



SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

*BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION*

MAY 8, 2020

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF CONTROL
Minutes of the Regular Formal Session
May 8, 2020

A regular formal session of the Board of Control was held on Friday, May 8, 2020 at 1:30 p.m via video conferencing.

Trustees present included:

John D. Cherry, Jr.
JoAnn Crary
Dennis Durco, Treasurer
Lindsay Eggers
Bhushan Kulkarni, Secretary
John Kunitzer, Chair
Vicki Rupp, Vice Chair
Raj Wiener
Donald Bachand, Ex Officio

Trustees absent included:

President's Staff present included:

J.J. Boehm, Interim Executive Director of Communications & External Affairs
Ellen Crane, General Counsel
Dr. Deborah Huntley, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Kaczynski, Director of Governmental Affairs
Mary Kowaleski, Executive Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Board of Control
James Muladore, Executive Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs

Others present included:

Deborah Bishop, Faculty Association President
Hunter Koch, Student Association President
David Lewis, Director of the School University Partnership Office
Joe Wojtkiewicz, Manager IT Support Center

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES
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I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kunitzer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

In compliance with the State of Michigan mandate to control the impact of the coronavirus, Chair Kunitzer, noted that the regular formal session of the SVSU Board of Control is being conducted via video conferencing. He stated that due to the unique situation and unprecedented times we find ourselves in today, we will consider today's virtual meeting to be a Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control pursuant to Article II, Section 2.100 of our SVSU board bylaws. Chair Kunitzer stated if there are no objections, let's proceed.

Chair Kunitzer asked the Board Secretary to take a Roll Call to ensure a quorum. Secretary Kowaleski took roll call of the Trustees and noted that a quorum was met with all Trustees being present.

II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

A. Approval of Agenda and Additions to and Deletions from Agenda

There were no additions to or deletions to the agenda.

The agenda was unanimously APPROVED as distributed.

B. Approval of the February 17, 2020 Minutes for the Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control

It was moved and supported that the minutes of the February 17, 2020 Regular Formal Session be approved.

The minutes were unanimously APPROVED as written.

C. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Faculty Association

Dr. Deborah Bishop, President of the Faculty Association, commented that "The impact of the current health crisis on our lives and our livelihoods has been unprecedented ... On Wednesday, March 11, President Bachand announced that the University was suspending face-to-face instruction and moving to online-only courses starting the following week, initially through April 17, and then extended through the remainder of the Winter semester. And of course, that has now been extended through the end of the summer semester. Full-time and adjunct faculty turned on a dime, and quickly transitioned 925 non-online classes to fully online classes. Faculty were challenged to provide a learning experience that allowed students to meet all of the learning objectives of their courses, but now using only the tools of information technology." Professor Bishop commented that faculty rose to the challenge, and "reconfigured 925 courses to allow students to continue their education and complete their coursework for the semester."

Professor Bishop commented that "The Faculty Association wishes to thank the University

administration and staff for all their assistance to faculty in making this transition and doing everything they could to help us continue to provide a quality education for our students.” She stated that “all of us are facing uncertainties about what the future will look like. Faculty are planning to teach in the Fall with very little knowledge of what lies ahead ... but today, we pause to honor the graduates.” On behalf of the faculty, Professor Bishop extended congratulations to all the graduates.

D. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Student Association

Hunter Koch, President of the Student Association, commented that it was his last board meeting in his official capacity as Student Association President. He thanked the SVSU Board of Control and administration for all their commitment to our University and its students.

Mr. Koch noted that Thomas Metiva is the newly elected President of the Student Association. Mr. Koch stated that Mr. Metiva was an important part of his leadership team throughout the past year and he is confident Mr. Metiva will do a good job.

Chair Kunitzer thanked Mr. Koch for his leadership this past year and for doing a great job representing the student body.

E. Communications and Requests to Appear Before the Board

There were no requests.

III. ACTION ITEMS

1. Resolution to Grant Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees

RES-2354 **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University is granted the authority to confer undergraduate and graduate degrees as outlined in Section 5 of Public and Local Acts of Michigan 1965; and

WHEREAS, Operating Policy 3.101 Article III of the Board reserves to the Board the authority to grant degrees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University approves the awarding of Winter 2020 undergraduate and graduate degrees as certified by the faculty and Registrar.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

2. Resolution to Elect Officers to the SVSU Board of Control

RES-2355 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control Bylaws (Article II – 2.101) stipulate that a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Board to recommend candidates for each office.

WHEREAS, That effective July 1, 2020 the nominating committee recommends the following 2020-2021 slate of officers.

**Chair: John Kunitzer
Vice Chair: Vicki Rupp
Secretary: Bhushan Kulkarni
Treasurer: Dennis Durco**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the nominating committee elects the officers to the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control for a one-year term ending June 30, 2021.

