

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Ferris State University Board of Trustees
Held on Friday, October 8, 2021
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 8, 2021 in room 217 of the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building, 17 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Chair Anna P. Seibold called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. In addition to Chair Seibold, the following individuals were present: Trustees George K. Heartwell, Ana L. Ramirez-Saenz, Ronald E. Snead, Rupesh K. Srivastava and LaShanda R. Thomas; University President David L. Eisler; Provost and Vice President Bobby Fleischman; University Vice Presidents David Pilgrim, James D. Bachmeier, Shelly L. Percy and Jeanine Ward-Roof; University Vice President and General Counsel Miles J. Postema; President of Kendall College of Art and Design Tara E. McCrackin; Board Counsel Frederic N. Goldberg; Secretary to the Board of Trustees Karen K. Huisman; and members of the University and area communities. Trustee Kurt A. Hofman was absent with prior notification.

2. Hearing of the Public

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

(See item 3. below)

4. Administrative Reports

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

- a. Student Government – A written report by Paige Abromaitis, Student Government President, was distributed to the Board.
- b. Academic Senate - Sandy Alspach, President, Academic Senate

3. External Auditors' Report

Randy Morse, Partner at Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC, provided an overview of the External Auditors' Report.

4. Administrative Reports (continued)

- c. Finance – Jim Bachmeier, Vice President for Administration and Finance
- d. Critical Success Factors/Dashboard – President David Eisler
- e. Strategic Plan Update – David Pilgrim, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion

5a. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, 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:

“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 7, June 16, June 30, and July 19, 2021*
 - 2. Personnel Items*
 - 3. Ratification of Executive Committee Interim Action on August 25, 2021 with regard to the Center for Virtual Learning Project Budget*
 - 4. Acceptance of FY2021 University Audited Financial Statements*
 - 5. Appointments to the Boards of Directors of FSU-Authorized Charter School Academies*
 - 6. Academic Senate Charter Revision Proposal”*

5b. Professional Services Agreement with National Charter Schools Institute

It was moved by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, 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, the Charter Schools Office (the “CSO”) provides detailed student performance data analysis to each of the FSU-authorized academies; and,

WHEREAS, this data is used to determine if the academy is meeting their contractual educational goals and for developing an academic monitoring plan for those that are not; and,

WHEREAS, this data collection, analysis, reporting as well as academic monitoring plan development and tracking is the responsibility of the CSO Academic Assessment Specialist; and,

, the CSO employee formerly in this position resigned effective October 1, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, since 2013 the CSO has had a recurring contract for professional services with the National Charter Schools Institute (the “NCSI”) for a web-based software system known as Epicenter; and,

WHEREAS, the NCSI also provides charter school authorizers with detailed student performance data and related services; and,

WHEREAS, the CSO seeks approval from the Ferris State University Board of Trustees (the “University Board”) to enter into a professional services agreement with the NCSI to provide detailed student performance data, analysis and reporting for the 2021-2022 Academic School Year in an amount not to exceed \$94,700; and,

WHEREAS, the amount of the agreement requires full Board of Trustees approval, 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 University Board approves the CSO to enter into a professional service agreement with the National Charter Schools Institute to provide detailed student performance data, analysis and reporting for the 2021-2022 Academic School Year in an amount not to exceed \$94,700.”

5c. Establishment of Ferris State University/Hope of Detroit Academy STEM Learning Lab

It was moved by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, 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, the Ferris State University Board of Trustees (the “University Board”) granted conditional approval to a Resolution (the “Initial Resolution”) dated May 7, 1999, for Hope of Detroit Academy (the “Academy”), which conditionally authorized the execution of a contract with the Academy to charter an academy (“Original Charter Contract”) and conditionally authorized the Chairperson of the University Board to execute the Original Charter Contract between the Academy and the University Board; and,

