


Action: Trustee Petersen moved to approve the External Audit Reports for year ending 2022. Trustee Malouf seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Chair Alder thanked all for their participation and attendance.

Action: Chair Alder called for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Trustee Clara Alder moved to adjourn. Trustee White seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.



Kent K. Alder, Chair



Janalyn Brown, Secretary
(minutes taken by Janalyn Brown)

February 10, 2023
Date Approved