Chair Kunitzer thanked the board nominating committee consisting of Trustee Cherry, Trustee Crary and Trustee Kulkarni for their work recommending the proposed slate of officers for the upcoming year.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

3. Resolution to Thank Hunter Koch and Elected Representatives for their Service as Student Association Members

RES-2356 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, Student Association President Hunter Koch has been actively involved in affairs of Saginaw Valley State University throughout his student years, demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Hunter Koch and the elected representatives listed below served students and the University with dedication during the 2019-2020 academic year;

Representatives:

**Basner, Trenton
Czyz, Sydney
Gervais, Max
Hoch, Karah
Johnson, Lauren
Klimowicz, Madison
Metiva, Thomas
Saleem, Ammara**

**Bermudez, Roxana
Garcia, Sophia
Harris, Brian
Jensen, Morgan
Johnson, Rachael
Lowry, Madeline
Nelson, Olivia
Silvestri, Ryan**

**Smith, Abby
Teeple, Austin**

**Szagesh, Sierra
Thompson, Maddy**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University formally expresses its appreciation to Hunter Koch and the representatives for their dedicated service on behalf of the University and its student body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board conveys its best wishes to Hunter Koch and the representatives for continued academic and future professional success.

President Bachand remarked that it has been a pleasure working closely with Mr. Koch over the past year. He stated that Mr. Koch and the entire Student Association were outstanding representatives of the University throughout the past year.

Chair Kunitzer offered his appreciation and thanks to Mr. Koch and the Student Association representatives for all their fine work and efforts during the past year.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

4. Resolution to Reappoint Auditors for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

RES-2357 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, It is a good management practice to have conducted an annual independent financial audit; and,

WHEREAS, Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC (AHP) submitted a proposal to the University to provide financial audit services for a five-year period beginning with fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2020; and,

WHEREAS, The Business, Finance and Audit & Facilities Committee has reviewed and finds satisfactory the past performance of AHP and as a result recommends this firm's reappointment for fiscal year 2019-2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That AHP be reappointed to conduct the fiscal year 2019-2020 financial audit.

Mr. James Muladore, Executive Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs, commented that University staff as well as the auditors are prepared for the audit despite the challenges over the recent weeks. He stated that the audit is expected to adhere to the normal schedule and be available for Board of Control review in September.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

5. Resolution to Approve the Reauthorization of Public School Academies

RES-2358 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the University has issued contracts confirming the status of each of the following as public school academies in the State of Michigan:

**Chandler Park Academy,
Charlevoix Montessori Academy for the Arts,
Kingsbury Country Day School,
Merritt Academy, and
Saginaw Preparatory Academy;**

WHEREAS, the University and each of the Renewal Academies wish to extend the terms of each of the respective Contracts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that subject to the requirements of this Resolution, the term of the Contract between the University and Kingsbury Country Day School and Merritt Academy, whereby the University authorized the academy to operate as a public school academy shall be extended through June 30, 2025 (5 years); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to the requirements of this Resolution, the term of the Contract between the University and Chandler Park Academy, whereby the University authorized the academy to operate as a public school academy shall be extended through June 30, 2024 (4 years); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to the requirements of this Resolution, the term of the Contract between the University and Charlevoix Montessori Academy for the Arts and Saginaw Preparatory Academy, whereby the University authorized the academy to operate as a public school academy shall be extended through June 30, 2022 (2 years); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and/or the Director of School/University Partnerships, acting together or separately, are authorized and directed to execute such documents as may be necessary or desirable to accomplish these purposes.

Dr. David Lewis, Director of School University Partnership, noted that five Public School Academies are being recommended for reauthorization. He explained that re-authorization terms are based on a formula reviewing both academic and operational performance. He added that terms vary from five years to non-renewal, depending on an extensive analysis of data including assessment performance, compliance to oversight requirements, financial strength, and school board operations.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

6. Resolution to Modify the Term of Previously Authorized Public School Academy – Sigma Academy for Leadership and Early Middle College

RES-2359 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature has provided for the establishment of public school academies as public schools under section 2 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 by enacting Part 6A of the Michigan Revised School Code, as amended (“Part 6A”); and

WHEREAS, according to Part 6A, the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control (the “University Board”) is an authorizing body empowered to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies; and

WHEREAS, the University Board approved the establishment of Sigma Academy for Leadership and Early Middle College on June 17, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Academy for Leadership and Early Middle College requested a modification in their original authorization term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control declares, subject to the conditions set forth below:

- 1. That the application for a public school academy, to be known as Sigma Academy for Leadership and Early Middle College, is hereby modified to operate for a term of three academic years beginning in the fall of 2020, through June 30, 2023, subject to the execution of a Contract to Operate a Public School Academy, complete with all schedules, prior to commencement of teaching;**
- 2. That the Academy shall operate a K-13 program, beginning with grades K-10 in fall 2020, adding a grade per year thereafter, with a maximum enrollment to be determined.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

