



USU Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2024 at 1:00 PM MST

USU - Logan campus, University Inn, Sonne Board Room

via Zoom: <https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/87312935732?pwd=ZEpFaFFjNWQrNlhkNCtvSVB6K1FNZz09>

Attendance

Trustees present:

Kent K. Alder

John Y. Ferry

Gina Gagon

David H. Huntsman

Heather Mason (remote)

David A. Petersen

Abraham Rodriguez

Jacey Skinner

Clark Whitworth

University Representatives present:

Jeff Aird

Jodi Bailey

Lisa Berreau

Janalyn Brown

Elizabeth Cantwell

Dave Cowley

Kerri Davidson

Alison Fabricius

David Forbush

Jared Gerreau

Nancy Hanks

Kent Harris

Maureen Hearn

Jane Irungu

Mica McKinney

John O'Neil

Eric Olsen

Bill Plate

Diana Sabau

Al Smith

Larry Smith

Brian Steed

James Taylor (remote)

Ken White

Matt White

Devin Wiser

Other Guests present:

John Cox

Brian Shuppy

1. Welcome -Chair Jacey Skinner

Welcomed all attendees. Excused Trustees White and Malouf. Trustee yearly parking passes were distributed with meeting packets.

2. Introduction of Kerri Davidson and John O'Neil – President Elizabeth Cantwell

President Cantwell introduced two new vice presidents, Kerri Davidson, Vice President for Institutional Affairs and Chief of Staff and John O'Neil, Vice President for Operational Strategy and Special Advisor to the President. Each come to Utah State with years of experience in enabling significant change and will help to move the President's vision and goals forward.

3. President Cantwell's Investiture – Vice President Kerri Davidson

The upcoming April 12 investiture is in the final stages of planning. The investiture will be held in the Newell and Jean Daines Concert Hall and will be a celebration of Utah State University as well as the entire state of Utah. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

4. USU Commencement – Secretary Janalyn Brown

Schedules are listed here:

[Logan | Commencement | USU](#)
[Statewide | Commencement | USU](#)

All trustees were given an invitation to all upcoming USU commencement events and asked to RSVP to Janalyn directly or via printed QR code. New regalia has been ordered and the hope is it will be received before the April 12 investiture ceremony. Trustees are encouraged to attend as many statewide commencements events as possible.

5. Student Recognition – Trustee Abraham Rodriguez

Trustee Rodriguez introduced USU student TaMariah Jenkins and read a resolution of commendation. Photos were taken with Trustee Rodriguez, Chair Skinner, President Cantwell and Jenkins.

6. Oath of Office

Four trustees were reappointed to the board. Each of their oaths of office were administered by notary Tiffany Allison.

6.1. Trustee Jacey Skinner

6.2. Trustee Gina Gagon

6.3. Trustee David Huntsman

6.4. Trustee David Petersen

7. Committee Reports

7.1. Executive – Committee Chair Jacey Skinner

Chair Skinner reported Trustees Huntsman and Whitworth were added to the Utah State University Investment Advisory Committee.

7.2. Audit, Risk & Compliance – Committee Chair David A. Petersen

Committee Chair Petersen shared written committee report.

7.3. Research & Academic Approval – Committee Chair Kacie Malouf

Trustee Rodriguez gave the committee report in Trustee Malouf's absence. He discussed the addition of a new engineering technology degree. USU was approached by Northrop Drummond, to create this curriculum because they felt it is an industry need. This degree will require development of 11 new courses and will be a blend of online and in-person learning. The institution feels this degree will be a popular program and fills a demand needed in the State. There will be options of earning either an associate's or bachelor's degree. This committee also

approved creating a bachelor's in environmental science and sustainability. Additional academic changes are listed in the consent agenda.

- 7.4. Student Health, Safety & Well-being – Committee Chair David H. Huntsman
Shared written committee report.

