



***SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY***

***BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES  
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION***

***FEBRUARY 13, 2023***

**SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF CONTROL**  
**Minutes of the Regular Formal Session**  
**Monday, February 13, 2023**  
**1:30 p.m.**

A regular formal session of the Board of Control was held on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Wickes Hall, Room 350.

Trustees present:

John D. Cherry, Jr.  
JoAnn Crary  
Lindsay Eggers, Treasurer  
Vicki Rupp, Chair  
Raj Wiener, Vice Chair  
Carl Williams  
George Grant Jr., Ex Officio

Trustees absent:

Vanessa Guerra  
Bhushan Kulkarni

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023  
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION  
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## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

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

There were no additions and/or deletions to the agenda.

The agenda was unanimously APPROVED as distributed.

### **B. Approval of the Board Minutes from the Regular Formal Session on December 16, 2022**

**It was moved and supported that the minutes of the December 16, 2022, Regular Formal Session be approved.**

The minutes were unanimously APPROVED as distributed.

### **C. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Faculty Association**

Dr. Brandon Haskett, President of the Faculty Association, welcomed President Grant to his first formal board meeting.

Professor Haskett noted that the Faculty Association Executive Board met recently. He indicated that one of the most significant challenges faculty currently face is the increased need for special student accommodations. Professor Haskett stated, "I don't know that anyone has the perfect solution, but it is one of the things we are trying to work on to best meet the needs of our students." He commented that these needs have grown exponentially throughout the COVID pandemic period.

Professor Haskett noted that on March 2, the Library is hosting a reception in the Roberta Allen Reading Room to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SVSU Faculty Union. He stated that a display from the University Archives related to the Faculty Union will be displayed along with various faculty publications.

### **D. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Student Association**

Mr. Austin Urlaub, President of the Student Association, thanked President Grant for attending the recent Student Association Luncheon on February 10. He stated that the Student Association representatives who attended the luncheon enjoyed the opportunity to introduce themselves and what they have been working on throughout the academic year.

Mr. Urlaub noted that the annual Cardinal Ball is scheduled for Friday, February 24. He commented that there is much excitement among the students for this year's event.

Lastly, Mr. Urlaub stated that the Student Association is sending a delegation to the United Student Government of Michigan Conference on February 24. He commented that this will be an excellent opportunity to allow our student leaders to grow with other student leaders throughout the State of Michigan and bring back meaningful ways to create greater success and positive change on campus.

E. Communications and Requests to Appear Before the Board

There were no requests to appear before the Board.

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Resolution to Approve Faculty Tenure Effective July 1, 2023

**RES-2474 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Faculty tenure provides continuous employment of a faculty member for at least a basic two-semester appointment during each fiscal year, and**

**WHEREAS, Tenure status is achieved when a faculty member is recommended by the Professional Practices Committee and by the Administration for continuous appointment henceforth,**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the following faculty members be granted tenure, as provided by the terms of the SVSU – Faculty Association agreement, effective July 1, 2023.**

<b>Coker, Teresa</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Cox, Judith</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Fabbro, Mindy</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Jadallah, Jadallah</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Lincoln, Merrick</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Mukherjee, Avishek</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Scott, Jennifer</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
<b>Wedge, Tommy</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>

Provost Huntley stated that the eight faculty are being recommended for tenure by the Professional Practices Committee (PPC). She commented that this process required multiple evaluations by peers and an assessment by their Deans in accordance with contractual procedures.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

2. Resolution to Approve Capital Projects

**RES-2475 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, The members of the Board of Control have discussed various capital projects and the Capital Projects Funding Plan; and,**

**WHEREAS, Sufficient financial resources are available from capital project and auxiliary system reserves to fund projects;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the President and/or the Associate Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs to enter into contracts to complete the below-referenced projects:**

**1. Campus Walkways, Roads & Parking Lots – Annual Maintenance Projects**

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>a. Miscellaneous Asphalt</b>  | <b>\$415,000</b> |
| <b>b. Miscellaneous Concrete</b> | <b>\$275,000</b> |

