

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Columbus, Ohio, July 14, 2023

The Board of Trustees met at WOSU Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, and virtually over Zoom on July 14, 2023, pursuant to adjournment.

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Minutes of the last meetings were approved.

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### **FULL-BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Vice Chair John Zeiger called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order on Friday, July 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Alan A. Stockmeister, John W. Zeiger, Elizabeth A. Harsh, Reginald A. Wilkinson, Tomislav B. Mitevski, Pierre Bigby, Juan Jose Perez, Bradley R. Kastan, George A. Skestos, Taylor A. Schwein

Members Present via Zoom: Gary R. Heminger, Jeff M.S. Kaplan, Michael F. Kiggin

Members Absent: Hiroyuki Fujita, Elizabeth P. Kessler, Lewis Von Thaeer

Mr. Zeiger:

Will the Secretary please advise when a quorum is present?

Ms. Eveland:

A quorum is present.

Mr. Zeiger:

Good afternoon, everyone. Chairman Fujita is unavailable today and I've been asked to step in and lead today's Board session. At this time, I would like to convene the meeting of the Board of Trustees. Would the Secretary please note the attendance?

Ms. Eveland:

A quorum is present.

Dr. Zeiger:

Thank you. I will now move that the Board recess into executive session to consider business-sensitive trade secrets required to be kept confidential by federal and state statutes, and to discuss personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment and compensation of public employees.

Upon the motion of Mr. Zeiger, seconded by Mr. Mitevski, the Board of Trustees adopted the foregoing motion by unanimous roll call vote, cast by trustees: Mr. Stockmeister, Mr. Zeiger, Mr. Heminger, Mr. Kaplan, Mrs. Harsh, Dr. Wilkinson, Mr. Kiggin, Mr. Mitevski, Mr. Bigby, Mr. Perez, Mr. Kastan, Mr. Skestos, and Ms. Schwein.

The meeting entered executive session at 4:02 p.m. and adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

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### **FULL-BOARD PUBLIC SESSION**

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Vice Chair John Zeiger reconvened The Ohio State University Board of Trustees on Friday, July 14, 2023, at 4:32 p.m.

Mr. Zeiger:

Reminder to everyone that this meeting is being recorded and livestreamed for the public on WOSU. So that we are able to conduct the business of this meeting in an orderly fashion, I would ask that any sound on cell phones and other devices be turned off, and I would ask that all members of the audience observe appropriate rules of decorum proper to conducting the business at hand.

The critical issue for today's meeting is the consideration of a recommendation from the Finance & Investment Committee and our chief financial officer for a tuition adjustment. At this point I would ask Mike Papadakis and Kris Devine to make a presentation explaining the proposed change and the reason it is required.

Mr. Papadakis:

So anytime we have a conversation on this topic we always want to start it with a level set to make sure we are thinking about student access and affordability. Currently, we operate under the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee Program. It is a program that has been in place since FY2018, so this is the sixth class of students who will be part of that program. It is important to note that residents of the state of Ohio are part of this program, we are not only locking in tuition fees we are also locking in room and board for up to four years.

We think the total cost of attendance and affordability at Ohio State is important, so we lock in all those fees for our students for four years. Another part of what we think about when we think about affordability is making sure we are handing out significant amounts of student financial aid. As you can see on slide 2, we have highlighted several different programs. I will give a few highlights. When you think of total student financial aid for next year, we are forecasting our Ohio State students will receive \$450M; with \$364M of that financial aid comes from Ohio State, the rest of those dollars come from various federal and state programs. Again, \$364M in aid from us to our students for next year.

Some of the programs listed are parts of our larger programs aimed at affordability. Again, I will just give some highlights. The Buckeye Opportunity Program, which is a program we launched in 2018, it basically provides full tuition fees for Ohio Pell-eligible students. We rolled that program out in 2018 in Columbus and in 2019 at our regional campuses. We also have available the President's Affordability Grant Program, which roughly impacts 13,000 students every year and gives students grants from \$500-\$1,500 each to hopefully help offset some of their costs.

The Land-Grant Opportunity Scholarship program has doubled in size allowing us to provide two full-ride scholarships to every incoming class for every

county in the state of Ohio. Every county, every year, gets two full-ride scholarships to Ohio State University.

We also want to thank our state legislature for passing a very significant increase in the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG). The increase is roughly \$500 per student going into the next biennium.

The last program to highlight is the Scarlet & Gray program which launched last fall. We had 125 students in that program, and we expect 125-150 students in that program again this fall. Thinking about ways we can give our students opportunities or pathways to hopefully graduate from Ohio State debt free.

On the next slide, slide 3, I want to highlight a couple thoughts on why we are having a conversation about tuition increases today. As you think about the operations of the university and how we fund the overall academic mission it is important to not just think about today but how we got here. If you think about the last decade, we had roughly five years where we froze tuition. Also, during that time period, we entered the sixth year of our Ohio State Tuition Guarantee program, which is a program where we increase rates up front then lock them in for four years.

The other pieces to highlight are total State Share of Instruction (SSI) has certainly not kept pace with inflation over the last 20 years. As you can see on the chart at the bottom of the page, thinking about where we've received our funding from you can see that transition in the past decades where we were mainly state funded to now where the vast majority is coming from tuition and fees.

Last but not least, the operating environment we've encountered in the last couple years has experienced lots of impact from inflation, commodity costs, labor costs, student wages, full-time wages, natural gas, food prices etc. Ohio State has been impacted by all those things; highlighted on the page for you are some thoughts around what those rates have been over the past couple of years.

As we think about the proposal today while viewing slide 4, I am going to begin on the left side of the page and work my way through the undergraduate proposals first, then graduate student proposals on the right and go in more depth on these as well.

First, a number of fees are not going up at all for returning in-state students who are already part of the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee program. Also, our international surcharge and our non-resident online programs have a 0% increase for next year.

Next, in the box to the bottom left, for our in-state students we are asking for a 3% increase. This is a 3% one-time increase locked in for four years. Again, it is a one-time increase.

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The non-resident surcharge request is for a 5.2% increase, or roughly \$1,269; housing and dining are both looking for a 3% increase, then student health insurance is given in a range; this is a pass-through cost negotiation with an outside party then the cost is passed through to our students.

Mr. Mitevski:

Mike, can we have an idea what the size of the incoming class will be this year and perhaps the composition of it – resident vs. non-resident?

Mr. Papadakis:

Great question. We think our incoming class will be somewhere between 8,100-8,200 students. We will be somewhere in the ballpark of 33-35% out of state, so 65-67% in state.

On the right side of the page on slide 4, just a couple quick thoughts on graduate programs then I will hand it over to Kris to go into more in depth. We are proposing a 3.8% increase for both in-person and online programs for residents and a 4.2% increase for non-residents.

In the box below, still on slide 4, we have several different master's programs, we are asking for a rate increase for some of the new programs and for some of our existing programs. All those rate increases are market based. We do a lot of work so our programs are cost competitive around the county with the other programs and make sure they are a good value for our students as well.

Any questions at this point?

Mr. Zeiger:

Mike, thank you. I know that there are literally a thousand details in the work you, Kris and your team have done, and I also want to emphasize for the public that the entire package of these slides which show all those details on the various different programs and fees are available so perhaps we can keep the detailed discussion at a relatively truncated presentation. However, I do think it is important that Kris help people understand how it is these proposals come forward and process by which the university itself and the academic side of the house is involved.

Ms. Devine:

Sure, I will talk about that as I go through the slides, so we ensure everybody understands.

I'll start with the undergraduate section — undergraduate tuition and fees for FY24 on slide 6. As Mike noted, tuition is built on base tuition for Ohio students, this is the tuition guarantee for four years. Incoming students will pay the 3% increase, but that amount is then locked for a four-year period. We are proposing an increase in instructional fees by 2.6%, and 0.4% increase to base tuition to provide funding specific for student wellness and mental health

efforts. This 3% aggregate increase is within the state guidelines. Domestic non-resident students will pay the base tuition plus the non-resident surcharge. The non-resident fees for both domestic U.S. residents outside of Ohio and international students is set based on market pricing and peer comparison reviews. How we compare to our peers in this context I will talk about on the next slide. The only other thing I want to mention on this slide is program course and technology fees have a 0% increase for undergraduate students this year. Back in spring of 2019 we eliminated about 70% of our course fees in the interest of student affordability.

Slide 7 is our way of trying to really understand and show where we land compared to peers as well as where we land compared to Ohio schools. With the tuition increase proposed, Ohio State will remain the second most affordable university for resident undergrads amongst selective admission public universities in the state and more affordable than nine of the 15 Big Ten schools or seventh most affordable for resident students. The specifics by schools are outlined in the appendix on slide 25 if you're interested in that information.

I also want to note we are increasing and investing .4% of the increase in the office of student life, student wellness and mental health education and prevention efforts to allow us to continue our strategic activities to ensure our students can continue to be successful inside and outside of the classroom.

The graph on the bottom left-hand side of slide 7 lays out by component what type of fees are embedded in the undergraduate mandatory fees and tuition. You will see where we land at the first subtotal for residents at 3%, you will also see the recreation fee in there added at a 2.8% increase, and it should be noted the international surcharge — international students pay base, plus domestic non-resident, plus international surcharges. We are not increasing the international surcharge. Their total fee will still go up consistent with domestic non-resident but when we look again at our market comparison, we are 11th in the Big Ten for most affordable, which means we are getting higher in the price point compared to where we want to be over time to ensure we are staying competitive.

I guess the only other thing I want to mention, even with all our components it is interesting to note this year we had 70,000 completed applications for Ohio State, last year we have 65,200. So, our brand remains strong and the demand for the service remains strong which is excellent news for Ohio State.

I am going to flip to graduate tuition. On slide 9, we are proposing a 3.8% increase in base tuition and a 4.2% increase in non-resident tuition for graduate tuition and fees. The rates are valued against Big Ten peers. Master's and PhD students will pay these rates unless they have differentials. On slide 10 we will talk about how we compare at those rates in comparison to our peers. And again, we added at the bottom what the fee components are for graduate students. You will see graduate programs for tuition mandatory fees will increase about \$500 for Ohio and \$1,629 for non-resident students. Those base rates were not increased from 2014-2022, therefore, we had a bigger gap between our price point than our peers than what we wanted to be

comfortable with. These rates will put Ohio State at the seventh most affordable of 15 schools in the Big Ten for residents and 11<sup>th</sup> in the Big Ten for non-residents. Again, comparison for specific schools both within the Big Ten and comparison to Ohio can be found on slides 34 and 35 of the deck provided.

Jumping to tag master's and professional tuition and fees on slide 12. The process on how these prices are determined are each graduate and professional college program looks at their tuition compared to market pricing and demand. We have an internal process that is very judicious to review fees that each college will bring forward to Senate Fiscal Committee to review. Senate Fiscal is a subcommittee of our Faculty Senate, and that subcommittee is comprised of deans, administrators, students and faculty. This subcommittee reviews each proposal for market pricing demand, cost structure and necessity of the fee increase and will gather student input for any existing programs. Once satisfied with the answers and the information provided then the committee will recommend approval or no approval to the provost and the chief financial officer depending on the data they gathered. The chart on slide 12 provides an overview of the fee proposal increases for graduate and professional fees for FY2024.

On the next slide (slide 13) there is a lot of data here as you can see. This shows differential fees for each program as outlined. There are three new programs we are bringing forward this year: two in cybersecurity and one in Doctor of Nursing Education. The details specific to those fees, how they were justified, demand for the program, etc. are outlined on slides 37 and 38 of the deck. These fees are all based on market assessments at the colleges and can increase or decrease depending on demand and market changes. You will note the supply change demand differentials are proposing to change as a decrease in order to align with market rate. I think it is important to know it can go either way depending on that assessment. I think that is a good validation that the process is judicious.

Next slide (slide 14) covers program course fees for graduate programs, new program course fees are shown on this slide. I am not going to go through them as the specifics are available for you review on slides 39 and 42. These slides are intended to provide the background on what the process was, the justification for the need for the change and the fee request.

Jumping to housing and dining on slide 16. Housing and Dining is a tuition guarantee program for Ohio State. Generally, students will live in on-campus housing for two years. We have given you some background on what rate increases have been historically. The need for rate of increases depends on increases in support for operations and repair and maintenance. We try to ensure we are keeping up to speed on repairs and maintenance and deferred maintenance in the housing and dining areas. Off—campus benchmarking indicate rates are going up 3-5% in the marketplace. Dining specifically, I will call out food increases due to inflation have been very significant as well as our labor market. It is really challenging to get students to work in the dining hall which is a big component of our workforce, the labor and demand and labor price is increasing. The proposal will outline we have a 3% proposed

increase to cover operations and repairs and maintenance for housing and dining. The rates vary depending on which plan you choose either both in housing or dining. We are mindful where we are with the price point in this particular demographic. We could have an increase based on state biennium regulations up to three-year average CPI which equates to 4.6% but we are only going to increase at 3.3% this year.

The last slide, slide 19, is on student health insurance. We are proposing an increase of 1.73 – 1.76%. This is a 100% pass-through charge based on a third party vendor. We require all students at OSU to have health insurance. Eighty—seven per-cent of the students have health insurance from someone else, predominantly from parent plans. International students are required to be enrolled in the Ohio State Health Plan to ensure they have health insurance. Here again the rate increase is what is negotiated with our third party vendor who provides the service.

After this, you have many slides for your reading pleasure if you so choose to.

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### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Zeiger:

Mike and Kris, thank you for all the effort that you and your team have put into developing these proposals and justifying them to us. We appreciate it. Are there any questions from the members of the board regarding the proposals I know we have all received the written documents, I am confident we have all reviewed them with care. I am particularly appreciative of the finance committee under Tom Mitevski's leadership. They have engaged significantly on reviewing this with a lot of hours going into that. But are there any final questions from the Trustees regarding these proposals? Including all of those who are on Zoom with us.

Hearing none, at this point we do have four proposals on our consent agenda, resolutions, which basically incorporate and finalize the detail Mike and Kris have shared with us today and have all been provided to the Board previously and been reviewed along with the underlining documentation as well. There are four different consent agenda items set forth both in the materials the Trustees have and available to the public.

At this point I would ask Mr. Mitevski, as Chair of the finance committee share a few thoughts about the process and at the appropriate point make a motion.

Mr. Mitevski:

Thank you, John. I would just add that our Finance and Investment Committee has been working with Kris and Mike and the team for several, several months to look at all these presented increases to make sure they are affordable and competitive, and to also assess the landscape. I mean inflation has been increasing over 7% for the last couple years. We want to make sure this is



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affordable and competitive and while at the same time allowing us to invest and reinvest. I would like to make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Zeiger:

Any further discussion?

Hearing none, I'll ask the Secretary to call the role to approve all four of the consent agenda proposals or resolutions which will incorporate and put into effect the information Mike and Kris have laid out regarding tuition and fees including dining and housing.

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**APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
TUITION & MANDATORY FEES**

Resolution No. 2024-01

Synopsis: Approval of tuition and mandatory fees, non-residential and international surcharges for undergraduate and graduate students at all campuses of The Ohio State University for the Academic Year 2023-2024, is proposed.