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2004 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for five years through June 30, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2009 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for five years through June 30, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2014 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for five years through June 30, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2019 the University Board reauthorized the Academy for five years through June 30, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, in 2016 the Academy opened their new middle and high school facility at 4444 35th Street, Detroit, Michigan with a focus on a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) curriculum; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Academy was selected as the national winner and awarded a cash prize of \$130,000 for the Samsung Corporation Solve for Tomorrow Competition in which the Academy's STEM students designed an application where community members can report blight and unsafe conditions to local authorities; and,

WHEREAS, the Charter Schools Office (CSO) proposes to enter into an agreement with the Academy to establish the Ferris State University/Hope of Detroit Academy STEM Learning Lab at Hope of Detroit Academy High School/Middle School, 4444 35th Street, Detroit; and,

WHEREAS, the CSO proposes to match the Samsung Corporation cash prize of \$130,000 to establish working capital to purchase equipment and provide professional development for HAD staff; and,

WHEREAS, the CSO proposes to annually contribute \$25,000 beginning in 2022 and continue through 2027, with the Academy matching the CSO's annual contributions; and,

WHEREAS, establishment of the Ferris State University/Hope of Detroit Academy STEM Learning Lab at Hope of Detroit Academy High School/Middle School requires Board of Trustees approval in accordance with Board approved Academic Affairs-Academic Programs policy, Section 3-201, Matters Reserved to the Board, as it relates to the establishment of a permanent (non-temporary) site.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of the Ferris State University/Hope of Detroit Academy STEM Learning Lab at Hope of Detroit Academy High School/Middle School, 4444 35th Street, Detroit, Michigan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Ferris State University Charter Schools Office's matching contribution of \$130,000 for working capital and their annual contributions to the lab of \$25,000 beginning in 2022 and continued through 2027."

5d. Elimination of Degree Program – Associate of Arts, Pre-Technical Communication

It was moved by Trustee Ramirez-Saenz, 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, the College of Arts, Sciences and Education proposes the elimination of the Associate of Arts (AA), Pre-Technical Communication degree program; and,

WHEREAS, admission to this program was suspended in 2016 due to the changes in the Tuition Incentive Program guidelines that restricted enrollment for pre-programs; and,

WHEREAS, since then, students with an interest in Pre-Technical Communication have been enrolled in Liberal Arts or other associate degree programs in the College of Arts, Sciences and Education; and,

WHEREAS, there have been no graduates of the AA, Pre-Technical Communication degree program since the 2015-2016 academic year; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed closure of the AA, Pre-Technical Communication 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, the proposed closure will be effective at the end of Fall Semester 2021; and,

WHEREAS, upon Board of Trustees approval of this recommendation, there will be immediate suspension of admissions into the AA, Pre-Technical Communication degree program all in accordance with applicable Board-approved policies and any pertinent provisions of the current collective bargaining agreement between the University and the Ferris Faculty Association, MEA/NEA; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees' approval is required for this action, 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 Associate of Arts, Pre-Technical Communication degree program be closed, as of the end of Fall Semester 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees directs that no additional students shall henceforth be admitted to the Associate of Arts, Pre-Technical Communication degree program, and that arrangements shall be made for the timely completion of the program by students currently enrolled therein, 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.”

5e. FY2022 Revised General Fund Operating Budget

President Eisler provided an overview of this item. It was then moved by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Heartwell, 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 FY2022 Revised General Fund Operating Budget is approved as submitted and as endorsed by the Board’s Finance Committee.”

5f. FY2023-27 State Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan

President Eisler provided an overview of this item. It was then moved by Trustee Thomas, supported by Trustee Heartwell, 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 the FY2023-27 State Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan, as submitted on this date.”

5g. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Final Housing and Dining Services Budget

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

RESOLUTION

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2021-22 Final Housing and Dining Services Budget, as presented in the supporting materials.”

5h. FY2023 Housing and Dining Room and Board Rates

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

RESOLUTION

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferris State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the FY2023 Housing and Dining Room and Board Rates, as presented in the supporting materials.”