**2. Brown Hall Non-State Budget        \$500,000**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

**3. Resolution to Approve the Naming of the SVSU Athletic Training Rooms**

**RES-2476     It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control reserves the authority to approve the naming of facilities as outlined in the Board Bylaws, 3.101; and**

**WHEREAS, Covenant Medical Center has a longstanding partnership providing sports medicine services and physician support to the Saginaw Valley State University Athletics Department; and**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University and Covenant Medical Center recently negotiated a ten-year Sponsorship Agreement that sets forth Covenant Medical Center's contributions and sports medicine services, including a new commitment to contribute \$142,000 per year with annual inflationary increases to fund two SVSU athletic training positions; and**

**WHEREAS, in exchange, Saginaw Valley State University will provide exclusive sports medicine provider advertising rights at its athletics facilities, including signage and ad space in various identified competition venues and print materials, as well as athletic training room naming opportunities; and**

**WHEREAS, the Sponsorship Agreement with Covenant Medical Center falls within the administrative contracting authority delegated by the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control, with the exception of the ability to convey athletic training room naming rights.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SVSU athletic training room at the Ryder Center will be named the Covenant HealthCare Cardinal Care Center, and the SVSU satellite athletic training room at the Ryder Center will be named the Covenant HealthCare Satellite Care Center in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Sponsorship Agreement with Covenant Medical Center.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

4. Resolution to Adopt an Honorary Degree Policy

**RES-2477 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control reserves the authority to approve the awarding of honorary degrees to deserving recipients present at commencements and/or other special University occasions as outlined in the Board Bylaws, 2.104; and**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University recognizes excellence in service or vocation by awarding honorary degrees to deserving recipients; and**

**WHEREAS, An honorary degree is one of Saginaw Valley State University's (SVSU) most significant accolades. SVSU may award honorary degrees to distinguished individuals who merit recognition for distinction in a field or public service activities that encompass the mission of the University, and**

**WHEREAS, the SVSU Board of Control has determined the need to establish specific guidelines for granting honorary degrees; and**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Control recommends the adoption of an effective method to ensure uniformity and consistency in granting honorary degrees; and**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Control hereby approves and adopts the attached Honorary Degree Policy.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all requests shall be reviewed and approved in accordance with this policy.**

(Appendix One: Honorary Degree Policy)

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

5. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to James P. Dwyer

**RES-2478 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, James P. Dwyer has devoted more than forty-one years of service to the university, having arrived at SVSU as an Admissions Counselor in 1980. During his tenure at SVSU, he grew professionally by accepting increasingly responsible positions, including Assistant Director of Admissions (1985), Director of Admissions (1986), Assistant Vice President for Student Services & Enrollment Management/Director of Admissions (2003), Assistant Vice President for Student Services & Enrollment Management/Interim Director of International Programs (2008), Vice President for Enrollment Management (2010), Executive Director of Alumni Relations (2015), Executive Director of Career Services (2021), and Special Assistant to the President (2022); and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Dwyer competed on the SVSU basketball team while earning his bachelor's degree in history at SVSU, and his early interest in a career in secondary education and coaching led him to complete the Master of Arts in Teaching degree from SVSU in 1985; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Dwyer planned and executed comprehensive marketing and recruitment strategies focused on meeting and exceeding enrollment projections, as well as increasing students' persistence-to-graduation rate at the university; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Dwyer streamlined operations of the Office of International Programs, for which he implemented key leadership strategies that impacted marketing, recruitment, and retention efforts responsible for the highest international enrollments in the school's history; and**

**WHEREAS, his work in the Student Services & Enrollment Management Division included the successful implementation of several outreach and strategic initiatives that generated record numbers of first-time-in-college (FTIC) and transfer enrollments and doubled the university's minority enrollments over five years. Mr. Dwyer also established strong relationships with faculty to develop niche programs such as Business & Entrepreneurship Skills Training program (B.E.S.T.), Honors Program, University Foundation Scholars, and Pre-Professional programs — all of which helped attract freshman classes, of which 40% boasted a 3.50 or higher GPA; and**