7. Resolution to Modify the Term of Previously Authorized Public School Academy – iLEAD Michigan

RES-2360 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature has provided for the establishment of public school academies as public schools under section 2 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 by enacting Part 6A of the Michigan Revised School Code, as amended (“Part 6A”); and

WHEREAS, according to Part 6A, the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control (the “University Board”) is an authorizing body empowered to issue contracts to organize and operate public school academies; and

WHEREAS, the University Board approved the establishment of iLEAD Michigan on December 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, iLEAD Michigan requested a modification in their original approved authorization term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control declares, subject to the conditions set forth below:

That the application for a public school academy, to be known as iLEAD Michigan, is hereby modified to operate for a term of three academic years beginning in the fall of 2021, through June 30, 2024, subject to the execution of a Contract to Operate a Public School Academy, complete with all schedules, prior to commencement of teaching.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

8. Resolution to Approve Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

RES-2361 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the University Curriculum/Academic Policies Committee has endorsed the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science on February 28, 2020 and the program was ratified by the faculty on March 26, 2020 and was supported unanimously by the Michigan public universities; and

WHEREAS, according to US Department of Labor’s Occupational Outlook Handbook, the number of environmental scientists and specialists is expected to grow by 8% over the period from 2018 to 2028; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science program will advance the undergraduate pursuits of SVSU students interested in careers in government agencies (i.e. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, US Geological Survey), local health departments, industry (i.e. environmental compliance, industrial hygiene) and other private companies (i.e. environmental engineering firms, environmental planning firms, private environmental laboratories); and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science program with flexible course delivery to facilitate the interest among undergraduate students and to support the need for environmental science professionals in the region, and across the state of Michigan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science program be approved for implementation in the Fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the faculty in the College of Science, Engineering & Technology and the College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences be commended for their effort in developing an undergraduate degree in environmental science.

Dr. Deborah Huntley, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, commented that the new program being recommended is a multidisciplinary program in Environmental Science. She stated that this is an experiential program with a lot of hands-on laboratory work and field work. Provost Huntley explained that it incorporates an extensive internship or research project with a great deal of focus on environmental issues in this region. She further added that the program was unanimously supported by the curriculum committee and ratified by the faculty. Provost Huntley concluded that, if the resolution is approved, the program would begin in the fall semester.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no information and discussion items.

V. REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

President Bachand commented that these are clearly unprecedented times and he is proud of the way in which SVSU students, faculty and staff have responded to the rapidly developing situation over the past several weeks.

President Bachand highlighted a few ways SVSU has worked to support our Cardinal family as well as the local community including the following:

- Tami Sivy, Professor of Chemistry, and her research students are adapting their current freshwater contamination testing methods to test for traces of the COVID-19 virus in the region's wastewater.
- Kathleen Schachman, Harvey Randal Wickes Endowed Chair in Nursing, has led the way for Project ECHO, which has connected health experts from across the world with regional health care workers
- Our Independent Testing Laboratory has joined forces with some of our regional partners to produce hand sanitizer for health care workers.
- Our students recently hosted a Relay for Life fundraiser over the Internet, raising over \$27,000 for the American Cancer Society.
- Faculty and students moved a planned stage production of "Macbeth" into a virtual setting.

President Bachand also confirmed that preparation is underway to welcome faculty, staff and students back to campus in phases, once this can be done safely. He mentioned that several teams have been established to develop plans for reopening campus activity, both in the short-term and for the fall semester. He noted that the university is acquiring needed equipment and supplies while putting procedures in place to allow for some operations to resume in a safe and orderly manner.

President Bachand also commented that he is pleased to celebrate the achievements of our students at a virtual commencement ceremony today at 5:00 p.m. along with Provost Huntley and our five deans. He stated that although it is not possible to congratulate our students personally, we are extremely proud of them and all their accomplishments.

President Bachand concluded that our sense of purpose to serving our students and our state remains strong despite the challenges of recent months. He noted that SVSU is committed to fulfilling our university mission by safely providing quality instruction for our students.

VI. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Chair Kunitzer conveyed his appreciation to the campus community for their efforts responding to the public health crisis over the past several weeks. He offered special thanks to President Bachand and his leadership team for their extraordinary efforts during this challenging time. Additionally, he offered thanks to the faculty, staff and students at SVSU for their dedication and hard work. He commented that “in the face of great adversity, the entire Cardinal community has stepped up to this immense challenge.”

Chair Kunitzer concluded by noting “The past several weeks have not been easy, but we have shown incredible resolve. These are indeed challenging times; however, I have full faith and confidence that we will get through this together.”

Chair Kunitzer announced that the next Regular Formal Session of the SVSU Board of Control is scheduled for Monday, June 22, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

9. Motion to Adjourn

BM-1228 It was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

John Kunitzer, Chair

Bhushan Kulkarni, Secretary

Mary Kowaleski
Recording Secretary