5i. Auditing Services

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

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the previous agreements for external and internal audit services provided to the University either have or will soon expire; and,

WHEREAS, Board of Trustees approval is required for these professional services pursuant to Board-Approved Purchasing policy, section 4-207, with regard to contracts with independent auditors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President of Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for external audit services with Andrew Hooper Pavlik for Fiscal Year 2022, at a cost of \$69,400, plus the cost of additional services that may be required during the engagement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vice President of Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for internal audit services with Rehmann for Fiscal Year 2022, at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.”

5j. Campus Card and Access Control System

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

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the University Campus Auxiliary Services routinely contracts with a service provider for Campus Card and Access Control Services, partnering with Blackboard Transact for the past 28 years; and,

WHEREAS, the Campus Card serves many needs on campus including meal plans, student validation and access control for residence, academic, and office buildings; and,

WHEREAS, automating access control minimizes the reliance on the management of keys and the re-coring of locks in the instance of lost or stolen keys; and,

WHEREAS, major advancements in technology and the level of student engagement prompted a Request for Proposal (RFP) to allow for a review of offerings and functionality in the campus card industry; and,

WHEREAS, a total of five (5) proposals were received, and after a thorough review of product functionality, technological advances, and financial investment, Atrium Campus was identified as the recommended solution; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for professional services with Atrium Campus requires full Board of Trustees approval, 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 enter into a contract with Atrium Campus to begin implementation of the Campus Card and Access Control System on behalf of the University,

and to provide services for that system for a period of five (5) years, commencing July 2022 through June 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$798,972.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this contract shall be provided from Campus Auxiliary Services.”

5k. University Wireless Infrastructure Replacement and Enhancement, Phase II

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

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, the University performed an extensive wireless technology study in 2017 and adopted Aerohive Access Points as a standard; and,

WHEREAS, Aerohive product line is owned and operated by Extreme Networks, which is one of the industry leaders in wireless technology, and;

WHEREAS, the University has currently procured 1200 access points with an initial Phase I of the University Wireless Infrastructure Replacement and Enhancement project funding of \$1.5 million, which was focused primarily on student housing; and,

WHEREAS, there has been a significant increase in network reliability in the locations where the access points have been installed, with installation of those access points to be completed by December, and;

WHEREAS, in Phase II the University is planning to procure an additional 1000 access points and replace approximately 150 aging network switches and routers, at a cost not to exceed \$1,360,000 for access points and \$900,000 for switches and routers; 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 Vice President of Administration and Finance or his designee, is hereby authorized to complete Phase II of the University Wireless Infrastructure Replacement and Enhancement project, including design review and installation of the replacement and additional wireless access points and related switch replacements where necessary, at a cost not to exceed \$2,200,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from HEERF/CARES funds.”

5l. Professional Services Contract Renewal – Advantage Benefits Group

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

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, Ferris State University currently has a professional services contract with Advantage Benefits Group (ABG) for health benefits consulting, and;

WHEREAS, the Administration conducted a request for proposal (RFP) for health benefits consulting services in August of 2021, resulting in the committee’s recommendation of ABG; and,

WHEREAS, ABG is a West Michigan firm, has brought good value to the University, and is well positioned to meet Ferris State University’s health benefit consulting needs, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed contract with ABG is for the terms of the proposed professional services contract with Advantage Benefits Group are not to exceed the following:

<i>\$80,400</i>	<i>October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022</i>
<i>\$82,800</i>	<i>October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023</i>
<i>\$86,400</i>	<i>October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024</i>
<i>\$90,000</i>	<i>October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025</i>
<i>\$90,000</i>	<i>October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026</i>

WHEREAS, the amount of the contract requires full Board of Trustees approval, 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 in accordance with Board-approved policy Authority to Purchase or Contract, Section 4-204, the Vice President for Administration and Finance, or his designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a five-year contract with Advantage Benefits Group, in an amount not to exceed \$429,600, for the period commencing October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for the Advantage Benefits Group contract will be provided by the General Fund and Auxiliary Fund Benefit Budgets.”

