

**KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES****MINUTES – PUBLIC SESSION****MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017****4 p.m. DAVE GIBBONS CONFERENCE CENTER, KEAN HALL**

**PRESENT:** Ada Morell, Chair; Michael D’Agostino, Vice-Chair; Dr. Lamont Repollet, Secretary; Helyn Payne Baltimore, Robert W. Cockren, John Kean Jr., Linda Lewis, Richard Trabert, Barbara Sobel, Christian Meyers, Student Trustee, Angelica Glispie, Alternate Student Trustee; Dr. Dawood Farahi, President; Board Secretary Audrey Kelly

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Geri Benedetto, Dr. Jeffrey Toney, Andrew Brannen, Laura Barkley-Haelig, Janice Murray-Laury, Marsha McCarthy, Jennifer Soyka, Felice Vazquez, 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 as properly advertised and in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**3. FINAL APPROVAL OF MINUTES –March 6, 2017**

Chair Morell requested a motion for final approval of the draft minutes of the Kean University Board of Trustees Public Meeting held on March 6, 2017. A motion was made and seconded and the Board approved the minutes.

**4. CHAIR’S REPORT**

Chair Morell welcomed everyone and thanked the trustees for their time and service. She noted the upcoming 2017 Commencement Ceremonies and encouraged all to participate. She also announced the June 26<sup>th</sup> public meeting of the Board of Trustees would be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the North Avenue Academic Building.

**5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Farahi commented on the success the past weekend’s Open House, noting the event drew more than 3,500 people to campus for the day. The University hopes to increase enrollment by 2% in fall 2017, he said, adding that the administration was committed to keeping the tuition increase for the new fiscal year close to 2%. He reminded the Board and the public of the increased competition for a shrinking pool of students in New Jersey, noting recent research suggests the high school graduation rate in NJ will drop by 10% by 2024.

Dr. Farahi introduced Ms. Janice Kropowsky who, along with four Kean students, provided the Board and the public with updates on programming and efforts underway by the Kean University Human Rights Institute. This year, the HRI celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Human Rights Conference, welcoming more than 1,000 participants for a discussion of the global clean water crisis. A video highlighting HRI programming was shown.

The President then welcomed Dr. Jeff Toney, Provost, and Ms. Susan Gannon, director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, for a presentation on the University's annual Research Days programming, which took place in late April. Dr. Toney noted that 485 Kean students participated in the program, along with an additional 120 Wenzhou-Kean University students. Ms. Gannon noted that participation this year set new records on both the faculty and the student side. She then introduced the Undergraduate Student Researcher of the Year for a short presentation on her work with her professor.

Dr. Toney noted for the Board and the public that work on the University's Periodic Review Report was nearing completion, and thanked all those who participated and provided feedback for their efforts and support. With the Board endorsement, the University will finalize the report and submit it to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education by the June 1, 2017 deadline, Dr. Toney said.

Dr. Farahi also noted the University is prepared to award the contract for construction of the new Liberty Hall Academic Center on the Liberty Hall campus. He introduced Ms. Tracie Feldman from Campus Planning, and Dr. Jonathan Mercantini, acting Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and former chair of the History Department, to describe the design of the new facility and the programming and academic work that will take place in the new academic building. President Farahi noted the project still requires approval from the state Historic Preservation Office, and that the University is working closely with the SHPO team to keep the initiative on track.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Board received public comments from Dr. James Castiglione. A copy of his written comments will be filed in Board office.

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

Trustee Trabert reported the committee members met and reviewed the following resolutions. He presented each for Board consideration:

- 7.1 Resolution to Support a Purchasing Process that Considers a Company's Disclosure Regarding its Supply Chain with Regard to Conflict Minerals
- 7.2 Resolution Approving a Waiver of Public Advertising and Bidding for Advertising Services in FY17

**Advertising Services**  
GMLV, LLC

**Not to Exceed**  
\$400,000

Chair Morell provided an opportunity for the trustees to ask questions regarding each of the resolutions. Following discussion, each resolution was moved, seconded and approved by the Board.

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

Trustee Repollet noted the committee met to reviews various items including recommendations for personnel actions, resolutions and agreements. He presented the following items for Board consideration:

- 8.1 Personnel Actions—Faculty Report
- 8.2 Returning Lecturers
- 8.3 Instructor Reappointments
- 8.4 Sabbatical Recommendations for AY 2018
- 8.5 President’s Nominations for Continuation of  
At-Will Administrative Appointment with Faculty Rank
- 8.6 Resolution Accepting the Periodic Review Report for the Middle  
States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and Authorizing  
Its Submission
- 8.7 Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising for  
Certain Professional and IT Services for FY2017

<b><u>Consulting Services/Programmatic</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Atlantic Cape Community College	\$180,000
Child & Family Resources	\$100,000
Community Child Care Solutions	\$50,000
June Cade/dba	
Destiny Early Childhood Consult	\$90,000
Montclair State University	\$280,000
Iowa College Acquisitions/dba	\$100,000
Kaplan University	
New Jersey City University	\$90,000
Passaic County Community College	\$50,000
William Paterson University	\$60,000

