

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Ferris State University Board of Trustees  
Held on Friday, October 4, 2019  
The Woodbridge N. Ferris Building  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

A Regular Meeting of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees was held on Friday, October 4, 2019 in room 217 of the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building, 17 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Chair Amna P. Seibold called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. In addition to Chair Seibold, the following individuals were present: Trustees Robert J. Hegbloom, Kurt A. Hofman, Ana L. Ramirez-Saenz, Rupesh K. Srivastava, and LaShanda R. Thomas; University President David L. Eisler; University Provost and Vice President Paul Blake; University Vice Presidents David Pilgrim, Jerry L. Scoby, Shelly L. Armstrong, and Jeanine Ward-Roof; University Vice President and General Counsel Miles J. Postema; Kendall College of Art and Design President Tara McCrackin; Board Counsel Fredric N. Goldberg; Secretary to the Board of Trustees Karen K. Huisman; and members of the University and area communities.

Motion to Amend

It was moved by Trustee Srivastava, supported by Trustee Hegbloom, and unanimously carried to the Board of Trustees hereby amends its agenda for today's meeting as follows:

Add New Item 5j.: *Professional Services Contract for Search Assistance.*

2. Hearing of the Public

Ferris Associate Professor Christopher Cosper invited the Trustees to attend a University classroom in session and encouraged them to get to know the faculty members.

No one else responded to Chair Seibold's invitation to address the Board.

3. External Auditors' Report

Randy Morse and Barb Garza of Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC provided an overview of the External Auditors' Report.

4. Administrative Reports

The following Administrative Reports were presented. Those with "\*" denotes a copy of their report is included in the official file for this meeting.

Student Government – Allyson Faulkner, Student Government President

Academic Senate\* – Sandra Alspach, President, Academic Senate (*reported after approval of the Consent Calendar*)  
Finance – Jim Bachmeier, Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Critical Success Factors/Dashboard\* – Paul Blake, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
2014-2019 Strategic Plan Final Report\* – Jeanine Ward-Roof, Vice President for Student Affairs

5a. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, supported by Trustee Thomas, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution, as revised and 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 May 10, June 17, August 15, and September 10, 2019*
  - 2. Personnel Items*
  - 3. Ratification of Executive Committee Interim Action on August 28, 2019 with regard to an Exception to Board-Approved Hiring Policy*
  - 4. Acceptance of Audited Financial Statements*
  - 5. Appointments to the Boards of Directors of FSU-Authorized Charter School Academies*
  - 6. Contract Amendment: Name Change for Lighthouse Academy*
  - 7. Charter School Contract Amendment to Terms and Conditions*
  - 8. Degree Program Closure, Bachelor of Science in Integrative Marketing Communication*
  - 9. FY2020 Final Housing and Dining Services Budget*
  - 10. Restated, Amended Memorandum of Understanding between Ferris State University and The Ferris Foundation*
  - 11. Trustee Travel 2020”*

5b. 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan

Vice President Pilgrim provided an overview of this item. It was then moved by Trustee Hegbloom, supported by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following resolution, as submitted on this date:

*RESOLUTION*

*“WHEREAS, the development of a University-wide strategic plan has been endorsed by the Board of Trustees and is included in the goals adopted by the Board and President; and,*

*WHEREAS, development of this began in fall 2017 with the convening of a Strategic Plan Steering Committee (SPSC) under the leadership of David Pilgrim, Vice President for Diversity*

*and Inclusion, and Spence Tower, Professor in the College of Business and chair of the Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC); and,*

*WHEREAS, the team began with extensive listening sessions with internal groups across the university and external constituents from both Big Rapids and Grand Rapids; and,*

*WHEREAS, based on this feedback the SPSC decided to review the University's Core Values, Mission, and Vision; and,*

*WHEREAS, open forums were conducted throughout the Spring and Summer of 2018 on the Ferris main campus, the Kendall campus, and in the community, and stakeholders were invited to submit feedback via online surveys; and,*

*WHEREAS, with the existing mission, a new vision, and a re-examination of the descriptions that accompany the core values, the strategic planning process moved forward.*

*WHEREAS, in the Spring of 2018, the SPSC identified five major strategic areas that would comprise the new Strategic Plan: Academic Programs and Offerings, Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness, Pride and Community, and Enhancing Resources; and,*

