

**KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES****MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING****MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019****4 p.m. LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM AND ACADEMIC CENTER, GALLERY**

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**PRESENT:** Ada Morell, Chair; Michael D'Agostino, Vice-Chair; Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Steve Fastook, Dave Gibbons, Linda Lewis, Matthew McDermott, Ed Oatman, Richard Trabert; Student Trustee Kayla Asare, Dr. Dawood Farahi, President; Board Secretary Audrey Kelly

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Mr. John Kean Jr.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dr. Jeffrey Toney, Dr. Suzanne Bousquet, Karen Smith, Felice Vazquez, Marsha McCarthy, Maximina Rivera, Michelle Freestone

The meeting began at @ 4 p.m.

**1. INSTALLATION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE KAYLA ASARE**

Chair Morell administered the oath of office to Ms. Asare and the Board welcomed her.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Ms. Kelly called the roll and reported a quorum present.

**3. 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.

**4. CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

Chair Morell welcomed everyone to the new facility and commended the President and his team on creating such a beautiful academic center for Kean students. The Chair also welcomed everyone to the start of the new academic year. She encouraged the Board and the campus community to work together throughout the year to the benefit of students. She reminded the campus community about upcoming plans for Homecoming and encouraged all to attend.

**5. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

President Farahi began by recognizing Dr. Richard Bakker in the audience, noting he would be honored later in the meeting if the Board approves his professor emeritus designation. The Board and the audience gave Dr. Bakker a long round of applause.

The President reported that the University hired a total of 55 new faculty for the fall, and plans to bring on six more for the spring semester, making it the largest

class of new faculty in one academic year in university history. Dr. Farahi reported enrollment is steady, and he noted the history department had happily moved into the fabulous new Liberty Hall Museum and Academic Center facility. He noted that he delivered a detailed Opening Day address to the University community in late August, and that it is available on the University website for those who were not able to attend.

President Farahi then called on Vice President Sue Bousquet, Ph.D., to introduce to the Board and the community Dr. Jenny Li of the computer science department. Dr. Li and a student presented on various research and work underway in her field and school related to AI (artificial intelligence). A copy of her presentation will be with the board office.

President Farahi then asked Adam Varava, director of campus planning, to provide an overview of student involvement in campus planning initiatives. Varava thanked Dr. Farahi for the opportunity to share the work of Kean students from the Michael Graves College who are playing in active role in helping to design, and assisting in the development of, various campus facilities. He first introduced Jeremy Gusset, who discussed his work in the Kean Skylands and then introduced the 2019-2020 Campus Planning Intern Team: Sean Boud, architecture student; Violeta Jaya, architecture student; Gabriella Lentini, architecture student; Hugo Burgos, architecture student, who shared a short video on the new plaza that replaced Willis Hall; and Angel De Los Santos, architecture student, who also shared a short video of a Kean USA student's (his) perspective of life at Wenzhou-Kean University. Each student gave a short overview of their studies and work with campus planning, and noted how the work is helping them prepare for their careers.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Board received public comments from the following speaker: Patrick McManimon, Constance Hassett-Walker, Sharon Boyd-Jackson, Kathleen Conaty, James Castiglione, Christopher Smith, Thomas Abraham, Daniel Gover. Comments, where provided in writing, are kept on file in the Board office.

**7. ITEMS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Steve Fastook, Committee Chair, noted the committee met and reviewed nominees. The resolution recommends the following Board officers for the academic year: Ada Morell, chair; Michael D'Agostino, vice chair; Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Secretary; Dave Gibbons, alternate; and, Gene Enlow continues as past chair. The chair asked if the Board had any questions or comments. The following resolution was moved:

- 7.1 Resolution of the Board of Trustees Appointing Officers and Executive Committee Members for the 2019-2020 Academic Year.

Ms. Morell asked for any questions. There being none, the resolution was seconded and approved unanimously by the Board.

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

Trustee Richard Trabert, Committee Chair, noted the committee met to discuss a number of items now on the Board's agenda. Mr. Trabert noted the bid waivers met the requirements with legal counsel, and he moved the following resolutions for Board consideration:

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

<b><u>Professional Services, Entertainment</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Washington Speakers Bureau	\$40,000
Arthur Garfunkel	\$65,000
<b><u>Advertising, Recruitment Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
EducationDynamics	\$310,000* ( <i>amended</i> )
Visual Graphics System Inc.	\$100,000
Graphic Presentation Systems	\$175,000
NJEA c/o dIPLAN	\$55,000

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

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

Trustee Gibbons, Committee Chair, noted the committee met to review various items including the personnel actions now before the board for consideration. He then moved the item for Board consideration:

9.1 Personnel Actions—Administrative Report

9.2 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Advertising and Public Bidding for Professional Services in FY20

<b><u>Professional Legal Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Ruderman & Roth LLC	\$150,000
Boyer Suozzo	\$80,000
Webber Dowd Law LLC	\$75,000

Chair Morell asked for questions on the personnel actions and the resolution. The items were seconded and approved by the full Board.