8. Tech College Reports

- 8.1. Uintah Basin – Vice Chair Gina Gagon

Vice Chair Gagon shared there is a massive effort underway across all institutions to align programs so there is consistency in curriculum which includes course name changes. Much work is being done to ensure alignment.

Uintah Basin School District Superintendent Young gave a report on a new pilot education model which could positively impact high-school student preparedness as the come to a university setting. It is a competency-based system, which Young called the ABCs - accountability based competency system. They are currently in the initial stages of development.

- 8.2. Tooele Tech – Trustee David A. Petersen

Tooele County is the fastest growing county in the state of Utah and has been for several years now. Many businesses, including manufacturing plants, are opening in this county. Tooele Technical College President Paul Hacking works closely with USU Tooele and they have a very collaborative relationship and coordinate well. They do not duplicate services but build on what each have to offer. Tooele Tech has a major construction project underway now. It is a \$28 million, state, private and publicly funded building expansion and will double their programming space allowing them to expand welding, IT, cosmetology, automation, pharmacy tech, medical assisting, nursing, CDL, and diesel programs. They are planning to add new programs as well such as machining, automotive, plumbing apprenticeships, building trades and surgical tech. The construction is scheduled to be completed in January 2025. Many great things happening here.

- 8.3. Bridgerland Technical College – Trustee John Y. Ferry

No report as they had not met again since the last report given.

9. USU Foundation Report – Vice Chair Gina Gagon

The USU Foundation Board met the days prior to this meeting. Much work is being done. In the Foundation meeting, Vice President Sabau presented and updated the group on work going into the campaign that will launch this summer. There are some travel opportunities upcoming with the foundation board and alumni groups which are great ways for the groups to get involved with students. Vice President Wisner also reported on the legislative session.

Advancement is on budget but a little behind in terms of fundraising. Their team have plans to catch up and expect to end the fiscal year well.

Chair Skinner asked Vice President Diana Sabau for a men's basketball update. The men's basketball team has had a remarkably successful season and are a special group of young men. They began the year ranked 8th in the Mountain West conference with no national ranking. The current week they are ranked 22nd nationally and have been in national polls for almost 10 weeks and are expecting to win their first outright Mountain West regular season conference championship.

10. Accreditation Process & Update – USU Executive Director Jeff Aird

Analysis, Assessment, and Accreditation Executive Director Jeff Aird presented the USU accreditation process which happens every seven years. His team is already preparing for the summer of 2025 accreditation which will include, in part, out of state peers coming to Utah State University. The accreditors will be meeting with members of the Board of Trustees in April 2025.

11. Legislative Update – Vice President Devin Wisler

Much appreciation for Trustee efforts on behalf of Utah State University at the very unique legislative session this year. Email update was sent (attached) which reviews information on higher education legislation. There was not as much money this year but both USU dedicated projects were funded which included the vet school and the human resources building.

There were a number of individual initiatives funded, including the Statewide Energy Education Workforce initiative, also known as the Energy Engineering initiative: \$450,000, one-time, \$2.1 million ongoing. The Utah Forest Restoration Institute was fully funded at \$55,000, one-time and \$765,000 ongoing. Others receiving funding were USU's School of the Future.

See list of bills passed attached.

12. President's Report – President Elizabeth Cantwell

President Cantwell shared she completed her Statewide tour and information will be gleaned from the almost 30 listening sessions through machine learning, such as what thoughts faculty, staff, students and community members have. USU as an institution must be agile and prepare for change. Utah State must look to the future while honoring the past and will engage the community and the private sector to see more success. (See President's Report attached)

13. BREAK

14. CLOSED SESSION

Attendance

Trustees present:

Kent K. Alder, Janalyn Brown, Elizabeth Cantwell, Kerri Davidson - Vice President of Institutional Affairs & Chief of Staff, USU, John Y. Ferry, Gina Gagon, David H. Huntsman, Mica McKinney,

David Petersen - CEO & Vice Chair, Abraham Rodriguez, Jacey Skinner, Larry Smith, Clark Whitworth

USU Representatives present:

Members: Dave Cowley, Nancy Hanks, Kacie Malouf, Heather Mason, John O'Neil, Eric Olsen, Bill Plate, James Taylor, Tessa White, Matt White, Devin Wiser

Guests: David A. Petersen

Motion:

Motion was made to go into closed session.