*WHEREAS, co-chairs and team members were identified to form work groups for each of the five strategic areas; the work groups were charged with reviewing available data, conducting listening sessions, and identifying key needs; and, additional input was solicited from various external groups; and,*

*WHEREAS, using this data-driven approach, each work group ultimately recommended a set of strategic initiatives, action steps, and key measures to be included in the 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan; and,*

*WHEREAS, as the University Strategic Plan began to take shape, valuable feedback from the Big Rapids community, SPARC, the President's Council, and the Board of Trustees helped focus and refine the goals and initiatives; and,*

*WHEREAS, the attached University Strategic Plan results from numerous meetings seeking input, comment, and revision of stakeholders from all areas of the campus, alumni, donors, and community members; and,*

*WHEREAS, extensive discussions with stakeholders have produced the 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan that is proposed for approval and endorsement today; and,*

*WHEREAS, it represents the final draft of the working document from a process that has actively engaged hundreds of people and is recommended for consideration by President David L. Eisler; and,*

*WHEREAS, the 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan is intended to be a working document, and it is the administration's intention to provide annual updates to this plan together with an annual report on progress in achieving these strategic goals and initiatives.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby endorses the attached 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan, as presented on this date.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that President David L. Eisler, or his designee, is hereby authorized to immediately implement the new 2019-2024 University Strategic Plan.”*

5c. FY2020 Final General Fund Operating Budget

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, 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*

*“RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Year 2020 Final General Fund Operating Budget is approved as submitted and as endorsed by the Board’s Finance Committee.”*

5d. FY2021 State Capital Outlay Request

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Srivastava, 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 FY2021 Capital Outlay request for the Center for Virtual Learning, as submitted on this date.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan, as submitted on this date.”*

5e. FY2021 Housing and Dining Room and Board Rates

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

*RESOLUTION*

*“NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2021 room and board rates as presented in the supporting materials. The availability of a lower cost meal plan reflects a 3.9% reduction in the room and board rate for a traditional freshman.”*

5f. Professional Services for Campus Facilities Master Plan

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

RESOLUTION

*“WHEREAS, since 2001 the State of Michigan has required as part of the capital outlay funding request process that universities develop, adopt and maintain campus master plans that include five year plans; and,*

*WHEREAS, in 2000 Ferris State University created its original campus master plan for the Big Rapids campus with the most recent update occurring in 2015 and created a separate plan for the Kendall College of Art and Design (KCAD); and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration has determined that the current Big Rapids master plan has served the institution well but is in need of updating, and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration recognizes the non-KCAD Grand Rapids facility portfolio has grown and should be included as a section of the Big Rapids campus master plan; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration recommends securing the necessary professional services to assist in updating the University’s campus Master Plan during the 2019/2020 academic year; and,*

*WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval is required for professional service contracts in that exceed \$50,000 pursuant to Board-approved Purchasing policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to capital construction and professional services contracts.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice President for Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to proceed with the procurement of necessary professional services as related to the development and updating of the campus facilities master plan including the negotiation of and entering into contracts, upon legal review, in accordance with Board-approved policies, at a total project cost not to exceed \$130,000.00, plus reimbursable expenses.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding for this master plan update will be provided from a plant fund reserve established for this purpose.”*

5g. Center for Virtual Learning Project Additional Preconstruction Services Funding Authorization

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, 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, the Administration has recognized that Bishop Hall is a facility that needs to be replaced for academic purposes and therefore has identified a need for a new facility to house several academic programs including Digital Media; Information Security and Intelligence (ISI); On-line Education; Career and Technical Education; and Teacher Education; and,*

*WHEREAS, a new Center for Virtual Learning has been the institution’s number one capital outlay priority with the State of Michigan for the last three years; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration believes it is important at this time to invest in preconstruction professional services required in compliance with the University's Capital Outlay request that was approved for planning authorization by legislative and executive actions in P.A. 601 of 2018 in December 2018; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration is requesting an additional \$915,000 in funding authorization to allow for the completion of the design development phase in anticipation of eventual construction authorization approval from the State of Michigan; and,*

*WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval to move forward with this project is required pursuant to Board-approved Purchasing policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to professional services contracts.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice President for Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to proceed with the retention of necessary professional preconstruction services as required to complete the design development phase documents, including the negotiation of and entering into contracts for these services in accordance with Board-approved policies, at a revised total cost not to exceed \$1,500,000.00, inclusive of funding previously authorized by the Board on May 10, 2019.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this request will be provided from the general fund maintenance and renovation reserve in the plant fund."*

5h. Acceptance of Property Gift, George F. Riley Estate

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, 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 September 13, 2018 Leonard Kruszewski, the executor of the George F. Riley Estate, offered to gift a residence located at 32781 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 to Ferris State University; and,*

*WHEREAS, the property is classified as residential property with an estimated market value of approximately \$1.1 million; and,*

*WHEREAS, Board approval is required to accept this property gift, pursuant to Board-Approved Administration and Finance policy, Section 4-301, Acquisition of Real Estate by the University; and,*

*WHEREAS, prior to accepting this gift, an environmental audit of this property is required, pursuant to Board-Approved Administration and Finance policy, Section 4-305, Environmental Audit; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Administration believes that the University has no purpose or intended use of the property because of its location; and,*

*WHEREAS, disposal of this property after the University acquires title thereto requires Board approval, pursuant to Board-approved Review and Disposal of Surplus Real Estate policy, Section 4-901.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, subject to prior legal review and approval of an environmental audit report on the property, and receipt of a signed Memorandum of Understanding between the George F. Riley Estate and Ferris State University, that is satisfactory to the Vice President for Administration and Finance and complies with applicable Board policies, the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Administration and Finance to accept the property gift from Leonard Kruszewski, Trustee for the George F. Riley Estate.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the disposal of said property after receipt of title to same, and authorizes the Vice President for Administration and Finance or his designee, in accordance with Board-approved Administration and Finance policy, Section 4-902, Disposal of Properties Approved by the Board for Disposal, to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Board of Trustees any and all agreements and instruments of conveyance related to the disposition of said property.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proceeds of the sale, once received, are hereby designated to develop new museum space and increase the square footage of the Card Wildlife Education Center.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the balance of the proceeds will be used to establish a Card Wildlife Education Center endowment which will provide support for a budget to support the museum.”*

5i. Naming Opportunities in the Institute for Construction Education and Training

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Hegbloom, and unanimously carried that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the following (3) Resolutions, as submitted on this date:

5i.1. Naming of the Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory Facility for the Institute for Construction Education and Training

*RESOLUTION*

*“WHEREAS, the Asphalt Pavement Association of Michigan (APAM) has gifted \$1,000,000.00 to The Ferris Foundation in support of the construction of the Institute for Construction Education and Training’s (ICET) new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility at Ferris State University; and,*

*WHEREAS, APAM has been a long-time partner to the Construction Management program’s Institute for Construction Education and Training and its members are top employers of graduates of Ferris’ Construction Management and Surveying Engineering programs; and,*

*WHEREAS, in recognition of APAM’s generous gift, President David L. Eisler recommends that ICET’s Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility be named the ‘Asphalt Pavement Association of Michigan Training Facility’; and,*

*WHEREAS, Board approval is required for this action, pursuant to Board-Approved FSU Code of Rules, Bylaws and Policies, Subpart Part 4-11, Naming of Buildings, Rooms and Areas, Sec. 4-1104, Recommendations by the President.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves President David L. Eisler's recommendation to name the ICET Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility the 'Asphalt Pavement Association of Michigan Training Facility,' effective immediately."*

5i.2. Naming of Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory in the Institute for Construction Education and Training Facility

*RESOLUTION*

*"WHEREAS, Dr. James Klett, president and CEO of Klett Companies, has been a life-long advocate for transportation- related construction education; and,*

*WHEREAS, Klett has been an essential partner for the Institute for Construction Education and Training's (ICET) Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory Facility fundraising campaign, is a member of Ferris' Now & Always Comprehensive Campaign Cabinet and is chairman of the Construction Management Industry Advisory Board; and*

*WHEREAS, in 2003, the University dedicated the Klett Family Materials Laboratory in the Granger Center for Construction and HVACR in recognition of his and his family's support and that of industry partners to purchase state-of-the-art asphalt testing equipment for the laboratory; and*

*WHEREAS, to continue to serve the instructional needs of students, the laboratory requires significant, costly renovations. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the lab's testing equipment be relocated to the Institute for Construction Education and Training Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory Facility east of campus; and*

