



Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

Minutes

October 24, 2016

President's Boardroom, The Horace Mann Center

Executive Committee members in attendance: Chair Marcus, Vice Chair Queenin, and Secretary Hill.

Participating remotely due to geographic distance: Committee Member Landrau.

Guest trustees present: Trustees Magovern and Sullivan. Trustee Trafford entered the meeting at 12:27 PM.

Guest trustees participating remotely: Trustees Slakey, Johnson, and Martin.

Dr. Ramon S. Torrecilha, President was also present.

Board and Committee Chair Marcus called the meeting to order at 12:22 PM. Chair Marcus announced that Committee member Landrau would be participating remotely due to geographic distance. Also, guest trustees Slakey, Johnson, and Martin would be participating remotely as well due to geographic distance.

The Chair announced that due to Committee member Landrau's remote participation, all voting would be by roll call vote.

Chair Marcus brought forth the minutes of the July 8, 2016 minutes.

MOTION to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee. Vice Chair Queenin made the motion to approve the minutes with Secretary Hill seconding this motion.

Chair Marcus asked if there was any discussion or questions. Hearing none, the vote was called:

Roll call vote

- Secretary Hill—Yes
- Member Landrau—Yes
- Vice Chair Queenin—Yes
- Chair Marcus—Yes

The July 8, 2016 minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Chair Marcus brought forth the President's Evaluation. The final version of the evaluation, being part of the agenda packet, was reviewed by the committee prior to the meeting. Chair Marcus asked for a motion to approve the President's Evaluation as presented to the Executive Committee. Vice Chair Queenin made the motion as follows:

MOTION to approve the presidential evaluation for the period January 1, 2016—September 30, 2016 as presented to the Executive Committee on the above date and the submission of said evaluation to the Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education.

Secretary Hill seconded this motion.

Chair Marcus asked if there was any discussion or questions. At this time, Chair Marcus thanked Trustee Slakey for heading this part of the evaluation process and thanked those trustees who contributed comments (through the Assistant to the Board of Trustees) regarding the president's evaluation.

Trustee Queenin commented that he wanted to echo the words of the Chair and that Trustee Slakey did an outstanding job. He thought the process a great opportunity not only from the perspective of the Executive Committee but the full board as well. Trustee Queenin expressed that he felt the evaluation clearly represents the efforts that the current administration and President Torrecilha in the leading of the university. Trustee Queenin supports the recommendation made by the Chair.

Secretary Hill told the committee that President Torrecilha has achieved a very solid reputation in a short period of time. He continued that the president hasn't been at the university even a year and has already "ingratiated" himself to the campus."

Member Landrau commented that while visiting Puerto Rico, she heard positive things about Westfield State's president. She said that the President's "stamp" has been very positive.

Guest trustee Trafford entered the meeting at 12:27 PM.

Chair Marcus asked President Torrecilha if he had any comments.

President Torrecilha thanked the Executive Committee and the Board for the evaluation. He pointed out that the evaluation was not required by the Department of Higher Education this year. However, it is good to have some formal time to have feedback. He added that this system is a unique system in that it has a "two prong" approach, and commented, that he works with both local boards and the Department of Higher Education and perhaps there should be a conversation between the Board and the Department of Higher Education suggesting that going forward, this process be through the local board rather than the Department of Higher Education.

President Torrecilha continued that during his initial months, his efforts focused on institutional priorities and promoting institutional change with caution and some resistance. He acknowledged that this is understandable recognizing where the institution has been and that there will be a degree of discomfort and some tension as processes are aligned.

Chair Marcus said that he spoke with Commissioner Santiago at the President's investiture and that the Commissioner commented that the Board has hired an excellent leader and president, and that the Board knows that the President will lead Westfield State University in the right direction.

With no further discussion and or questions, Chair Marcus called for the roll call vote:

Roll call vote:

- Secretary Hill—Yes
- Member Landrau—Yes
- Vice Chair Queenin—Yes
- Chair Marcus—Yes

Chair Marcus requested that a motion be made to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Queenin made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Secretary Hill seconded that motion.

Roll call vote to adjourn the meeting:

- Secretary Hill—Yes
- Member Landrau—Yes
- Vice Chair Queenin—Yes
- Chair Marcus—Yes

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM.

Attachments presented at this meeting:

1. President's Evaluation
2. Motion to approve President's Evaluation