Motion moved by Gina Gagon and motion seconded by John Y. Ferry. Role call vote was initiated by Secretary Brown. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the meeting moved into a closed session.

15. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion moved by John Y. Ferry and motion seconded by Kent K. Alder. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

- 15.1. Approve: January 5, 2024, Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
- 15.2. Approve: New Appointments with Tenure
 - 15.2.1. Robert Stawski, Department Head, Human Development and Family Studies
 - 15.2.2. Chad Ford, Director, Heravi Peace Institute
- 15.3. Approve: Proposal to Add and Revise 300 Level Policies
 - 15.3.1. New USU Policy 326: Reporting Improper Conduct and Retaliation
 - 15.3.2. Revision to USU Policy 382: Time and Attendance
- 15.4. Approve: Report of Investments
 - 15.4.1. September 2023
 - 15.4.2. October 2023
 - 15.4.3. November 2023
- 15.5. Approve: Proposals to Discontinue
 - 15.5.1. Equine-Human Science Minor in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6. Approve: Proposal to Offer or Certificates
 - 15.6.1. Equine Assisted Services Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
 - 15.6.2. College Teaching Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

- 15.6.3. Precision Agriculture Technology Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.4. Precision Agriculture Technology Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.5. Design Entrepreneurship Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.6. Food Processing Certificate of Completion in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.7. Food Security Studies Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.8. Plumbing Apprenticeship Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.6.9. Gerontology Institutional Certificate of Proficiency to Gerontology Certificate of Proficiency in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.6.10. Health, Wellness, and Equity Certificate of Proficiency in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.6.11. Coaching Certificate of Proficiency in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.6.12. Social-Media Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 15.6.13. Legal and Business Translation Interpretation Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 15.6.14. Healthcare Interpretation Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 15.6.15. Photonics Certificate of Proficiency in the College of Science
- 15.6.16. International Business Institutional Certificate of Proficiency in the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business
- 15.6.17. Composite Materials and Structures Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in the College of Engineering
- 15.6.18. Remote Sensing and Geospatial Artificial Intelligence Foundations Certificate of Proficiency in the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources
- 15.7. Approve: Proposal of Name Change
 - 15.7.1. Unmanned Aerial System Certificate of Completion to Unmanned Aircraft Systems Certificate of Completion in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

- 15.7.2. Agricultural Systems Technology BS-Agricultural Machinery Emphasis to Agricultural Systems Technology BS-Agricultural Machinery and Technology Emphasis in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.7.3. Agricultural Systems Technology BS-Farm and Ranch Operations Emphasis to Agricultural Systems Technology BS-Agricultural Operations Emphasis in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.7.4. Aviation Management-Unmanned Aerial Systems Emphasis-BS to Aviation Management-Unmanned Aircraft Systems Emphasis-BS in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.7.5. Unmanned Aerial Systems Minor to Unmanned Aircraft Systems Minor in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- 15.7.6. Specialization in Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialization Listening and Spoken Language Track-MEd to Deaf Education-Listening and Spoken Language Specialization MEd in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.7.7. Communication Disorders and Deaf Education -Specialization in Speech Language Pathology MA/MS to Speech-Language Pathology MA/MS in the Emma Eccles Jones college of Education and Human Services
- 15.7.8. Health Education and Promotion-Community Health-BS to Health Education and Promotion-Community and Public Health BS in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.7.9. Instructional Leadership MEd to School Leadership MEd in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
- 15.8. Approve: Proposal to Offer Degrees
 - 15.8.1. Engineering Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
 - 15.8.2. Engineering Technology Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
 - 15.8.3. Environmental Science & Sustainability Bachelor of Science Degree in the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources
- 15.9. Approve: Proposal to Restructure
 - 15.9.1. Business - Associate of Business Degree in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
 - 15.9.2. Cosmetology Associate of Applied Sciences Degree in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
 - 15.9.3. Administrative Supervisory Concentration in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
 - 15.9.4. Restructure the Second Language Teaching-MSLT in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences

