



DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Minutes of the “Hybrid” Meeting of the Board of Trustees of
Delaware State University, Thursday, September 15, 2022**

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DOVER, DELAWARE**

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Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of Delaware State University (“BoT”) held a hybrid meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2022, via in-person and WebEx. Dr. Devona Williams, Chair of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Roll Call by Ms. Tamara Stoner, University Secretary

<u>ATTENDEES</u>	
BOARD MEMBERS	DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY
Dr. Devona Williams, Chair	Tony Allen, Ph.D., President
Mr. John Ridgeway, Vice Chair	Mr. Anas Ben Addi, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. John J. Allen, Vice Chair (virtual)	Dr. Sandra DeLauder, Provost
Mr. Leroy Tice, Esq.	Mr. Cleon Cauley, COO
Mr. Harold Stafford (virtual)	Dr. Irene Hawkins, CAO and VP of Human Resources
Ms. Margie Lopez Waite	Dr. Stacy Downing, CAO for DSU Downtown and VP of Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Wilma Mishoe (virtual)	Dr. Vita Pickrum, VP of Institutional Advancement
Mr. Chip Rossi (virtual)	Mr. Antonio Boyle, Sr. VP of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
Ms. Lois Hobbs	Ms. LaKresha Moultrie, General Counsel, VP of Legal Affairs and Chief Risk Officer (virtual)
Ms. Jocelyn Stewart (virtual)	Ms. Jackie Griffith, Special Asst. to the President, VP of Government & Community Relations
Ms. Bernadette Dorsey Whatley	Mr. Bernard Pratt, AVP of Facilities Management, Planning and Construction
Mr. Norman Griffiths (virtual)	Dr. Dawn Mosley, Sr. Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communications
	Mr. Darrell McMillon, CIO
	Ms. Alecia Gadson, Athletic Director
	<u>Other Attendees (virtual):</u> Mr. Curtis Winslow Mr. Alan Brangman Ms. Jarso Saygbe Ms. Kecia Tally

	Mr. Ned Brown Ms. Kenisha Ringgold Dr. Lynda Murray Jackson Mr. Robert Schrof Sarah Greene Ms. Marquita Thomas Brown Ms. Leslie Sysko Dr. Kim Sudler Mr. Joe (no last name added) <i>See attached Sign-in Sheet of In-person Attendees</i>
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CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Devona Williams

- Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2022, Board of Trustees Meeting
- Approval of Minutes from July 14-15, 2022, Board of Trustees Meeting
- Operations Committee:
 - Action Items:
 - i. Contracts
 - a) Dell
 - b) Netstream
 - c) Assurance Media
 - d) Studio JAED
 - e) Sullivan’s Landscaping
 - f) 2022 – 2023 Insurance Premiums
 - ii. Grant Approvals
 - a) COBRE Neuroscience Grant
 - b) Department of Health & Social Services, Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health Grant
 - c) Network Connect Grant
 - iii. Fee Proposals
 - a) Academic FY24 Fee Proposal
 - b) Athletic Fee Proposal

[Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Trustee Whatley; 2nd by Trustee Ridgeway; Motion carried]

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Tony Allen

President Allen reported on the following:

- *US News & World Report.* The University is ranked #8 among 101 HBCUs in the country (#10 in 2022), as reported by the 2023 U.S. News & World Report College Rankings. The university is ranked #2 among 47 public HBCUs (ranked #3 in 2022). The university continues to rank in the Top 25 in Top Regional Public Schools Overall, Top Regional Schools for Social Mobility, and Most Innovative Schools.
- *September 3 Incident.* The university is committed to creating and maintaining a safe campus environment.
- *Enrollment Update.* Fall 2022 enrollment will be the largest reported census in university

history surpassing 6,000 students. The incoming freshman class has exceeded 1,700. There's been significant expansion of DSUs international portfolio, highlighting the newest footprint in Jamaica. There are 250 students matriculating through DSUs master's and doctoral degree programs in education. Special acknowledgement to Strategic Enrollment's Mr. Tony Boyle, Dr. Patrice Gilliam Johnson, Ms. Terrie Jeffries, and Dr. Fengshan Liu.

