MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Trustees Connolly, Hagan, Landrau, Martin, Queenin, and Scheibel.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustees Hill, Johnson, Marcus, Perez, and Slakey.

Meeting called to order at 3:12 PM.

Dr. Damian Fernandez provided his professional background and experience. Speaking to strategic plans, community partnerships, budgetary processes, fundraising, access, affordability, diversity, engagement, transparency, and student success. He admits public higher education is frozen in time. The model is from the industrial revolution. Institutions need to rethink how departments are structured and collaborate on how degrees are conceptualized. Build a better nation through education. He envisions Westfield considering a 3 + 2 model.

Dr. Fernandez believes every institution needs a story and it’s the responsibility of the president to tell that story. Believing every institution at different moments needs different leaders. He describes the most significant issue facing the new president of Westfield State is likely to be team building. He is a firm believer in peer review and bringing in experts to move the institution forward. This will take time but sees it as a wonderful opportunity.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM