



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Special Meeting

November 15, 2024 Minutes

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

Via Zoom

A live stream of the meeting for public viewing will also take place at the following link: <https://www.westfield.ma.edu/live>

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Ali Salehi, Vice Chair Melissa Alvarado, Secretary Dr. Gloria Williams, and Trustees, Daniel Currier, Theresa Jasmin, Tessa Lucey, Chris Montemayor, Michael O'Rourke, Jason Queenin, and William Reichelt.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustee George Gilmer

Also present were Westfield State University President Dr. Linda Thompson, and cabinet members Chief of Staff Dr. Michael Freeman, and Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Dr. Kevin Hearn.

Chair Salehi called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. He announced the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

He welcomed Jason "Jay" Queenin to the Board, as the newest member and gave some background on him and his accomplishments.

President's Evaluation for Academic Year 2023-2024

Dr. Thompson has been here for over three years which the Department of Higher Education requires a comprehensive evaluation. A self-evaluation was submitted to the Executive Committee, an anonymous evaluation from the Board and a comprehensive evaluation with interviews from a wide variety of people around campus. Also interviewed were, outside stakeholders, State Senators, Mayors, other university Presidents, and community leaders who have been involved with the campus indirectly and directly. All feedback was confidential with reports being sent to the Board's assistant in a way a person could not draw a conclusion of who said what.

Themes prevalent around Dr. Thompson were around her hands-on approach and creating an environment of inclusivity, especially around academic excellence. Her energy and vision are setting Westfield State University up for positive change. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and the passion Dr. Thompson brings to the job.

MOTION made by Trustee Daniel Currier seconded by Trustee Chris Montemayor, to approve the presidential evaluation for the 2023-2024 academic year as presented to the Executive Committee on the above date, and the submission of said evaluation to the Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education along with the submission for the maximum possible compensation. There being no discussion, a roll call was conducted, **motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business,

MOTION made by Trustee O'Rourke, and seconded by Trustee Alvarado, to adjourn. A roll call was completed, **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM.

Attachments:

- a. Trustees' Questionnaire
- b. Trustees' Anonymous Feedback
- c. President's Self Evaluation
- d. Table of Interviews and Questions
- e. Draft Presidential Evaluation for 2023-2024 Academic Year
- f. Motion – Presidential Evaluation for 2023-2024 Academic Year

Secretary's Certificate

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the Westfield State University Board of Trustees meeting held on November 15, 2024.

Dr. Gloria Williams, Secretary

Date