- *2022 HBCU Philanthropy Symposium.* The Symposium was held in Washington, D.C. in July. This year, the event drew 300 participants, 40+ HBCUs and MSIs, 16 corporate sponsors, and 8 college presidents. There was a Disney presence which highlighted DSUs relationship with Propel and HBCU Week. HBCU Week in Wilmington, DE will be held next week.
- *Student Debt Relief.* As a result of President Biden's student debt relief initiative, DSU students will see nearly 40% reduction in their student loans. Another 30% of undergraduates will receive about a 20% reduction of their repayment obligation.
- *Employee Performance Award.* Employees will be awarded a one-time \$2,000 payout reflected in their holiday season paychecks before the New Year. This award was given to full-time colleagues who earned \$75k or less per year.
- *DSU HUB App.* Special acknowledgement to Dr. Mosley and Mr. Winslow for the creation and success of the app.
- *ECS Middle School.* The ECS welcomed 150 7th and 8th graders to the new middle school this Fall. Special acknowledgement to Dr. Evelyn Edney, Dr. Nyia McCants, and Ms. Dara Laws Savage.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Devona Williams

Chair Williams encouraged students to reach out to Ms. Stoner if they are interested in having a dialogue with the board. The role of trustees is to be strategic. The Chair will continue to focus on professional development for trustees. So far, three trustees have completed AGB's board orientation. All trustees were asked to complete the training by the December retreat.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athletics Committee (ACo.) – Mr. John Allen (**Ms. Alecia Gadson presented on behalf of Trustee Allen due to technology issues.*)

Ms. Gadson reported the following from the September 1 ACo. meeting:

The committee reviewed goals and KPI's. The committee also discussed improving the student athlete experience with a concentration on mental health, nutrition and well-being. The athletic department is focused on increasing fan attendance. DSU will be hosting two 2022 MEAC championships – Cross Country and Volleyball.

Audit & ERM Committee (A.C.) – Mr. Leroy Tice

Mr. Tice reported the following from the September 8 A.C. meeting:

Mr. Ben Addi reported that the FY21 Single Audit A133 is currently 90% complete and will be submitted before the September 30 deadline. The FY22 Financial Statements Audits will be submitted before the December 31 deadline. Ms. Moultrie presented on the insurance renewal and

process with brokers Connor Strong and Arthur J. Gallagher. Ms. Stoner reported on COVID-19 Fall protocols for student move-in and testing frequency for students and employees. Curative continues to provide testing on both campuses. An environmental update was provided. The 2022-2023 ERM action plan update was shared. Mr. Schrof reported that the new internal audit workplan will be forthcoming, and he continues to monitor and address issues received from the ethics hotline.

Governance Committee (G.C.) – Mr. Griffiths

Mr. Griffiths reported the following from the September 1 G.C. meeting:

The committee focused on the upcoming distribution of the board's assessments. The assessment results will be shared during the December retreat.

Innovation & Sustainability (I&S) – Mr. Stafford

Mr. Stafford reported the following from the September 1 I&S meeting:

As of August 30, the endowment fund balance was \$37M. Two grants have been received – 1) \$717k from JP Morgan for the Early College Innovation Center; and 2) \$50k from Capital One for the College of Business Creative Financial Literacy curriculum. The next HBCU Symposium will be held July 31- Aug 2, 2023. A dual engineering degree program was created wherein students can earn a Bachelor of Science degree at DSU and a Master of Science at University of Delaware. On September 29 there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Agriculture building. The Prayer Breakfast will be held on September 30. Homecoming will be held October 29. The Scholarship Ball will be held on December 10.

Operations Committee (O.C.) – Mr. Ridgeway

Mr. Ridgeway reported that the O.C met on September 8. Presentations were provided during the board meeting by Mr. Ben Addi and Mr. Pratt.

Mr. Ben Addi provided a presentation of the FY 2022 total budget versus actual, and the FY 2023 cash position (*See portal for details*). Mr. Pratt presented two videos created by students of walk throughs of the renovations at the residential halls and other campus upgrades. During student move-in, Mr. Pratt provided refreshments, tents, and music for students and parents.

