



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING**

**DATE:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

**PLACE:** Fully Remote Meeting via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Chair David M. Reynolds, Trustees Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia M. DePompei, Paul J. Dolan, Stephen F. Kirk, Lisa K. Kunkle, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Community Trustee Thomas E. Hopkins; Student Trustees Brittany N. Sommers and Jake Wrege; Faculty Representative Robert A. Krebs; President Laura Bloomberg; and General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Sonali B. Wilson.

Others in attendance: Int. Provost and Sr. Vice President of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer David Jewell; Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management Jonathan Wehner; Vice President of Human Resources, Jeanelle Hughes; Vice President of Advancement Julie Rehm; Dean, College of Education and Human Services, Dr. Sajit Zachariah; and Heather A. Link, Assistant Board Secretary.

Chair Reynolds called the special meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Reynolds welcomed newly appointed CSU student Trustee, Jake Wrege, to the meeting, noting that a more formal introduction would occur at the September Board meeting. The Chair then recognized faculty representative Dr. Robert A. Krebs for his service on the Board during his tenure as Faculty Senate president.

Trustee Kunkle moved the resolution for Dr. Krebs and Trustee Dolan provided a second. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll, and the following was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022-48**

**RECOGNITION OF DR. ROBERT A. KREBS AS  
FACULTY MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**WHEREAS**, Robert A. Krebs, Ph.D., a tenured Professor of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences, was elected President of the Cleveland State Faculty Senate in 2020 for a two-year term and has since served as a faculty representative to the Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Krebs is an accomplished scholar, teacher, and mentor, who is dedicated to the success of our students; and

**WHEREAS**, during his term of service, Dr. Krebs led the Faculty Senate during an unprecedented pandemic that affected faculty and their students in a myriad of ways; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Krebs took great care to respectfully listen to all faculty voices and concerns, and represent them to the Board, while keeping the mission of student success at the forefront; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure, Dr. Krebs worked in tandem with the administration to address faculty issues such as committing to create a welcoming community of respectful inclusion, affirming the Joint Statement on Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism, and encouraging shared governance throughout the implementation of CSU 2.0; and

**WHEREAS**, Professor Krebs has been dedicated in his duties as a member of the Academic Affairs and Student Success, Financial Affairs, and Athletics Committees of the Board of Trustees, as well as the duties of marshaling faculty through commencements held at Progressive Field and the Wolstein Center:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Robert A. Krebs for his many contributions to the work of the Board and looks forward to seeing his continued mark on the fabric of Cleveland State University.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Reynolds announced that three items will be considered under new business. The first item was delegated by the full board to the Executive Committee at the meeting held on April 26, 2022, and he noted that only executive committee members will vote on the item.

Trustee Cosgrove moved approval of President Bloomberg's employment agreement; and Trustee DePompei seconded the motion. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and voting in the affirmative were Ms. DePompei, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. Kunkle, and Mr. Reynolds.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022-04**

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH PRESIDENT BLOOMBERG**

**WHEREAS**, on April 26, 2022, the Board of Trustees named Dr. Laura Bloomberg the 8th President of Cleveland State University; and

**WHEREAS**, key terms were agreed to between the parties which are now memorialized in a definitive employment agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 26, 2022, the Board of Trustees of Cleveland State University delegated review and approval of the definitive employment agreement to the Executive Committee:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Executive Committee of the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the definitive employment agreement with President Bloomberg for a three (3) year term commencing April 26, 2022.

Chair Reynolds asked for the next two agenda items to be considered with one motion, and called on Interim Provost Sridhar to present them. Trustee Kirk moved the approval; and Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and all members voted in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2022-49**

**APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES**

**WHEREAS**, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences has proposed to change the name of the existing Black Studies Program into the Africana Studies Program to reflect the growth and focus onto a greater emphasis of the African diaspora; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Africana Studies program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of March 2, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Faculty Senate approved at their April 27, 2022 meeting to create a new Department of Africana Studies, replacing the Black Studies Program to house this program of study:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the renaming of the Africana Studies Program and the creation of the Department of Africana Studies.

## **RESOLUTION 2022-50**

### **APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTS IN THE NEW COLLEGE OF HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, as key component of CSU 2.0 is realigning our colleges to reflect our strengths and seek distinction as a leading public urban research university; and

**WHEREAS**, the College of Health will be created to help establish innovative and sustainable solutions to address health challenges facing our society; and

**WHEREAS**, it will be necessary to create new standalone departments within the newly named college from individual programs that existed within the College of Sciences and Health Professions, the College of Education and Human Services and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed departments of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Health Science and Human Performance and Music Therapy have been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting of April 27, 2022:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the creation of the Departments of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Health Science and Human Performance and Music Therapy.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Reynolds stated a motion for the Board to recess into Executive Session to discuss trade secret matters required to be kept confidential under law, personnel matters, public employee compensation, and to discuss imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel. Trustee Kunkle seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Reynolds. The motion carried.

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting trustees, Community Trustee Hopkins, President Bloomberg, Int. Provost Sridhar, Vice President Jewell, Vice President Hughes, Dean Zachariah, Vice President Rehm, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 10:46 a.m.

At 11:35 a.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its public session.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Reynolds announced that as a result of the Executive Session, the members seek to delegate approval to the Executive Committee for the agreement between Cleveland State University and KeyPath Education LLC for marketing, enrollment, clinical placement and retention support functions of online education, to help grow enrollment, especially in health-related careers.

Trustee Kunkle moved the resolution, and Trustee DePompei seconded the motion. Board Secretary called the roll, and voting in the affirmative were Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Kunkle, Ms. Whiting, and Mr. Reynolds. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2022-51**

**APPROVAL OF ONLINE PROGRAMS AGREEMENT BETWEEN CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY AND KEYPATH EDUCATION LLC**

**WHEREAS**, the University has had limited success in growing our enrollment in online programs;  
And

**WHEREAS**, the University Administration conducted a review of potential partners and invited proposals from four potential partners; and

**WHEREAS**, the University Administration believes KeyPath Education LLC is the best qualified based upon presentation, program background and delivery as documented by their portfolio of higher education institutions across the globe and their background in working with health-related programs that include clinical placements; and

**WHEREAS**, the University's administration has limited this engagement to all programs inside the College of Health; and

**WHEREAS**, KeyPath Education has committed to working closely with faculty in each program area:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby delegates that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees is authorized to negotiate and approve the terms of the contract, subject to any changes or revisions deemed necessary by the General Counsel.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Reynolds asked if there was any other new or unfinished business to come before the Board, and hearing none, he reminded members that the next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for September 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

Sonali B. Wilson  
General Counsel and  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

David M. Reynolds  
Chair, Board of Trustees