**WHEREAS, his experience and expertise in enrollment management translated to enormously successful programs and outcomes in the Office of Alumni Relations, including "Red Pride" initiatives (i.e., SVSU Connect) that increased alumni engagement with the university as mentors and/or resources for professional internship opportunities, promoted SVSU license plates through Michigan Secretary of State offices to raise funds for the Legacy Scholarship Program, and secured significant external funding for the annual "Senior Toast" event to celebrate the successes of graduates during a champagne toast with the President, deans, faculty and staff; and**



**WHEREAS, Mr. Dwyer was active in multiple regional, state, and national professional organizations, including 30 years as a member of the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars & Admissions Officers (MACRAO) for which he also held the office of President (1999) and Past President (2009), and 15 years as a member of ACT (American College Testing) for which he served as the State of Michigan Representative for the national ACT organization and on the Board of Trustees for the ACT; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Dwyer generously offered his expertise and passion for student success in his community, serving on the School Board for Nouvel Catholic Central High School in Saginaw, Michigan, which elected him to its Catholic School Hall of Fame in 2008, partly in recognition of his two-year tenure as president of the NCC School Board; and**

**WHEREAS, throughout his professional career, Mr. Dwyer demonstrated leadership skills that reflected his unsurpassed passion, enthusiasm, collaboration, teamwork, communication, loyalty, and work ethic as essential components in creating innovative programs and efficient work environments.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University gratefully acknowledges James P. Dwyer's exemplary service and commitment to the University and bestows upon him the title of "Vice President of Enrollment Management Emeritus" with all the rights and privileges appertaining to this distinction.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

6. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to James Muladore

**RES-2479 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, James G. Muladore, a two-time alumnus of the University (B.B.A. '72; M.B.A. '82) and 2006 recipient of the Scott L. Carmona College of Business Outstanding Alumni Award, has devoted 50 years of service to SVSU. He began his career as a student employee and then started full-time in January 1973 in the Financial Aid office. During his tenure, he held numerous positions, each with increasing responsibility serving as Staff Accountant (1974-1980), Budget Director/Systems Coordinator (1980-1982), Controller (1982-1990), Assistant Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs & Controller (1990-2001), Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs (2001-2010) and Executive Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs from 2010 until his retirement in 2022. He also taught as an adjunct faculty member; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore's high standards for ethical behavior and financial stewardship and his strong business acumen, work ethic, and exemplary leadership skills contributed immeasurably to consistent quality audits, positive credit ratings, improved core financial metrics such as liquidity, reserves, and reduction of debt, and strengthened resource availability guided by the development of a planning model recognized by Standard & Poor's for its effectiveness for capital and deferred maintenance projects and strategic initiatives; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore served as Vice President/Executive Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs during a period that included major construction projects significantly changing the campus landscape. He was heavily involved in the financing, design, and construction of many facilities, doubling the size of the campus, including the Regional Education Center (2003 - later named Gilbertson Hall), the Health & Human Services Building (2010 - later named Bachand Hall), the Fieldhouse (2014), and the Scott L. Carmona College of Business (2020). Other facilities such as the Zahnnow Library, Pioneer Hall, Arbury Fine Arts, Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, Wickes Hall, and the Ryder Center, to name a few, also experienced major expansions and renovations during his tenure. He also initiated numerous energy conservation and operational cost-saving initiatives; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore was dedicated to providing quality services to students. He was instrumental in assisting with the transition of the University from a commuter institution to a more residential institution by more than tripling the bed capacity through major student housing expansion and increased dining services options on campus. He championed implementation and construction of the Campus Financial Service Center improving the delivery of financial aid to students, secured financial institution partners for on-campus banking, and launched the one card system that provides on-campus access to university facilities and services. During his oversight of Intercollegiate Athletics, four sports programs were added, scholarships were increased, and several major facilities projects were completed to enhance the student-athlete experience. Some projects included expansions and improvements to the Ryder Center, soccer field turf, football field turf and outdoor lights, and construction of the SVSU Fieldhouse, which is one of just two like it at the NCAA Division II level; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore was committed to and supported health and safety initiatives for SVSU faculty, staff, and students. He developed the University wellness program, expanded the Fitness Center and enhanced the equipment offerings, initiated a contract with Covenant HealthCare to operate a MedExpress on campus property to provide more convenient access to health services, and restructured the Mental Health & Wellness Center to provide expanded access and services; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore was a past president of the SVSU Alumni Association Board, Treasurer of Friends of SVSU, Treasurer of the SVSU Foundation and chairperson of the SVSU Foundation's Finance & Investment Committee. During his**

