Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held in the University Inn, Alma Sonne Board Room, commencing at 9:04 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Ronald W. Jibson Chair
Scott R. Watterson Vice Chair
Jody K. Burnett
Linda Clark Gillmor
Mark K. Holland
Karen H. Huntsman
Susan D. Johnson
J. Scott Nixon
Frank Peczuh, Jr.
Michael Scott Peters
Lane L. Thomas

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT
Neil N. Abercrombie Vice President, Government Relations
V. Dean Adams Associate Dean, College of Engineering
Jodi Bailey Chief Audit Executive
Carolyn Brittain Staff Assistant
Noelle E. Cockett President
Laurens H. Smith, Jr. Interim Provost
David T. Cowley Vice President, Business and Finance
Trisha Hunsaker President-Elect, Staff Employee Association
Mica McKinney General Counsel
Mark R. McLellan Vice President, Research and Dean, Graduate Studies
James D. Morales Vice President, Student Affairs
Joe Peterson Chancellor, USU Eastern
Sydney M. Peterson Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees Secretary
Edward M. Reeve Interim Vice Provost
Derrik Tollefson Department Head, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology
Tim Vitale Director, Public Relations and Marketing
Robert Wagner Vice President, Academic & Instructional Services
Daniel W. Watson Department Head, Computer Science
Kenneth L. White Vice President, Extension and Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Vincent Wickwar President, Faculty Senate

OTHERS PRESENT
Kevin Opsahl The Herald Journal
Mark Stoddard Member, Board of Regents
Teresa Theurer Member, Board of Regents
Chair Jibson called the meeting to order. He praised the wonderful talent involved in the Inaugural Concert for President Cockett. Sydney Peterson was acknowledged for her tireless behind-the-scenes efforts.

Trustee Burnett moved that in accordance with provision 52-4-205 of the Utah Code, the Trustees go into a Closed Session for the sole purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Trustee Nixon seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Jibson reopened the Regular Meeting at 10:10 a.m. thanking the Trustees, members of the Administration, representatives from the Faculty Senate and Staff Employee Association, Regents Mark Stoddard and Teresa Theurer, and members of the media for their attendance. He expressed his gratitude for the beautiful weather this commencement weekend and for the efforts of all those involved at the institution.

I. Chair’s Report

A. Information Items

1. Letter of Commendation and Appreciation to Ashley Waddoups (Appendix A)

   Ashley Waddoups was not in attendance. She was honored at the special meeting held Saturday, May 6, 2017.

2. Oath of Office for Michael Scott Peters

   Chair Jibson welcomed Michael Scott Peters as new student body president and administered his Oath of Office.

3. Alumni Association Report

   Trustee Thomas noted that Sydney Peterson is serving as the Interim Director of Alumni Relations. David Clark is now heading up corporate relations for the Advancement Office. The Alumni Association’s Hall of Honor was held in April. The honorees were Marty and Betsy Judd, Nikkel Nielsen, Dr. Jay Monson, and Dr. LaVell and Mayzell King.

4. Audit Committee Report

   Trustee Nixon reported that the Committee had a robust meeting discussing internal reports and receiving an update on the ongoing risk assessment process. No formal reports needed to be approved by the Board.
5. **USUSA Report**

Trustee Peters shared that the USUSA theme for next year is “Everyone Belongs.” He also shared a few highlights from the USUSA written report, including Mental Health Week held in early April and “Gripe Night” organized to receive feedback regarding student concerns and ideas.

6. **Annual Faculty Achievements and Activities by College/Unit**

Chair Jibson referenced the following link to the report.  
http://www.usu.edu/trustees/agenda/2017/

7. **Department of Public Safety Annual Report**

Chair Jibson referenced the following link to the report.  
http://www.usu.edu/trustees/agenda/2017/

8. **Commencement 2017 Schedule**

It was noted that USU Eastern had the largest number of graduates to date this year. At Tooele’s ceremony Beverly Jean Larsen White was presented with an honorary degree. It was very fitting to award her degree in Tooele with so many of her family members present. She and her family were very appreciative.

9. **Date of the next Board of Trustees Meeting, June 23, 2017 to be held via conference call**

II. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

A. **Information Items**

   1. **Student Resolution of Commendation to Ismail Alsomali (Appendix B)**

   Newly sworn in Trustee Peters introduced Ismail Alsomali. Ismail, an international student from Saudi Arabia, is studying Aviation Technology. He is the first international student to serve on the A-Team. Ismail served as a member of the Diversity Cabinet and will be vice president of the International Student Council next year.