*WHEREAS, in accordance with Board-Approved FSU Code of Rules, Bylaws and Policies, Subpart Part 4-11, Naming of Buildings, Rooms and Areas, Sec. 4-1103, Rooms and Areas, President David L. Eisler hereby recommends that the Institute for Construction Education and Training's new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory be named the 'Klett Family Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory.'*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves, pursuant to Board-approved policy, Section 4-1103, President David L. Eisler's recommendation to name the Institute for Construction Education and Training's new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory the 'Klett Family Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory.'"*

5i.3. Naming, Classroom in the Institute for Construction Education and Training's Hot-Mix Asphalt Laboratory Facility

*RESOLUTION*



*“WHEREAS, Soil and Materials Engineering, Inc. (SME) has made a \$125,000.00 gift to the Ferris Foundation in memory of Dr. Starr D. Kohn, PE, in support of the construction of the Institute for Construction Education and Training’s new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility at Ferris State University; and,*

*WHEREAS, the late Dr. Kohn was SME’s Senior Vice President, Principal and Board Director, who enjoyed national recognition for hundreds of pavement research and infrastructure improvement projects across the United States; and,*

*WHEREAS, he was most known for his groundbreaking development of the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) and the Paver pavement management system which is widely accepted by cities, counties and military installations; and,*

*WHEREAS, among his many honors were the Engineering Excellence Award from the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers and Outstanding Service Award American Council of Engineering Companies/Michigan Transportation Committee; and,*

*WHEREAS, in accordance with Board-Approved FSU Code of Rules, Bylaw and Policies, Subpart Part 4-11, Naming of Buildings, Rooms and Areas, Section 4-1103, Rooms and Areas, President David L. Eisler hereby recommends the classroom in the Institute for Construction Education and Training’s new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility be named the ‘Dr. Starr D. Kohn, PE, Classroom’ in recognition of SME’s generosity and Dr. Kohn’s dedication and passion for achieving pavement engineering excellence during his esteemed career.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby determines, pursuant to Board-approved policy, Section 4-1103, that Dr. Starr D. Kohn, PE, is worthy of institutional tribute, and approves President David L. Eisler’s recommendation to name the classroom in the Institute for Construction Education and Training’s new Hot Mix Asphalt Laboratory facility the ‘Dr. Starr D. Kohn, PE, Classroom,’ effective immediately.”*

5j. Professional Services Contract for Search Assistance

It was moved by Trustee Thomas, 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, anticipating future vacancies at the University, President David L. Eisler wishes to contract with an executive search firm to assist in filling up to two (2) future positions; and,*

*WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be developed and made available to vendors; and,*

*WHEREAS, the services of the selected vendor would begin as soon as possible, with the contract established at a cost not to exceed \$85,000.00, plus associated expenses per search, with a total not to exceed \$190,000.00 plus expenses for two searches; and,*

*WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires full Board approval, in accordance with the Board-approved Purchasing Policy, Section 4-205, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to Professional Services Contracts.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with Board-approved Contracting Policy, Section 4-103, President David L. Eisler, or his designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with the selected vendor, for search services, at a cost not to exceed \$85,000.00 for each search, plus their reimbursable expenses, for a total cost not to exceed \$190,000.00, plus reimbursable expenses.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this contract shall be provided from central funding at Ferris State University.”*

6. President’s Report

President Eisler requested Kendall College of Art and Design’s President, Tara McCrackin, provide comments and introduce her leadership team.

President Eisler’s comments included:

- Gratitude to all faculty and staff, David Pilgrim and Spence Tower for their leadership, and all the committee chairs involved with the Strategic Plan for their time, effort and investment in the University.
- Noted the Now and Always brochure for the 2019 Foundation for Excellence event with Trustee Hegbloom as the featured speaker.

7. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Seibold’s second invitation to address the Board.

8. Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Ramirez-Saenz provided an interesting view on various numbers from the day and extended her appreciation to all for their efforts for the University.

9. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled full Board meeting will be held on Friday, December 13, 2019 in Big Rapids, Michigan.

10. Adjournment

At 12:00 p.m., it was moved by Trustee Srivastava, supported by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.

Submitted by:

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees:

December 13, 2019