**tenure, the SVSU Foundation grew to the current net assets of \$97 million, due in part to the fact that the Foundation endowment portfolio returns consistently matched or outperformed peers on a 1-, 3-, 5- and 10-year basis. He also provided regular contributions to the SVSU Foundation including establishing the Cartwright/Muladore Endowed Business Scholarship and the Trish Muladore & Covenant Nursing Endowment; and**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Muladore was also active in the community serving on several boards and committees over the years including Child & Family Services of Saginaw, Saginaw Habitat for Humanity, Saginaw County Voluntary Action Center, and Valley State Employees Credit Union. He also headed SVSU's team for Rebuilding Together – Saginaw. He was a member of the Central Association of College and Universities Business Officers and served on their St. Louis professional development workshop planning committee. He also served on the MUSIC Investment Committee and was selected by NACUBO to participate in their Higher Education Economics Models Project.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in recognition of and appreciation for his significant contributions and dedication to the University, Mr. James G. Muladore be recognized as “Executive Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs Emeritus.”**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

**7. Resolution to Appoint a Nominating Committee for May Board Officers Election**

**RES-2480 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control bylaws stipulate that the Board shall appoint a nominating committee to recommend candidates for each office; pursuant to Article II, 2.101.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that John Cherry, JoAnn Crary, and Lindsay Eggers be appointed to serve as the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control nominating committee to recommend a slate of officers to serve from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

**IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**8. Alpena Community College - New ADN to BSN Program Partnership**

Dr. Marcia Ditymer, Dean of the College of Health & Human Services, informed the Board that SVSU recently announced a new partnership between Saginaw Valley State University and Alpena Community College (ACC) to grow the nursing talent pipeline. She stated that on January 26, representatives from both institutions gathered for a signing ceremony on the campus of Alpena Community College to formalize the agreement.

Dr. Ditymer noted that the collaboration will expand nursing education opportunities and grow the talent pool of nurses in Northern Michigan through a partnership supported by a grant from the State of Michigan. She explained that the partnership allows well-prepared Associate Degree in Nursing students the ability to seamlessly transition into a highly recognized Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for degree advancement.

Dr. Ditymer commented that ACC selected SVSU as its partner university, and ACC will receive a \$2 million grant to administer a program in collaboration with SVSU for nurses to complete their bachelor's degrees. She noted that under the agreement, students who complete an Associate Degree of in Nursing (ADN) at ACC could earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from SVSU's fully accredited program.

Dr. Ditymer explained that SVSU and ACC are among many Michigan institutions participating in this program to expand nursing education opportunities throughout the state. She noted that community colleges can receive funding to partner with a four-year college or university under the \$56 million initiative, included in the fiscal year 2023 state budget. She added that this collaboration will include input from local employers and workforce development agencies. She stated that The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity would administer the grant.

Dr. Ditymer concluded that SVSU and ACC expect to begin enrolling students through the new partnership next fall, starting classes in August 2023.

#### **V. REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT**

President Grant thanked everyone for attending the board meeting.