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University supports the university's continued implementation of the Academic Plan and its initiatives to meet the needs of Ohio State students; and

WHEREAS the state budget contains higher education funding through the State Share of Instruction and special purpose appropriations; and

WHEREAS the university established the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee program in Fiscal Year 2018, which sets the cost of tuition, mandatory fees, and room and board rates for each incoming class of Ohio resident students for four years; and

WHEREAS Ohio resident students in the Tuition Guarantee cohort that began in Autumn of 2018 (Fiscal Year 2019), will move to the Tuition Guarantee cohort rates established for Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS Ohio resident students in the Tuition Guarantee cohort that began in Autumn of 2019 (Fiscal Year 2020), will move to the Tuition Guarantee cohort rates established for Fiscal Year 2021; and

WHEREAS Ohio resident students in the Tuition Guarantee cohorts that began in Fiscal Years 2021, 2022 and 2023 will continue at the rates established for their cohorts and will therefore see no change (0%) in their tuition, mandatory fees, and room and board rates for Academic Year 2023-2024; and

WHEREAS new first-year Ohio resident undergraduate students enrolled at all campuses in 2023-2024 will be part of a new Ohio State Tuition Guarantee cohort; and

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WHEREAS Ohio Revised Code 3345.48 establishes that institutions with tuition guarantee programs may not increase the instructional and mandatory fees for each incoming class of first-year undergraduate students by more than 3.0% as allowed under the State of Ohio's FY2024-25 biennial budget bill, Amended Substitute House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS the university administration now presents recommendations for tuition and mandatory fees and non-residential and international surcharges for the Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion and Newark campuses and for the Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) at Wooster for the Academic Year 2023-2024:

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation of the administration and hereby approves rates for the Academic Year 2023-2024 for all campuses, effective autumn semester 2023, as follows and as outlined in the attached document:

- That tuition, mandatory fees, housing rates and dining rates will be part of the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee for new first-year Ohio resident undergraduate students, and that tuition and mandatory fees for this cohort will increase by 3.0%. Changes to housing and dining rates are addressed in the 2023-2024 Academic Year User Fees & Charges resolution; and
- That tuition and mandatory fees for Ohio resident undergraduate students, not included in the Ohio State Tuition Guarantee program — will increase by 0.0%; and
- That tuition and mandatory fees will increase by 3.8% for graduate programs. Changes to differential fees for certain programs are addressed in the 2023-2024 Academic Year User Fees & Charges resolution; and
- That the non-resident surcharge for undergraduates will be increased by 5.2% and most graduates will be increased by 4.2%. Exceptions for certain graduate programs are addressed in the 2023-2024 Academic Year User Fees & Charges resolution; and
- That the international surcharge for undergraduate students will not increase (0% change); and
- That the non-resident surcharge for a student taking all online course(s) over an entire semester and not pursuing an online degree or certificate program will be the same as the in-person student non-resident surcharge; and
- That the non-resident surcharge will not increase for a student pursuing an online degree or certificate program.

(See Appendix XX for background information, page XX)

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**APPROVAL OF 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
USER FEES & CHARGES**

Resolution No. 2024-02

Synopsis: User fees and charges at the Columbus and regional campuses of The Ohio State University for Academic Year 2023-24, is proposed.

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University supports the university's continued implementation of the Academic Plan and its initiatives to meet the needs of Ohio State students; and

WHEREAS the university is committed to access, affordability and excellence; and

WHEREAS consultations have taken place within the university to determine the appropriate fees for graduate and professional programs, housing and dining charges, and student health insurance charges, as described in the accompanying text and tables, which have been reviewed and recommended:

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation of the administration for the following rates, which are outlined in the attached document and will be effective autumn semester 2023:

- Graduate and professional fees, including differential instruction and clinical, as well as the non-resident surcharge; and
- Housing and dining plans; and
- Student health plan.

