
SUBJECT: Board of Trustees Special Meeting Report for **July 6, 2022**

PRESENT: Trustees Butts (chair), Chisholm, Contreras, Lampassi, Lutts, and Mattera. Also present and participating at the meeting were Dean Cambone, Executive Assistant Clarke, General Counsel Colucci, Assistant Vice President Cronin, Vice President Crouse, Dean Harris, Vice President House, Executive Assistant Huynh, President Keenan, and Board Secretary Montague.

ABSENT: Trustees Maldonado, Morales and Russell.

In accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 30A and amended by Executive Order issued March 13, 2020, suspending parts of the Open Meeting Law to allow public remote participation and participation by the public body remotely.

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law all votes taken during this meeting, in which a member participated remotely, were by roll call vote.

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Butts called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm. She thanked the Board of Trustees for convening and noted that the naming of the School of Education was the only item on the agenda for this meeting. Chair Butts turned it over to President Keenan.

President Keenan thanked the Board of Trustees for coming together on short notice. He gave a brief introduction on the transformative gift to Salem State University that will assist with moving the needle on K-12 teacher diversity, a top priority of the recently adopted DHE Strategic Plan for Racial Equity. He expressed gratitude to the Cummings Foundation for their incredible generosity and continued partnership with Salem State. He thanked Vice President Crouse, Dean Cambone and their teams for the tremendous work on the gift under a short timeline.

Vice President Crouse shared appreciation for the Board of Trustees for convening and their willingness to accommodate the donor's timeline. She requested the Trustees' consideration to name the School of Education after one of its prominent graduates, James "Jamie" McKeown, member of class of 1977. She shared that he was a close colleague of Bill Cummings in building the Cummings Property business and passed away unexpectedly over 25 years ago. Crouse confirmed that due diligence was done and determined that no documentation of any arrests, financial difficulties, or related negative information could be found on Bill and Joyce Cummings, the Cummings Foundation or Jamie McKeown. She shared her gratitude to Bill and Joyce Cummings and the Cummings Foundation for their historic \$10 million record-breaking state university cash gift in support of university's School of Education and recommended recognizing this transformational support by naming the school to the McKeown School of Education.

Vice President Crouse recognized the long steady stewardship of many over 10 years ultimately resulted in an expedited gifting process starting with an email to Dean Cambone from the Cummings Foundation on June 8, 2022 and an approved \$10 million gift in response to our proposal on June 27, 2022. She thanked all those involved in securing the gift including many campus partners.

Dean Cambone shared that twenty-four percent of all living Salem State alumni are Education graduates and one thousand of the current students at the university are studying in the School of Education. With the help of the Cummings Foundation, the stakeholder collaborations can move directly into the core of the school of Education's work, allowing to advance the cause of equity, diversify the workforce, and provide opportunities for professional lifelong learning more readily. This work will have a direct impact on generations of future Salem State students of education, and indeed, all majors dedicated to strengthening the cultural, civic, and economic foundations of the region.

Chair Butts congratulated Dean Cambone and Vice President Crouse on their work in successfully securing the gift Chair Butts called for a motion.

A motion was made by Lutts, seconded by Chisholm, and unanimously voted to approve the renaming the school of education to the McKeown School of Education. The Board authorized the President and Vice President Crouse to take all actions necessary to enter into a naming agreement with the donors.

Trustee Mattera asked for confirmation that the Board of Trustees has the authority to rename a school without DHE involvement. President Keenan confirmed he received a confirmation from the general counsel of the Department of Higher Education that they do not have any oversight or obligation over renaming programs or schools.

Then with no further discussion, Chair Butts asked for a roll call vote.

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| Voting in the Affirmative: | Chisholm, Contreras, Lampassi, Lutts, Mattera, Butts (chair) |
| Voting in the Negative: | None |
| Absent: | Trustees Maldonado, Morales, and Russell. |

There being no further business,

A motion was made by Contreras, seconded by Chisholm, and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting. Chair Butts asked for a roll call vote.

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| Voting in the Affirmative: | Chisholm, Contreras, Lampassi, Lutts, Mattera, Butts (chair) |
| Voting in the Negative: | None |
| Absent: | Trustees Maldonado, Morales, and Russell. |

The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Keenan
President



Lynne Montague

Secretary to the Board of Trustees