Approved February 14, 2025

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Ferris State University Board of Trustees
Held on Thursday, December 12, 2024
Big Rapids, Michigan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

A Regular Meeting of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, December 12, 2024 in the David L. Eisler Center, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids, Michigan. Chair LaShanda R. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. In addition to Chair Thomas, the following individuals were present: Trustees Michael B. Fisher, George K. Heartwell, Kurt A. Hofman, Michael D. Ryan, Amna P. Seibold, Ronald E. Snead, and Vivian TerMaat; University President Bill Pink; Provost and Vice President Bobby Fleischman; University Vice Presidents Daniel Eichinger, Amanda M. Matheson, Kathy K. Mullins, David Pilgrim and Jeanine Ward-Roof; Vice President and General Counsel Miles J. Postema; President of Kendall College of Art and Design Tara E. McCrackin; Board Counsel Mark E. Nettleton; Secretary to the Board of Trustees Karen K. Huisman; and members of the University and area communities.

2. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Thomas' request to address the Board.

3. Administrative Reports

The following Administrative Reports were presented. Copies of written reports are in the official file for this meeting:

a. Student Government – Stephen Bender, Ferris Student Government President, was unable to attend today's meeting. Additional information will follow at a later date.
b. Academic Senate – Emmanuel Jadhav, Academic Senate President, provided a brief overview of his report.
c. Finance – Vice President Matheson provided a brief overview of the items being presented to the Board today for approval.
d. Vice President Eichinger distributed a written report of which he provided an overview during the Board meeting.

4a. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Trustee Snead, supported by Trustee Seibold, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the items contained in the Consent Calendar as presented in the appended documentation:

a. Consent Calendar
1. *Minutes of October 4, 2024*
2. *Personnel Items*
3. *Appointment to the Board of Directors of an FSU-Authorized Charter School Academy*
4. *Charter School Contract Amendment – Lighthouse Academy*
5. *Trustee Travel 2025"*

<u>4b. 5 Lyon Master Lease Agreement</u>

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee TerMaat, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, on May 5, 2023, the Board of Trustees authorized the University to enter into a Master Lease Agreement with ROCO, a property management corporation based in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, who manages the 5 Lyon property in Grand Rapids, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the lease has been to allow the University's Grand Rapids students to contract directly with the University for housing at 5 Lyon; and,

WHEREAS, the initial Master Lease Agreement was for twenty-four (24) beds, consisting of (6) 4-bedroom units with a three-year term, reviewed annually; and,

WHEREAS, the University has since amended the Master Lease Agreement four times as student demand increased and additional units became available; and,

WHEREAS, these additional units have been added to the existing lease term that ends July 31, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the current agreement includes eighty-four (84) beds, consisting of (18) 4-bedroom units, (1) studio, (1) 1-bedroom, and (5) two-bedroom units at a total cost of $802,745, which is subject to a 3% increase annually; and,

WHEREAS, subletting the units to students is expected to offset the majority of the lease cost; and,

WHEREAS, the Master Lease Agreement requires full Board approval, in accordance with Board-approved Contracting Policy, Section 4-102, Contracting Authority of the Board, and Section 4-103, Delegation of Authority by the Board, as it relates to lease cost and contract authorization.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or her designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a Master Lease Agreement which would ratify the fourth amendment to the Master Lease Agreement with ROCO – 5 Lyon, signed by the President of Kendall College of Art and Design, that provides housing options for KCAD students for an annual cost not to exceed $802,745 in FY2024-2025 and $826,828 in FY2025-2026."

<u>4c. FY2025-26 State Capital Outlay Request and FY2026-30 Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan</u>

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves submission to the State of Michigan of a FY2025-26 State Capital Outlay request specifying the top priority as the Allied Health Sciences Building renovation, as submitted on this date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves submission to the State of Michigan of the State Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan, FY2026-FY2030, as submitted on this date."