(See Appendix XX for background information, page XX)

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**APPROVAL OF DIGITAL TEXTBOOK FEES**

Resolution No. 2024-03

Synopsis: Approval of digital textbook pass-through fees at all campuses of The Ohio State University for the Fiscal Year 2024 is proposed.

WHEREAS access, affordability and excellence are a pillar of The Ohio State University's strategic plan; and

WHEREAS the university collects certain fees, known as pass-through fees, that are used to pay third parties for goods and services that directly benefit students; and

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WHEREAS the university does not seek to financially benefit from pass-through fees, but collects these fees instead of requiring third parties to bill students directly in circumstances where the university's involvement can reduce student costs, simplify billing for students, or otherwise benefit students; and

WHEREAS the university will be dramatically increasing the use of pass-through fees as part of the CarmenBooks affordability initiative, in which students can access digital textbooks at a significantly discounted rate compared with traditional materials; and

WHEREAS the CarmenBooks pilot that the Board of Trustees approved for spring semester 2019 (Resolution 2019-08) has expanded and is expected to save students more than \$3.6 million for autumn semester 2023:

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the digital textbook pass-through rates for the 2023-24 academic year for all campuses, effective Autumn semester 2023, as follows and as outlined in the attached document.

(See Appendix XX for background information, page XX)

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**APPROVAL OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION WAIVER FOR OHIO STATE STUDENTS WHO ARE VETERANS, MILITARY MEMBERS, OR THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES**

Resolution No. 2024-04

Synopsis: Waiver of the non-resident surcharge for Ohio State students who are veterans, military members, or their immediate families for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 is proposed.

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University supports academic programs that meet the needs of Ohio State students; and

WHEREAS Ohio State students who are veterans or military members, with 90 days or more of honorable service in the United States uniformed services, and their immediate families, defined as spouses and/or children, that do not qualify for in-state tuition because of the intricacies of federal and state regulations, would benefit from an expanded policy that extends a waiver of the non-resident surcharge; and

WHEREAS Ohio State has, since spring semester 2019, requested and received a tuition waiver that allows the university to assess a \$5 non-resident tuition surcharge to eligible students, rather than the respective undergraduate non-resident surcharge based on their assigned tuition guarantee cohort; and

WHEREAS the university seeks to continue the fee waiver that reduces the non-resident surcharge to \$5 for eligible veterans, military members and their

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immediate families, but the current waiver expires at the end of summer 2023 term; and

WHEREAS the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) requires a Board of Trustees resolution to consider a new tuition waiver per Ohio Revised Code and ODHE directive 2009-011:

NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby approves to waive all but \$5 of the non-resident tuition surcharge for The Ohio State University students who are veterans or military members, with 90 days or more of honorable service in the United States uniformed services, and their immediate families, that do not otherwise qualify for in-state tuition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this approval will become effective for all semesters and terms, beginning autumn 2023 semester, through June 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the administration will seek approval of a tuition waiver from the Ohio Department of Higher Education for state Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.

Upon the motion of Mr. Mitevski, seconded by Dr. Wilkinson, the Board of Trustees adopted the foregoing resolutions by roll call vote cast by the following trustees: Mr. Stockmeister, Mr. Zeiger, Mr. Heminger, Mr. Kaplan, Mrs. Harsh, Dr. Wilkinson, Mr. Kiggin, Mr. Mitevski, Mr. Bigby, Mr. Perez, Mr. Kastan, Mr. Skestos, and Ms. Schwein.

Mr. Zeiger:

Thank you. We have now resolved the business on the agenda for today. Hearing no further concerns or inquiries we will note the next meetings of Board of Trustees and its committees are scheduled to take place August 15-17, and with that we will consider this meeting adjourned. Thank you all so much.

The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Attest:

John W. Zeiger  
Vice Chairman

Jessica A. Eveland  
Secretary