   President Cockett took a moment to thank everyone for making the Inaugural Concert event so special for her. She spoke of her love for Utah State and her realization of the role she will play as president.
B. **Recent Events**

1. Mountain West Basketball Tournament for Men and Women, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 6-11, 2017
2. Mountain West Board Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 8, 2017
3. Council of Presidents, Salt Lake City, March 14, 2017
4. Inaugural Professor Lecture, W. David Robinson, President’s Home, March 15, 2017
5. Remarks at Family and Single Area (FSA) Dinner, March 20, 2017
6. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Peter Adler, President’s Home, March 21, 2017
7. Groundbreaking for new building at USU Botanical Center, Kaysville, Utah, March 22, 2017
8. Legislative Appreciation Dinner, President’s Home, March 22, 2017
10. College of Natural Resources Awards Banquet, March 25, 2017
11. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Bedri Cetiner, President’s Home, March 27, 2017
12. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors, Salt Lake City, March 28, 2017
13. Remarks at Employee Recognition Luncheon, March 28, 2017
14. Student Advisory Council Breakfast, President’s Home, March 29, 2017
15. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Rhonda L. Miller, President’s Home, March 29, 2017
17. Board of Regents, Dixie State University, St. George, March 31, 2017
18. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Cacilda Rego, President’s Home, April 4, 2017
19. USTAR Governing Authority Board Meeting, Salt Lake City, April 6, 2017
20. USU Board of Trustees Teleconference, April 7, 2017
21. Research Gala, April 7, 2017
22. Alumni Hall of Honor, April 8, 2017
23. USU Emeriti Association Scholarship Awards Luncheon, April 17, 2017
24. Retirement Dinner, April 17, 2017
25. USUSA Officers Incoming/Outgoing Breakfast, President’s Home, April 18, 2017
26. President’s Ambassadors Appreciation Dinner, President’s Home, April 18, 2017
27. Regents Spring Resource and Review Lunch/Meeting, April 19, 2017
28. USU Southwest Graduation, Nephi, April 20, 2017
29. Diversity Awards Luncheon, President’s Home, April 21, 2017
30. USU Brigham City Graduation, Brigham City, April 21, 2017
31. USU Tooele Graduation, Stansbury Park, April 22, 2017
32. AB Chapman Lecture and Seminar, Madison, Wisconsin, April 24, 2017
33. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors, Salt Lake City, April 25, 2017
34. Life Sciences Building Groundbreaking, April 25, 2017
35. Promotion and Tenure Reception, April 26, 2017
36. Utah Campus Compact Awards Luncheon, April 27, 2017
37. USU Moab Graduation, Moab, April 27, 2017
38. USU-Eastern Blanding Campus Graduation, Blanding, April 28, 2017
39. Salt Lake Chamber Gala, Salt Lake City, April 28, 2017
40. USU-Eastern Price Campus Graduation, Price, April 29, 2017
41. USU Uintah Basin Graduation, Vernal, April 29, 2017
42. Council of Presidents, Salt Lake City, May 2, 2017
43. Utah Campus Compact Board of Directors, Salt Lake City, May 2, 2017
44. USU Inauguration Event with Students, May 4, 2017
45. USTAR Governing Authority Board Meeting, Salt Lake City, May 4, 2017
46. USU Inauguration Concert, May 4, 2017
47. USU Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, May 5, 2017
48. USU Graduate Commencement and Hooding Ceremony, May 5, 2017
49. USU Dignitaries’ Dinner, May 5, 2017
50. USU Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony, May 6, 2017

C. Upcoming Events

1. Utah Technology Council Board of Trustees, Salt Lake City, May 10, 2017
2. Aggie Auction, May 18, 2017
3. Board of Regents, Salt Lake Community College, Salt Lake City, May 19, 2017
4. USTAR Governing Authority Board Meeting, Salt Lake City, June 1, 2017
5. Mountain West Board Meetings, Santa Barbara, California, June 4-6, 2017
6. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors Retreat, Salt Lake City, June 13, 2017
7. Association of Public Land-Grant Universities Council of President’s Summer Meeting, Washington, DC, June 20, 2017
8. USU Board of Trustees Teleconference Meeting, June 23, 2017

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustees were given the following consent agenda material for their consideration. Chair Jibson asked if any items on the Consent Agenda needed to be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Action Agenda for further discussion; there were no requests.

