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KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025

4 p.m. VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Steve Fastook, Chair; Linda Lewis, Vice Chair; Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Secretary; John Kean, Jr., Bertha Little-Mathews, Rajeev Malhotra, A. Todd Mayo, Matthew McDermott, Ada Morell, Ed Oatman, Barbara Sobel, Student Trustee Danielle Brathwaite, Alternate Student Trustee Cylia Blackmon, Dr. Lamont Repollet, President; Board Secretary Audrey Kelly

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Freestone

The meeting began at @ 4 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL**
   Ms. Kelly called the roll and reported a quorum present.

2. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**
   Ms. Kelly read the statement of compliance and reported the meeting was properly advertised and in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. She noted the change in location due to the heat wave and related conditions also was shared with the proper offices, newspapers and campus community.

3. **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCES FOR AY2026**
   Chair Fastook moved the resolution establishing the official news sources for public advertising for the next academic year. The resolution was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ANNUAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR**
   Chair Fastook noted the announcement provided the proposed schedule of Board of Trustees public meetings in the upcoming academic year including September 15, 2025, December 6, 2025, March 2, 2026, May 4, 2026 and June 22, 2026. The meeting schedule was approved unanimously by the Board.

5. **Resolution Honoring Student Trustee Danielle Brathwaite and Thanking Her for Her Service to the Kean Community**
   Chair Fastook moved the resolution commending Student Trustee Danielle Brathwaite for her work with the Board. The resolution was seconded and unanimously approved with all of the Board members sharing their thanks and best wishes.

6. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Fastook thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for pivoting to the remote session on short notice due to power outages caused by the high temperatures. He noted that Kean had a great year; he commended President Repollet and his administrative team not only for their hard work but for their efforts to keep the Board members well-informed about initiatives. He wished everyone a safe and fun summer.

7. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that today's meeting marks the end of the fiscal and academic year, and he wanted to reflect on the incredible progress the University has made. He thanked everyone for their support and shared vision. Kean has had a landmark year, he stated.

Kean has continued to rise as a national model for excellence, equity, and innovation in higher education, he said, and every member of the Kean community has played a vital role in making this year one of the most successful in Kean's proud history.

He reported that the University is financially strong, steady and thriving—recent independent audits confirmed this. He credited responsible stewardship and strategic planning, and noted we continue to invest in Kean's people, programs and future. He took a few moments to thank and credit CFO Andrew Brannen for his leadership in the finance area these past eight+ years, and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement.

He noted that Kean stands at the threshold of another exciting chapter—the proposed merger and acquisition of New Jersey City University. He called the project a bold opportunity with a solemn responsibility. He said the University is approaching the process with the transparency, collaboration, and care it deserves.

He thanked faculty and staff for their tireless dedication, compassionate service, and the inspiration they provide students each day. He thanked students for their courage, drive, and belief in the power of education to change your life—and the world.

He wished everyone a joyful and restful summer.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Kelly noted one person, Pat Malkolm, registered to speak at the meeting but was not present. She noted that she reached out to him via telephone and email about the change in location, and that she would reach out again and see if he would like to submit written comments.

9. ITEMS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Matthew McDermott also thanked Mr. Brannen for his work at Kean and for his excellent stewardship. He congratulated him on his retirement. Other trustees join in supporting these remarks.

Chair McDermott then reported that the Finance committee met earlier in the day to review various items for FY26. He noted the recommendation regarding the tuition and fees increases was well reviewed, including a public hearing. He moved each of the following items to the full Board for consideration:

9.1 Resolution Approving a Change in University Tuition and Fees for Fiscal Year 2026

9.2 Resolution Authorizing a Change in the University Tuition and Fees for Certain Graduate and Doctoral Programs for Fiscal Year 2026

9.3 Resolution Authorizing the Renewal of Certain Cohort Tuition Rates of the "Kean Educational Affiliation Network (KEAN)" for FY2026

9.4 Resolution Authorizing the Cohort Tuition Rate for Certain High School Partnerships for Fiscal Year 2026

9.5 Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of Cohort Tuition Rates in FY26 for Participants in the Kean Scholars Academy (KSA)

9.6 Resolution Establishing the Kean Global Cohort Rate for Fiscal Year 2026

9.7 Resolution Authorizing the Launch of a Regional Recruitment Initiative in FY25 Utilizing In-State Tuition Rates for Certain Undergraduate Applicants

9.8 Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Advertising and Bidding for Various Services

Information Technology	**Not to Exceed**
EAB	$650,000
Core BTS	$200,000
NJEDGE	$440,000
Novacoast	$210,000
Bloomberg	$176,000
Coastal Networking LLC	$145,000
Mainstay	$130,000

Advertising, Recruit, Entertain	**Not to Exceed**
Intersection Media	$520,000
SH Design Corporation	$115,000
Encoura, Inc.	$115,000
IA Media LLC	$105,000
Max Marketing	$105,000

Insurance Services	**Not to Exceed**
Willis Towers Watson NE	$212,000 *(amends fy25)*

Legal Services	**Not to Exceed**
Clery Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs LLC	$250,000
Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose	$250,000
NJ Division of Law	$250,000
Gibbons PC	$200,000
Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi	$200,000

Professional Services	**Not to Exceed**
Greater Talent Network	$240,000 *(amends fy25)*

Consulting Services	**Not to Exceed**
Ingenuity Advising	$300,000

Student Orgs (DECA/FBLA/HOSA)	**Not to Exceed**
Caesars Resort dba Harrah's AC	$1,750,000
FBLA, Inc.	$250,000
DECA Inc.	$250,000
HOSA-Future Health Pros.	$200,000
Vista Convention Services	$190,000
M&M Productions USA	$160,000

Fire Suppression Services	**Not to Exceed**
Johnson Controls	$800,000

9.9 Resolution Establishing and Adopting the Kean University Computer Related Acceptable Use Policy

9.10 Resolution Authorizing the Kean University Information Technology Department to Develop and Implement Policies Related to Cybersecurity and University Computer Systems

9.11 Personnel Action: Amendment to Advance the Promotion Start Date for Faculty Member to July 1, 2025

Chair Fastook asked if the Board members had any questions on the recommendations from the Finance Committee. Each resolution was seconded and approved by the full Board.

10. ITEM OF THE EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Bertha Little-Mathews reported the committee met earlier in the day to review various items. She moved the following item to the full Board for consideration:

10.1 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Advertising and Bidding for Professional Services

Professional Services	**Not to Exceed**
Winning Strategies Washington	$125,000

Chair Fastook asked if the Board members had any questions on the bid waiver from the External Relations Committee. The resolution was seconded and approved by the Board.

11. RESOLUTION ADVISING THE PUBLIC OF A CLOSED MEETING

Ms. Kelly read the resolution advising of a closed session. A motion was made, seconded and the Board unanimously approved the resolution.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 4:40 p.m.

13. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board returned to Public Session at approximately 5:35 p.m.

14. FINAL APPROVAL OF MINUTES –JUNE 23, 2025

Chair Fastook requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the June 23, 2025 public meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the board approved the minutes.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.