

## KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021

4 p.m. VIA CONFERENCE CALL

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**PRESENT:** Ada Morell, Chair; Linda Lewis, Vice Chair, Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Secretary; Steve Fastook, John Kean Jr., Berta Little-Mathews, Rajeev Malhotra, Matthew McDermott, Ed Oatman, Barbara Sobel, Richard Torres, Richard Trabert, Student Trustee Jason Pleitez, Alternate Student Trustee Kobe Robinson; Dr. Lamont Repollet, President; Board Secretary Audrey Kelly

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michelle Freestone, Christopher Rustick, Karen Smith

The meeting began at @ 4 p.m.

1. **INSTALLATION OF TRUSTEE RAJEEV MALHOTRA**  
Chair Morell administered the oath of office to Mr. Rajeev Malhotra, trustee, and the Board welcomed him.
2. **INSTALLATION OF TRUSTEE BERTHA LITTLE-MATHEWS**  
Chair Morell administered the oath of office to Ms. Bertha Little-Mathews, trustee, and the Board welcomed her.
3. **INSTALLATION OF TRUSTEE RICHARD TORRES, ESQ.**  
Chair Morell administered the oath of office to Mr. Richard Torres Esq., trustee, and the Board welcomed him.
4. **ROLL CALL**  
Ms. Kelly called the roll and reported a quorum present.
5. **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.
6. **CHAIR'S COMMENTS**  
Chair Morell thanked everyone for attending the meeting, noting that although virtual, it is great to be together again. On behalf of the Board, she welcomed the three new trustees to the board, saying she looks forward to working together to support both our university and the students we serve.

Chair Morell said just about one year had passed since the COVID-19 pandemic shut down most of New Jersey and changed so much of how we operate at Kean. However, things are looking up and we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccinations, she said.

She thanked President Repollet for his leadership during this unprecedented time, noting that despite the challenges he “took control of the situation and is guiding Kean to the best possible outcomes.”

7. **PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS**

President Repollet also welcomed the new trustees to Kean’s Board. He invited all three to campus this Spring when the weather warms up for a personal, President-led tour.

Dr. Repollet noted that the day was International Women’s Day with the theme “Choose to Challenge.” He recognized the women serving on Kean’s Board—Chair Morell, Trustees Baltimore, Lewis and Sobel and new trustee Bertha Little-Mathews—whom he said “choose to challenge” every day. These women are taking steps each day, in their lives and in their careers, to improve the lives of those around them. He recognized them for their hard work and dedication to Kean and its students; and thanked them for serving as inspiring examples of how women, everywhere, can change the world for the better.

The President also reported that he is looking at Governor Murphy’s proposed budget for the new fiscal year and what it will mean for Kean and its students. He noted he is working with his Senior Vice Presidents to evaluate, among other things, the role this year’s Outcomes Based Allocations and the Garden State Guarantee program will play in Kean’s state funding and future. The University will be working with local legislators to ensure Kean receives all funding possible to support its programming efforts, as well as plans to return to some version of normal operations this fall. The President said he will provide updates at both the May and June board meetings.

Dr. Repollet also thanked faculty, students and employees for doing their part to keep the campus community as safe as possible while providing high-quality academic programming since the pandemic began nearly one year ago.

The President then introduced several presentations related to key initiatives taking place on campus. Each presentation will be save with Board files. The presentations included:

- A presentation by the steering committee of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Self-Study Report, introduced by Dr. Neva Lozada.
- A presentation by Dr. Michael Salvatore, Senior Vice President for Administration, on the campus-wide data analysis initiatives he is undertaking for President Repollet.
- A joint presentation by Vice President Barbara Harmon-Francis of Student Success and Retention, and Athletic Director Kelly Williams on how these

divisions are working together to build student support systems that will help all Kean students, including athletes, succeed on their academic journey.

- A presentation by Vice President Karen Smith of University Relations, who discussed the University's efforts to promote its leadership role in the area of COVID testing, lab processing and serving the community. She shared two videos about the laboratory and its work, including one that featured a Kean alum who currently works in the testing lab located in the STEM building.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Board received public comments on various topics from the following speakers: Jack Tomy, Lowell Schantz, Dr. Mark Terenzi, Samuel Royster, Stacey Callahan, Dr. James Castiglione, Dr. Craig Donovan, Emma Yorra and Kason Little.

Where provided, copies of the speakers' comments will be kept on file in the Board office.

**9. ITEM OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Trustee Fastook noted the committee met to discuss officer roles following new appointments to the board. He moved the following resolution for Board consideration:

- 9.1** Resolution Appointing Trustee Linda Lewis as Board Officer and Member of the Executive Committee for Academic Year 2020-2021

The Chair opened the floor for questions on the resolution. The resolution and waiver was then seconded, and approved by the Board. Ms. Lewis was congratulated; she thanked her colleagues for their support.