1. Minutes from the Closed Session held on April 7, 2017
2. Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2017
3. Certificate of Treasurer – 2016-12 December [Resolution 17-05-01] (Appendix C)
8. Delegation/Administrative Reports – 02/17/17 to 03/24/17 [Resolution 17-05-06] (Appendix H)
9. Faculty and Staff Adjustments [Resolution 17-05-07] (Appendix I)
15. Nominations for Appointment to the Board of Regents [Resolution 17-05-13] (Appendix O)
16. Acceptance of Written Reports
Action: Trustee Thomas moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

IV. ACTION AGENDA

Interim Provost Larry Smith presented the following academic proposals.

1. Proposal from the Department of Environment and Society in the S. J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources to Restructure the Environmental Studies Bachelor of Science [Resolution 17-05-14] (Appendix Z)

This update to the curriculum for the B.S. in Environmental Studies includes the elimination of areas of emphasis. Most students choose the customizable Environmental Stewardship 15-credit option. The degree is now available via distance education.

Action: Trustee Nixon moved the approval of [Resolution 17-05-14] the proposal for the Department of Environment and Society in the S. J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources to Restructure the Environmental Studies Bachelor of Science. Trustee Gillmor seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

2. Proposal from the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering to offer a Computer Science Teaching Minor [Resolution 17-05-15] (Appendix AA)

Dan Watson, Department Head, Computer Science, presented the proposal and answered questions. Computer Science is the fastest growing sector in the American economy; there are not enough graduates in the field to fill the demand. Many math teaching and some science-teaching majors have requested this teaching minor. This minor will add value to teaching majors.

Action: Trustee Holland moved the approval of [Resolution 17-05-15] the proposal for the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering to offer a Computer Science Teaching Minor. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.
3. Proposal from the Department of Engineering Education in the College of Engineering to offer an On-line Graduate Certificate in Engineering Education [Resolution 17-05-16] (Appendix BB)

Dean Adams, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, noted that this will be the only online graduate-level certificate. It is anticipated that it will attract students from around the globe. Engineering education has had limited offerings. This will greatly increase the capacity to train engineers to teach. Many graduates have gone into teaching without any background in teaching. This opportunity will allow students, faculty, and those in the business to gain credentials and the know how to teach engineering. Students must have at least one degree in engineering.

Action: Trustee Thomas moved the approval of [Resolution 17-05-16] the proposal for the Department of Engineering Education in the College of Engineering to offer an On-line Graduate Certificate in Engineering Education. Trustee Huntsman seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

4. Proposal from the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to change the name from PhD in Sociology, specialization in States and Markets to PhD in Sociology, specialization in Social Inequality [Resolution 17-05-17] (Appendix CC)

Derrik Tollefson, Department Head, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, clarified that this name change better reflects the work of the department. Social inequality refers to unequal access to resources or social goods. This term is very familiar to professionals in the field of sociology.

Action: Trustee Burnett moved the approval of [Resolution 17-05-17] the proposal for the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to change the name from PhD in Sociology, specialization in States and Markets to PhD in Sociology, specialization in Social Inequality. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

5. Proposal from the School of Applied Sciences and Technology Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences to offer a Master of Aviation Science [Resolution 17-05-18] (Appendix DD)

Ken White, Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Science, explained that this will be the only online master’s degree of its type in the Rocky Mountain area. USU has faculty expertise that is not matched at other institutions in the state. Many international students, especially from Saudi Arabia and the Dominican Republic, come to Utah State to enroll in Aviation Technology. Efforts are in place to have USU’s programs rise to the top of
google searches. Marketing will also include a presence at national and international competitions and conventions and word-of-mouth from graduates.

**Action:** Trustee Holland moved the approval of [Resolution 17-05-18] the proposal for the School of Applied Sciences, and Technology Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences to offer a Master of Aviation. Trustee Peters seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Jibson asked if there were any other items the Trustees would like to discuss before the meeting closed; none were mentioned.

**Action:** Trustee Watterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Nixon seconded the motion; the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

**Ronald W. Jibson, Chair**

**Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary**

(Minutes taken by Carolyn Brittain)

Date Approved