- 15.10. Approve: Proposal to Establish the Davis Agricultural Heritage Center in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences - Office of Extension

16. ACTION AGENDA

- 16.1. Approve: Amendment to Charter School Agreement with Cambridge Preparatory Academy--Center for the School of the Future – Dean Al Smith)

Dean Smith reminded the board one of their duties is to authorize charter schools and it is the Center for the School of the Future that takes and reviews applications, assesses charter school progress, etc. There are no new applications this year, however, previously authorized Cambridge Prep Academy is requesting an adjustment to their charter specific to the Salt Lake County school. They propose to voluntarily terminate their Washington County charter so they can focus on the Salt Lake County charter. They have had an opportunity to secure land at a significant discount and would like to extend the opening date an additional year from fall 2024 to fall 2025 to enable time for that facility to be built. President Cantwell was extensively briefed on this and is in strong support.

Motion:

Motion was made to approve the amendment to Cambridge Prep Academy as stated in the resolution.

Motion moved by John Y. Ferry and motion seconded by Gina Gagon. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

- 16.2. Recommend: Proposal for Tuition Rate Increases – President Elizabeth Cantwell and Trustee Abraham Rodriguez

President Cantwell clarified that in the past, President Cockett briefed tuition and fees together which was not done this year. They should be considered separately due to them being different revenue streams and the President wanted students to understand this idea. There is a suggested 3.4% increase for Logan and Statewide campuses. No tuition increase for tech ed.

Motion:

Motion was made approve a 3.4% tuition increase.

Motion moved by David H. Huntsman and motion seconded by Clark Whitworth. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

- 16.3. Recommend: Proposal to Modify Student Fees – President Elizabeth Cantwell and Trustee Abraham Rodriguez

Trustee Huntsman inquired if the students were okay with the proposed fee increase. Trustee Rodriguez confirmed that they had the chance to meet and discuss the options and they were in favor.

Motion:

Motion was made to modify student fees by an increase of 1.4%.

Motion moved by Kent K. Alder and motion seconded by Abraham Rodriguez.
Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

16.4. Review and Acceptance of the NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures – Trustee David A. Petersen and Vice President Dave Cowley

Trustee Petersen and Vice President Cowley presented the NCAA athletic clean audit review.

Motion:

Motions was made to accept the audit.

Motion moved by Clark Whitworth and motion seconded by David Petersen.

Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

16.5. Approve: Construction of an Addition/Renovation to the Smash Lab, a Non-State Funded Project – Vice President Dave Cowley

Vice President Cowley shared the capital facilities project to add on to the smash lab. This action was initiated when last year the Utah legislature awarded USU funding to establish the Utah Earthquake Engineering Center. It will do testing on large scale projects to improve seismic design. The vast majority of the funds will go towards a shaker table with all of its associated hydraulics.

Motion:

Motion was made to approve renovation/construction of the Smash Lab.

Motion moved by David Petersen and motion seconded by David H. Huntsman.

Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the motion passed.

17. INFORMATION AGENDA

17.1. New and Revised 500 Level Policies

17.1.1. New USU Policy 544: Institutional Conflicts of Interest

17.1.2. Revised: USU Policy 545: Individual Conflicts of Interest

17.2. February 2024 Policy Brief: The Value of Higher Education

18. Adjourn

Motion:

Chair Skinner called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion moved by Jacey Skinner and motion seconded by John Y. Ferry. Voting was unanimous in the affirmative and the meeting adjourned at 4:46pm.



Jacey Skinner, Chair



Janalyn Brown, Secretary
(minutes taken by Janalyn Brown)

May 1, 2024

Date Approved