**10. ITEMS OF THE STUDENT AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Trabert noted the committee met to discuss various student affairs and enrollment programs and issues. He moved the following resolutions for Board consideration:

- 10.1** Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Advertising and Public Bidding

<u>Info Tech, Recruitment</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
ScarletCS	\$65,000
Student Bridge	\$65,000
Common Application Inc.	\$40,000
 <u>Entertainment, Artistic</u>	 <u>Not to Exceed</u>
The KNOW Contemporary	\$130,000

<b><u>Advertising, Recruitment</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
New City Media Inc.	\$175,000

Chair Morell opened the floor for questions on the bid waivers. Each waiver was then seconded, and approved by the Board.

**11. ITEMS OF THE LEGAL AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Chair Morell noted the committee met to review various items. She then moved the following items for Board consideration:

- 11.1 Personnel Actions—Administrative
- 11.2 Professional Staff Reappointments
- 11.3 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising for FY21

<b><u>Professional Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Storbeck Search LLC	\$95,000

Chair Morell asked for questions on the personnel actions and the bid waiver resolution. Each item was seconded and approved by the Board.

**12. ITEMS OF THE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEES**

Trustee Fastook, Committee Chair, noted the committee met to review various items including several forwarded to the Board for consideration. He moved each of the following items for consideration:

- 12.1 Resolution Accepting the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2020
- 12.2 Resolution Amending Resolution 20-05-11-2462 To Expand the Use of Outcomes-Based Allocation Funding Received from the State of New Jersey
- 12.3 Resolution Amending Resolution 19-12-07-2427 to Both Expand and Better Define Guidelines for the Distribution of the Annual Fund Balance
- 12.4 Resolution Approving the Award of a Contract for Commercial Banking Services to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
- 12.5 Resolution Authorizing and Approving of the University's Disposal of Unused IPV4 Addresses as Surplus Property

- 12.6 Resolution Updating the Development of the “Faculty/Student Research Fund” with the Kean University Foundation
- 12.7 Resolution Authorizing a Special Cohort Tuition Rate for the Kean Scholar Academy
- 12.8 Resolutions Authorizing Amendments to the Waivers of Public Advertising and Bidding for FY21

<u>Info Technology</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
Richard Loalbo LLC	\$197,000
Ferrilli Information Group	\$180,000
Incline Alchemy, Inc.	\$82,000

<u>Intergovernmental Services</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
County of Union (COVID-19 Tests)	\$1,420,500

The Chair opened the floor for questions on the resolutions and bid waivers. Each resolution and waiver was then seconded, and approved by the Board, with Trustee Oatman recusing himself from voting on the Intergovernmental Services bid waiver.

**13. ITEMS OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Bistocchi, Committee Chair, noted the committee met and discussed various items, including the action items now before the Board for consideration. He then moved each of the following resolutions:

- 13.1 First Year Faculty Reappointments
- 13.2 Faculty Promotions
- 13.3 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science
- 13.4 Resolution Approving the Proposed Equipment List Prepared by the School of Computer Science and Technology for Submission to NJEFA for Funding
- 13.5 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a 5-year BS in Information Technology/MS in Computer Science Information Systems Program
- 13.6 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a 5-year BS in Computer Science/MS in Computer Science Information Program
- 13.7 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a Bachelor of Fine Arts in

Advertising Program in the Michael Graves College

- 13.8 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts Program in the College of Liberal Arts
- 13.9 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a new Advanced Certificate in Bilingual Speech Pathology
- 13.10 Resolution Accepting an External Grant Award from the New Jersey Department of Education
- 13.11 Resolution by the Board of Trustees Honoring Dr. Paula Avioli and Bestowing the Honor of Professor Emerita
- 13.12 Resolution by the Board of Trustees Honoring Dr. Susanna Rich and Bestowing the Honor of Professor Emerita
- 13.13 Resolution by the Board of Trustees Honoring Dr. Ethel Young and Bestowing the Honor of Professor Emerita
- 13.14 Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising in FY 21

<u>Professional Services/Student Funds</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
DECA, Inc.	\$100,000
M&M Productions, Inc.	\$100,000
Paul's Custom Awards & Trophies	\$80,000
DLG Enterprises	\$60,000
Awards Unlimited Inc.	\$40,000
Education and Non-Profit Insurance Co. of America	\$40,000

<u>Info Technology</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
EXXAT LLC	\$65,650, FY22
	\$69,775, FY23

The Chair asked the Board if they had any questions on each of the agenda items from the APP Committee. Each resolution was seconded and approved by the Board.

- 14. **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.
- 15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 5:45 p.m.

**16. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board returned to Public Session at approximately 6:20 p.m.

**17. SHORT BREAK**

Chair Morell asked for a short break to allow the minutes of this meeting to be prepared for Board approval.

**18. FINAL APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2021**

Chair Morell requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the March 8, 2021 public meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the full board approved the minutes.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.