5m. Professional Services for Kendall College of Art and Design Wege Prize Competition

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

5m.1. Professional Services Agreement with Armstrong Marketing, Kendall College of Art and Design

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, since 2014, Armstrong Marketing, LLC has provided event planning, project management, and administrative support services for Kendall College of Art and Design’s Wege Prize competition; and,

WHEREAS, Armstrong Marketing has become a valued and trusted collaborator through its experience with and critical understanding of the competition’s mission, vision, and values; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires full Board approval, in accordance with 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 Board of Trustees hereby authorizes President David L. Eisler, or his designee, to enter into an agreement with Armstrong Marketing for event planning, project management, and administrative support services for Kendall College of Art and Design’s Wege Prize competition, in accordance with Board-approved policies, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 for a period of approximately five years from October 11, 2021 through July 30, 2026, at a rate of \$25,000 annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from the Wege Prize International Challenge (E25801) fund.”

5m.2. Professional Services Agreement with KBOgroup, Kendall College of Art and Design

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, since 2016, KBOgroup has provided all technical planning, scheduling, and overall audio and visual management and execution of Kendall College of Art and Design's Wege Prize Awards event; and,

WHEREAS, KBOgroup delivers consistent, high-quality results and production value, continually elevating the experience for attendees and competition participants. KBOgroup has developed a deep understanding and genuine interest in Wege Prize, driving them to have an extraordinary level of dedication and service; and,

WHEREAS, this knowledge and expertise have positioned KBOgroup as an essential partner; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires full Board approval, in accordance with 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 Board of Trustees hereby authorizes President David L. Eisler, or his designee, to enter into an agreement with KBOgroup for technical planning, scheduling, and overall audio and visual management and execution of Kendall College of Art and Design’s Wege Prize Awards event, in accordance with Board-approved policies, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 for a period of approximately five years from October 11, 2021 through July 30, 2026, at a rate of \$25,000 annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from provided from the Wege Prize International Challenge (E25801) fund.”

5m.3. Professional Services Agreement with C.C. Sullivan, Kendall College of Art and Design

RESOLUTION

“WHEREAS, in 2020, C.C. Sullivan began providing public relations, marketing, and content services in support of Kendall College of Art and Design’s Wege Prize competition; and,

WHEREAS, C.C. Sullivan has dramatically increased the competition's media coverage, overall visibility, and reputation through their efforts. C.C. Sullivan has also leveraged deep industry connections to secure discounted rates on marketing opportunities previously inaccessible to the Wege Prize organizing team; and,

WHEREAS, contracting for these services requires full Board approval, in accordance with 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 Board of Trustees hereby authorizes President David L. Eisler, or his designee, to enter into an agreement with C.C.Sullivan for public relations, marketing, and content services of Kendall College of Art and Design’s Wege Prize competition, in accordance with Board-approved policies, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00 for a period of approximately five years from October 11, 2021 through July 30, 2026 at a rate of \$25,000 annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will be provided from provided from the Wege Prize International Challenge (E25801) fund.”

6. President’s Report

President Eisler extended his appreciation to the Board for their leadership and their participation in the activities over the last couple of days. He noted it was the Board’s approval which provided for the relocation of the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA) from their previous location on Fulton Avenue to the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building. He then invited President McCrackin to provide an overview and update on activities and events for Kendall College of Art and Design and the UICA.

7. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Seibold’s invitation to address the Board. Chair Seibold provided the following information:

- An overview of the items provided to the Trustees at every meeting, including AGB’s “The Governing Board’s Basic Responsibilities” and the University’s *Mission, Vision and Values* brochure.
- An overview of the timeline and update on the Presidential Search, noting the Search Advisory Committee is currently being formed.

8. Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Ramirez-Saenz provided comments on behalf of the Board. Her comments included:

- Thank you to President Eisler for his leadership and the long, collaborative and trusting relationship you have had with the Board.
- Thank you to the team, the faculty, and everyone who puts forth all the energy that it takes to run this university. Be sure to thank others that work alongside you.
- We notice and appreciate your cross-collaborative work at the university.

9. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled full Board meeting will be held on Friday, December 17, 2021 in Big Rapids.

10. Adjournment

At 12:10 p.m. Chair Seibold declared the meeting adjourned.

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on December 17, 2021.