<u>4d. University Wireless Infrastructure Replacement and Enhancement Phase III</u>

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee TerMaat, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, in 2021, the Board of Trustees approved two (2) resolutions demonstrating the university's strategic approach to addressing issues with the campus wireless infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the first resolution, passed on May 7, 2021, was for $1.5 million, and was allocated to support the wired and wireless infrastructure in residence halls; and,

WHEREAS, the second resolution, passed on October 8, 2021, was for $2.2 million and provided allocations to upgrade a portion of the campus administrative and academic spaces; and,

WHEREAS, the University recently allocated the remaining funds to purchase additional equipment for several spaces on campus; and, *WHEREAS, the partial upgrades have left the University with a wireless network that is in a mixed mode, meaning the University has a combination of new and older wireless access points and controllers; and,*

WHEREAS, the Administration has outlined and is requesting completion of Phase III of the University Wireless Infrastructure Replacement and Enhancement project at an estimated total cost of $1,602,500; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires Board of Trustees approval, in accordance with Board-approved Purchasing Policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to capital construction services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Administration's request and authorizes the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or her designee, to complete design review and installation of the replacement and additional wireless access points and related switch replacements where necessary, at a total cost not to exceed $1,602,500.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from University contingency funds."

4e. Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement and Potential (MiLEAP) Out-of-School Time (OST) Grant Award

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, on November 12, 2024, Ferris State University was notified by Richard Lower, Director of the Division of Out-of-School Time Learning and Camp Licensing, Office of Educational Partnerships at the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement and Potential (MiLEAP) that it was awarded funding in FY25 in the amount of $1,030,320 for a "MiLEAP-OST grant" project; and,

WHEREAS, funding for this project is provided in partnership with the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP), under the provisions of Public Act 103 of 2023, Section 32n of the State School Aid Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the MiLEAP-OST grant is administered through the Clinton County Regional Education Service Agency (RESA), and provides funding for concentrated STEM/STEAM-focused exploration and learning, exploration and participation in community service events and activities, tutoring, mentoring components, student leadership development and social-emotional learning (SEL); and, *WHEREAS, Ferris State University will partner with the following K-12 institutions to offer out-of-school learning opportunities: Crossroads Charter Academy, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grant Public Schools, Hope of Detroit Academy (Elementary/Middle/High), Holland Public Schools, Huron Academy Elementary/Middle), Huron ISD, Voyageur College Prep Academy (Elementary/Middle/High) and West Shore ESD; and,*

WHEREAS, the MiLEAP-OST project grant aligns with the University's mission to promote excellence in education, while at the same time promoting enrollment and contributing to the development of a skilled and knowledgeable workforce; and,

WHEREAS, the MiLEAP-OST project grant is approved for $1,030,320 for FY25 (Nov. 4, 2024 – Sept. 30, 2025) and does not require any University matching funds; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval to accept this grant is required pursuant to Board-approved Contracting policy, section 4-103, Delegation of Authority by the Board, as it relates to approval of grant awards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the MiLEAP-OST FY25 Grant Award in the amount of $1,030,320 and authorizes President Bill Pink, or his designee, to administer the grant award, in accordance with the provisions of the grant and any applicable Board policies, as presented on this day."

4f. <u>Restated, Amended Memorandum of Understanding between Ferris State University and The Ferris Foundation</u>

It was moved by Trustee Heartwell, supported by Trustee Hofman, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as submitted on this date:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, on November 23, 1996 the Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Ferris State University and the Ferris Foundation ("MOU"); and,

WHEREAS, the MOU has been amended several times since that date, most recently on October 4, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the Ferris Foundation Board of Directors reviewed and approved the most recent "Restated, Amended Memorandum of Understanding between Ferris State University and The Ferris Foundation" at their annual meeting on November 8, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration requests that the University's Board of Trustees approve this MOU, which is included in the materials for this meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between Ferris State University and the Ferris Foundation for an additional five (5) years, effective January 1, 2025 and expiring on December 31, 2030 by entering into the Restated, Amended Memorandum of Understanding Between Ferris State University and The Ferris Foundation, included in the materials for this meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees is hereby authorized to execute said document on behalf of the University."

<u>Items 4g, 1-4</u>

It was moved by Trustee Snead, supported by Trustee Fisher, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following four (4) Resolutions, as submitted on this date:

4g.1. Establishment of Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Health Professions proposes the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree program has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required for this action, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(1), as it relates to the inauguration of a new degree program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that the Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science degree program be established and implemented as of the Fall 2025 semester."

4g.2. Establishment of Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Special Education Degree Program

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Arts, Sciences and Education proposes the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Special Education degree program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Special Education degree program has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required for this action, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(1), as it relates to the inauguration of a new degree program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that the Bachelor of Science in Special Education degree program be established and implemented as of the Fall 2025 semester."