Student Affairs Committee (S.A.) – Ms. Lois Hobbs

Ms. Hobbs reported the following from the September 1 S.A. meeting:

The committee reviewed goals and KPI's. Mr. Holmes discussed the current occupancy rate is at 93.8%. Dr. Quiana Hutchins reported that over 600 students participated in Welcome Days on August 22-23 and engaged in information sessions deemed critical to their success. Over 500 back to school supply packs were distributed to local shelters and community members. There were 1,234 applications sent out for the National Honors Society. Chaplain Adams reported on Spiritual Life's upcoming October activities. Dr. Wanda Anderson reported that 429 students were hired. Ms. Jordin Williams, Office of Wellness and Recreation received the gold standard by National Intramural and Recreational Sports Assn. for HBCU Collegiate Recreation Programs. The

Lacrosse Club won the Crown Classic Tournament Championship (awarded \$10,000). Ms. Latoya Anderson presented upcoming initiatives – Peer Certification Leadership training to Greek student leaders and honors students to be facilitated in September; and implementing educational initiatives by way of working with Dept. of Residential Education to educate residential student on the Student Code of Conduct Handbook.

Academic & Student Success Committee (S.S.) – Ms. Lois Hobbs

Ms. Hobbs reported the following from the September 1 S.S. meeting:

There has been approximately a 10% increase in course offering from Fall 2021. Face-to-face course offerings comprise of 71% of course offerings (up about 6% last fall). Ms. Jarso Saygbe discussed various components of academic advising and academic services offered in the Office of Student Success. Dr. Downing provided a brief overview of DSU Downtown noting that five residence halls are open and shuttle services are operational. The Nursing program has completely moved to DSU Downtown. Dr. Edney provided an update on the Early College School. There's a total of 538 students across grades 7-12. On October 28, there will a Parent Academy and Honoring Our Legacy event at the Modern Maturity Center. In April there will be a Food Truck Festival. Mr. Boyle reported that this semester the Jamaica associate degree program will begin. There are also more programs planned with China and further expansion in the Greater Antilles through Fall 2023.

Executive Leadership Committee (E.C.) – Dr. Devona Williams

Dr. Williams reported that the committee met on September 8. Dr. Hawkins provided an update on the top five KPI dashboard indicators. As of August 31, 96% of employees have completed annual evaluations. The two KPIs on senior leadership succession plan completion and critical strategic positions filled within 90 days are 100% completed. The KPI on semi-annual employee turnover ratios is in progress. An employee engagement satisfaction survey is still in progress. The committee also reviewed action items from the July retreat.

[Motion to accept all committee reports by Trustee Whatley; 2nd by Trustee Tice; Motion carried]

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Athletics Hall of Fame, September 16 at 6:00 p.m.
- Convocation, September 29 at 11:00 a.m.
- Groundbreaking Ceremony of New Agriculture Building, September 29 at 1:00 p.m.
- 12th Annual Prayer Breakfast, September 30 at 7:00-9:00 a.m.
- Homecoming Football Game (vs N.C. Central), October 29
- Winter Board Retreat, December 1 and 2
- Scholarship Ball, December 10

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Pursuant to FOIA)

*******EXECUTIVE SESSION*******

[Motion to enter Executive Session, by Trustee Hobbs, 2nd by Trustee Tice; Motion carried]

[Motion to exit Executive Session, by Trustee Hobbs, 2nd by Trustee Tice; Motion carried]

*******EXECUTIVE SESSION*******

- Action Item #1: Academic and Student Success
[On behalf of the Academic and Student Success Committee, a Motion to Approve Action Item #1 as discussed in Executive Session and recommended in Committee to the full board, by Trustee Hobbs; 2nd by Trustee Tice; Motion carried]
- Action Item #2: Academic and Student Success
[On behalf of the Academic and Student Success Committee, a Motion to Approve Action Item #2 as discussed in Executive Session and recommended in Committee to the full board, by Trustee Hobbs; 2nd by Trustee Tice; Motion carried]

[Motion to adjourn by Trustee Tice; 2nd Ridgeway; Motion carried]

ADJOURNMENT 4:17 p.m.