Dr. Grant noted that at future board meetings, in addition to updates from the Faculty Association and Student Association, there will also be updates from our Support Staff Association and Police Officers Association. He commented that these groups positively impact our campus and the community, and it is important for them to have the opportunity to share all the great work they are doing on behalf of our students.

#### **VI. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- There were no other items for consideration.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

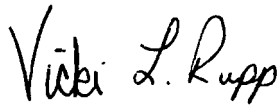
9. Motion to Adjourn

BM-1256     **It was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

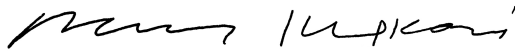
The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Vicki L. Rupp, Chair



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Bhushan Kulkarni, Secretary



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Mary Kowaleski  
Recording Secretary



## **SVSU Board of Control Policy Honorary Degree Policy**

*(In accordance with Board of Control Bylaws 2.104, #8)*

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### **Statement of Purpose**

An honorary degree is one of Saginaw Valley State University's (SVSU) most significant accolades. SVSU may award honorary degrees to distinguished individuals who merit recognition for distinction for activities that align with the mission of the University. An honorary degree is not given to celebrate minimal standards but rather the breadth and depth of contributions that allow this individual to stand above others.

The purpose of this policy is to outline the criteria, nomination, and selection process for individuals selected for recognition through the conferral of an honorary degree by Saginaw Valley State University. Only the Board of Control may authorize an honorary degree.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

1. The selection of honorary degree recipients shall recognize exemplary achievement in various fields of endeavor. A degree may be awarded to an outstanding individual who satisfies one or more of the following criteria:
  - Original and creative accomplishment in the arts, sciences and humanities of regional, national or international distinction.
  - Lifelong impact during a career and exemplary leadership in education, government, business, or public service that furthers human relationships or assists in advancing knowledge.
  - Distinguished service by alumni, former faculty or staff whose accomplishments reflect distinction on the University and represent the highest goals of education.
  - A person whose life and/or work represents the highest values of the University and its mission to advance the common good.
2. Persons not eligible for consideration include:
  - Anyone with a documented conflict of interest with the University.
  - Current faculty and staff of Saginaw Valley State University.
3. Board of Control members may only be considered eligible for an honorary degree three (3) years after their term of service with the University.

**Procedures and Authority to Name:**

1. Nominations will be submitted to and reviewed by the University President. If the President further recommends the nomination, it will be forwarded to the Board of Control for consideration.
2. Nominations for honorary degree consideration may be submitted to the President by any current member of the SVSU Board of Control, faculty, administration, professional staff, student, or alumni.
3. Nomination materials need not be extensive but should document the extraordinary nature of the candidate's contributions and should include the following:
  - A letter of nomination explaining why the candidate is worthy of consideration
  - A curriculum vitae (If relevant) or other biographical information
4. All deliberations and recommendations will be kept strictly confidential. Nominators should not solicit letters of support on behalf of the nominee for the same reason.
5. Self-nominations will not be accepted for consideration.

**Process Recommendations:**

1. Except under unusual circumstances, the honorary degree recipient will not receive a speaker's fee or honorarium for accepting an honorary degree or delivering an address.
2. Honorary degrees may be awarded in conjunction with commencement ceremonies or conducted at other times throughout the academic year to best engage students, faculty, staff, and other university stakeholders.
3. Exceptions to the honorary degree policy will only occur under extraordinary circumstances and at the direction of the Board of Control.

**Duration:**

Honorary degrees are awarded for life. Awardees reflect the values and personify the mission of the University. If, at any time during the life of an awardee, the University becomes aware of documented evidence of criminal, unethical, or immoral behavior or activity, SVSU has the right to rescind the honorary degree.

**Responsibility:**

The Secretary to the Board of Control is responsible for maintaining accountability throughout the honorary degree selection process with oversight from the Board of Control.

The Secretary to the Board of Trustees will communicate and implement this policy. It will be posted on the University's Policy web page.

All communications related to the conferral of honorary degrees will be through the Office of the President and the Office of University Communications.