- 8.8 Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and  
Advertising for Certain Professional and IT Services for FY2018

<b><u>Professional Consulting Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Influx	\$182,500
EduPower, Inc.	\$98,000
Janis Jensen	\$48,000
<b><u>Information Technology</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
OCLC	\$175,000
<b><u>Copyrighted Testing Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Educational Testing Services	\$125,000 (amend FY17)
	\$125,000 (FY18)

- 8.9 Resolution Authorizing the University to Pursue a 2+2 Agreement For Undergraduate Programming with Central China Normal University
- 8.10 Resolution Accepting External Grant Awards from the New Jersey Department of Education
- 8.11 Resolution Authorizing the Kean University Office of Research and Sponsored Program to Submit Grant Applications to the New Jersey Department of Education

Chair Morell provided an opportunity for the trustees to ask questions regarding each of the resolutions. Regarding 8.6, Mr. Cockren asked for clarification on how the PRR discusses student learning outcomes and related measurements, noting this was an area that required improvement the last time MSCHE reviewed Kean's accreditation. Dr. Bousquet responded that the University has a strong system of measurements and assessments in place, and that improvements are ongoing and continuous, as they should be in a regularly assessed process. Following discussion, each resolution was moved, seconded and approved by the Board, with Mr. Cockren abstaining from voting on items 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3.

## 9. **ITEMS OF THE LEGAL AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEES**

Trustee Repollet reported the committee had met and reviewed various items, including the following resolutions up for Board consideration:

- 9.1 Personnel Report—Administrative
- 9.2 Professional Staff Reappointments
- 9.3 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Advertising and Bidding for Various Legal and Professional Services

**Legal Services**

McElroy, Deutsch LLP

**Not to Exceed**

\$75,000

**Professional Services**

Wiss, Janney, Eistner Asso.

**Not to Exceed**

\$165,000 (amend FY17)

\$50,000 (FY18)

Chair Morell provided an opportunity for the trustees to ask questions regarding the personnel recommendations and the resolutions. After several questions were addressed, the report was moved, seconded and approved by the Board.

10. **ITEMS OF THE FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee D’Agostino noted the committee had met and forwarded the following resolutions for Board consideration:

- 10.1 Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Contract Awarded to Dobco, Inc. for the Multi-Purpose Academic Building
- 10.2 Resolution Approving the Award of Contract for General Construction Services for the Liberty Hall Academic Center for History

Chair Morell provided an opportunity for the trustees to ask questions regarding the resolutions. Trustee Cockren noted the award of contract for Liberty Hall can be authorized but the project needs SHPO approval to move forward. Following discussion, each resolution was moved, seconded and approved by the Board.

11. **ITEMS OF THE JOINT FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEES**

Trustee Morell noted the committees met and forwarded the following resolutions for Board consideration:

- 11.1 Resolution Authorizing Kean University to Enter into a Cooperating Pricing Agreement with the County of Union, New Jersey
- 11.2 Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of a Cohort Tuition and And Fee Rate for Kean Online for Fiscal Year 2018
- 11.3 Resolution Replacing the EVPO with the VPFA for Purposes of Undertaking Actions Previously Delegated by Resolution
- 11.4 Resolution Authorizing the University Implement of Cohort and Special Program Tuition and Fee Rates at both the Graduate and Undergraduate Level
- 11.5 Resolution Authorizing Changes to the Kean University Grading System and Establishing a Fee for Students Who Receive a Mark

of “NA” (Never Attended) in a Semester

- 11.6 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Advertising and Public Bidding for Specified Professional Services for FY2017, FY2018

**Legal Notices, Recruitment**

NJ Advanced Media

**Not to Exceed**

\$175,000 (FY17)

\$175,000 (FY18)

**Information Technology**

Varto Fine Arts Tech Inc.

**Not to Exceed**

\$46,660

**Insurance**

Cigna General Life Insurance

Borden Perlman

**Not to Exceed**

\$2,000,000

\$420,000

- 11.7 Resolution Approving the Waiver of Student Fees for Participants in an Off-Site Accounting Program Developed in Partnership with Ocean County College, Thomas Edison State University and the Business Technology Institute

The Chair provided an opportunity for the trustees to ask questions regarding the resolutions and bid waivers. Following discussion, each resolution was moved, seconded and approved by the Board.

**12. RESOLUTION ADVISING THE PUBLIC OF A CLOSED MEETING**

Ms. Kelly read the resolution advising the public of a closed session of the Kean University Board of Trustees on Monday, May 8, 2017. Chair Morell requested a motion to approve the resolution. A motion was made, seconded and the resolution was approved by the Board. Chair Morell noted for the public that the Board expected to be in executive session for about two hours and would return to public session to close the meeting. No additional board action was anticipated, she said.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered executive session at approximately 5:25 p.m.

**14. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board returned to public session at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, Chair Morell adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.