4g.3. Establishment of Degree Program: Associate of Applied Science in Sustainable Transportation Service Degree Program

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Engineering Technology proposes the establishment of the Associate of Applied Science in Sustainable Transportation Service degree program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed establishment of the Associate of Applied Science in Sustainable Transportation Service degree program has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required for this action, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(1), as it relates to the inauguration of a new degree program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that the Associate of Applied Science in Sustainable Transportation Service degree program be established and implemented as of the Fall 2025 semester."

4g.4. Establishment of Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Professional Sales Degree Program

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Business proposes the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Professional Sales degree program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Professional Sales degree program has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required for this action, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(1), as it relates to the inauguration of a new degree program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that the Bachelor of Science in Professional Sales degree program be established and implemented as of the Fall 2025 semester."

<u>Items 4h, 1-2</u>

It was moved by Trustee Snead, supported by Trustee Ryan, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following two (2) Resolutions, as submitted on this date:

4h.1. Elimination of Degree Programs: Bachelor of Science Geography Education, Bachelor of Science in History Education and Bachelor of Science in Political Science Education

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Arts, Sciences and Education proposes the elimination of the Bachelor of Science in Geography Education, Bachelor of Science in History Education and Bachelor of Science in Political Science Education degree programs; and,

WHEREAS, the degree programs proposed for elimination have suspended admissions and implemented a teach-out plan; and,

WHEREAS, the degree programs proposed for elimination have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(2), as it relates to the elimination of an existing degree program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that the Bachelor of Science in Geography Education, Bachelor of Science in History Education and Bachelor of Science in Political Science Education degree programs be eliminated, as of May 31, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees directs that no additional students shall henceforth be admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Geography Education, Bachelor of Science in History Education and Bachelor of Science in Political Science Education degree programs, and that arrangements have been made for the timely completion of the programs by students currently enrolled, all in accordance with applicable Board-approved policies and any pertinent provisions of the applicable collective bargaining agreement between the University and the Ferris Faculty Association, MEA/NEA."

4h.2. Elimination of Degree Program: Respiratory Therapy, Bachelor of Science

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, the College of Health Professions proposes the elimination of the Bachelor of Science Respiratory Therapy degree program; and,

WHEREAS, the degree program proposed for elimination has suspended admissions and implemented a teach-out plan; and,

WHEREAS, the degree program proposed for elimination has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the University Curriculum Committee, the Academic Senate, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University President; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required, pursuant to Board-approved Academic Affairs – Programming Responsibilities policy, Section 3-201(2), as it relates to the elimination of the existing degree programs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the University President that Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy degree program be eliminated, as of December 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees directs that no additional students shall henceforth be admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy degree program, and that arrangements have been made for the timely completion of the program by students currently enrolled, all in accordance with applicable Board-approved policies and any pertinent provisions of the applicable collective bargaining agreement between the University and the Ferris Faculty Association, MEA/NEA."

<u>5. President's Report</u>

President Pink's report included the following:

- Thank you to the Board for their time and attendance at the Jim Crow Museum groundbreaking event this morning.
- Recognized and extended his appreciation to Blake Prewitt, Chairperson of the Newaygo County Area Promise Zone Board of Directors, for approaching the University and

finalizing the partnership to be the only 4-year Bachelor-degree institution to be included in the Newaygo County Area Promise Zone agreement.

- Reminders of commencement activities and FSU football and volleyball schedules in the national playoffs.
- An early graduation ceremony that was held for four (4) volleyball graduates who will be unable to attend the ceremonies tomorrow.
- Thank you to Trustees LaShanda Thomas and Amna Seibold for their service to the University, as well as the support he has personally received from them both during their service as Board Chairs.

6. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Thomas' second request to address the Board.

7. Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Seibold provided comments on behalf of the Board. Her comments included the following:

- Thank you for the time learning about the university and how best to serve.
- I am honored and proud to have served at this fine institution.

Chair Thomas provided comments on behalf of the Board. Her comments included the following:

- Ferris is still a well-kept secret.
- I am proud and honored to have served as Chair.
- I am a big cheerleader for Ferris in my area.

8. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled full Board meeting will be held on Friday, February 14, 2025.

9. Adjournment

At 4:48 p.m., with no further business coming before the Board, Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by: Karen K. Huisman, RP
Secretary to the Board of Trustees