**10. 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 for Board consideration:

10.1 Personnel Actions—Faculty Report

10.2 Resolution Honoring Dr. Richard Bakker and Bestowing the Honor of Professor Emeritus

10.3 Resolution Designating the University Library and Related Areas the Nancy Thompson Learning Commons

10.4 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising

<b><u>Technology</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Campus Labs Inc.	\$521,000 ( <i>amended</i> )
<b><u>Student Contracts, DECA</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Caesars Resort Properties	\$615,000
FBLA-PBL, Inc.	\$100,000
DECA, Inc.	\$100,000
M&M Productions USA	\$100,000
Paul's Custom Awards and Trophies	\$80,000
Edu & Nonprofit Insurance Co.	\$40,000

10.5 Resolution Accepting an External Grant from the New Jersey Department of Education

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 full Board.

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

Trustee Michael D'Agostino, Committee Chair, noted the committee met earlier in the day to discuss several items. He then moved the following resolutions for Board consideration:

11.1 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising

<b><u>Technical Equipment</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
ThermoScientific	\$60,000
<b><u>Emergency Services</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Aggreko LLC	\$95,000

- 11.2 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract for General Construction Services for the Michael Graves Institute of Architecture and Design at Kean University in Princeton (Patton Avenue Renovation Project)
- 11.3 Resolution Authorizing the President and/or His Designee to Award Contracts to Qualified Firms for Excavation Services: Bid No. K18-11-20-1
- 11.4 Resolution Authorizing the President and/or His Designee to Award Contracts to Qualified Firms for Professional Trades Services: Bid No. K19-1-1-2

Chair Morell asked if the Board had any questions or comments on each of the resolutions. Each resolution was seconded and approved by the full Board.

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

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

- 12.1 Resolution Adopting a Centralized Cash Management and Investment Policy for Investment Purposes
- 12.2 Resolution Authorizing the President to Increase the Minimum Wage for all Student Workers to a Minimum of \$11 per hour effective October 1, 2019
- 12.3 Resolutions Authorizing the Waiver of Public Advertising and Bidding for Various Items

**Information Technology**  
Workday  
Ferrelli Information Group  
Richard M. Loalbo, LLC

**Not to Exceed**  
\$2,820,000 (fy20-24)  
\$150,000  
\$135,000

**Food Services**  
Ace Cafeteria

**Not to Exceed**  
\$250,000

**Insurance Services**  
Borden Perlman  
Marsh USA Inc.

**Not to Exceed**  
\$200,000  
\$125,000

- 12.4 Resolution Amending the Resolution Creating the "Centennial Opportunity Fund" for High Achieving Students of Limited Financial Means

- 12.5 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of the "Climb Higher Scholarship" Fund to Increase Access to Higher Education for High-Achieving Students
- 12.6 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of the "Learn, Earn and Persist LEAP Scholarship" Program to Assist High-Achieving to Continue at Kean

Chair Morell asked if the Board had questions related to these resolutions. Each item was seconded and approved by the full Board.

**12. 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.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 5:07 p.m.

**14. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board returned to Public Session at approximately 7:50 p.m.

**15. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH PRESIDENT DAWOOD FARAH**

Chair Morell noted the Presidential Review Committee had met, performed the President's annual review and briefed the full Board on its recommendations. She moved the resolution, which continues the terms of the President's current contract and provides for a 5% raise, for consideration by the full Board. The resolution was seconded and approved by the full Board.

**16. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC BIDDING FOR PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT SERVICES IN FY20**

<u>Professional Services</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates	\$150,000

Chair Morell reported members of the board's Executive Committee had reviewed various proposals and presentations from executive recruitment firms who specialize in higher education leadership. The committee recommends the approval of a resolution that will bring Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates on board to aid the University in its search for a new president.

The resolution was seconded and approved by the full Board.

The chair also reported that she had selected the membership of the presidential search committee following consultation with various university leaders,

stakeholders and constituents. The committee members bring a diverse range of backgrounds and perspectives to the search process, she said, and she thanked them for their support. The committee membership will be published on the University website.

**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 – SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

Chair Morell requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the September 16, 2019 public meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the board approved the minutes.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.