

# Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Committee Meetings, Dec. 8, 2022, 8:30 a.m., Trustees Meeting Room, Tod Hall  
*(Resolutions, Supporting Documents and Background Materials in Appendix)*

## Attendance

### Members Present:

Julie Centofanti, Charles T. George, John R Jakubek, Joseph J. Kerola (virtual attendance), Elsa Khan, Laura Lyden, Anita A. Hackstedde, Michael A. Peterson, Sergul Erzurum, Molly S. Seals, Eric Spiegel, Allen L. Ryan Jr.

## I. MEETING SCHEDULE AND COMMITTEE LISTING

Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule Dec. 8 and 9, 2022 Board of Trustees Committee Membership

## II. INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Joseph J. Kerola, Chair  
Michael A. Peterson, Vice Chair  
All Trustees are Members

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Intercollegiate Athletics Discussion Items

##### a. Overview of Athletics Personnel Actions

Ron Strollo, executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics, reported on several personnel actions, including eight separations, seven appointments, four salary adjustments, one promotion and two reclassifications/position adjustments.

##### b. Performance Excellence Organizational Chart

Tory Lindley, deputy Athletics director for Performance Excellence, and Nicole Kent-Strollo, dean of Students and Ombudsperson, reported on strategies to help assure student health and wellness. Performance Excellence includes six areas: Academic Success, Performance Psychology, Sports Medicine, Sports Performance, Performance Nutrition and Performance Science.

##### c. Independent Medical Care and Healthcare Accreditation

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

##### d. Risk Management Strategies

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

**e. Student Athlete - Center Care and Wellness**

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

**f. Student Athlete Performance Enhancement and Support**

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

**g. Campus Collaboration**

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

**h. Future Goals and Growth**

Presented by Lindley and Kent Strollo.

**i. Update on NCAA Campus Sexual Violence Policy Compliance**

Presented by Ross Miltner, associate general counsel.

2. Background Materials

a. NCAA Campus Sexual Violence Policy Compliance

**D. New Business**

No New Business

**E. Adjournment**

### III. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Allen L. Ryan, Jr., Chair  
Charles T. George, Vice Chair  
All Trustees are Members

#### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

#### B. Old Business

No Old Business

#### C. Committee Items

##### 1. Investment Discussion Item

##### a. Dec. 8, 2022 Quarterly Portfolio Asset Allocation and Investment Performance Review

John Colla from Clearstead reviewed the university's quarterly portfolio asset allocation and investment performance. Colla recommended no changes to the university's investment pools at this time.

##### 2. Background Materials

##### a. Discretionary vs. Non-discretionary Investments

Colla responded to a request from the committee made at its last meeting in September to explore allowing more discretion in investment actions, in turn allowing the university to react to market changes more quickly. Colla said the so-called "outsourced chief investment officer" model has gained momentum in the past five to seven years as organizations have been more receptive to giving some level of investment decision-making to its investment partners. "It can be more nimble and flexible," he said. He reviewed the pros and cons of such an approach. Colla said he will follow up with more information at future meetings. "We will continue to explore," said Neal McNally, vice president of Finance and Business Operations.

#### D. New Business

No New Business

#### E. Adjournment

## IV. AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE

Michael A. Peterson, Chair  
Molly S. Seals, Vice Chair  
Laura A. Lyden  
Anita A. Hackstedde  
Joseph J. Kerola

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the subcommittee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Audit Action Item

##### a. Resolution to Approve the FY23 Internal Audit Plan.

Michelle DiLullo, staff auditor, said there are four projects in the plan: Banner user access; student billing, collections and accounts receivable; external funding related to the Division of Workforce Education and Innovation; and facilities and building access.

**Moved by Trustee George, second by Chair Jakubek, unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 2. Audit Discussion Items

##### a. Required Communication with the Board of Trustees

Keith Martinez and Sadie Mayle of Plante & Moran, the university's external auditors, reported a clean opinion for the audit of the university's FY 2022 financial statements, which Martinez said is the highest level of assurance that the auditors can provide. There were no identified material weaknesses, significant deficiencies or non-compliances. He also said they audited two major federal programs, the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Martinez noted that several institutions are facing auditing challenges regarding the use of HEERF funds. "We did not have that issue" in YSU's audit, he said.

##### b. Audited Financial Report for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2021

McNally presented YSU's Audited Financial Report for fiscal years 2022 and 2021. He reiterated that the report resulted in a clean audit.

Subcommittee Chair Peterson said the subcommittee would enter a closed audit conference permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(D)(2) to be conducted with the Auditor of State's appointed auditor and the board. All other attendees of the meeting were asked to leave the room for the private session.

**c. Ohio Senate Bill 6 Financial Ratio Analysis for Fiscal Year 2022**

McNally reported on Senate Bill 6 ratios, one measure the state of Ohio uses to evaluate the financial health of public universities. The ratios, which include measures of net income, viability and primary reserve, run on a scale where 5.0 is the highest score possible. YSU's composite score in fiscal year 2022 was 3.4, tied for fifth best among the state's 14 public schools. YSU's ratio was the same as Ohio University, Bowling Green and Toledo. McNally said the ratios, combined with the Financial Report, show that YSU is financially sound and managed responsibly. At the same time, they show that YSU is not flush with cash, is not without financial challenges and needs to remain fiscally cautious, especially given continued enrollment declines.

**d. Anonymous Reporting Hotline Stats Update**  
DiLullo presented.

**e. Audit Matrix Open Audit Recommendations Update**  
DiLullo presented.

**f. Update on Enterprise Risk Management**  
Julie Gentile, director of Environmental Occupational Health and Safety, presented.

**3. Background Materials**

**a. No material this quarter.**

**D. New Business**

No New Business

**E. Adjournment**

## V. FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Michael A. Peterson, Chair

Allen L. Ryan, Jr., Vice Chair

All Trustees are Members

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the Committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Finance and Facilities Action Items

##### a. Resolution to Approve Supplier Diversity Policy, 3356-3-01.1

The policy is designed to ensure opportunities for socially and economically disadvantaged business enterprises and to ultimately improve the university's performance as measured by spending reported through YSU's participation in the state of Ohio's diversity programs.

**Moved by Chair Jakubek, second by Trustee Seals, unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

##### b. Resolution to Approve the O.R.C. 3333.95 Required 2022 Affordability and Efficiency

McNally said the report is filed annually with the Ohio Department of Higher Education to identify examples of affordability and efficiency in various categories. The 16-page YSU report includes several examples, including increased collaboration with other universities in Northeast Ohio, increased efficiency in academic program offerings, the Excellence Training Center and initiatives that have saved students more than \$750,000 in textbook costs.

**Moved by Trustee George, second by Chair Jakubek, unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

##### c. Resolution to Approve Interfund Transfers

The resolution transfers \$1.34 million from debt service reserve funds (unrestricted plant funds) to bond funds (restricted debt service funds) to fund a portion of the \$3.3 million FY2023 bond debt service obligation. McNally called the action a "bookkeeping exercise," but also a "sober reminder" of the cost of borrowing money.

**Moved by Trustee Seals, Second by Trustee George, unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 2. Finance and Facilities Discussion Items

##### a. Quarterly Update on the FY 2023 Operating Budget

McNally updated the board on the university's FY2023 operating budget, indicating that most revenue and expense categories are on or above target through the first quarter of the fiscal year.

## b. Review of S&P's Long-Term and Underlying Rating of YSU's Debt Obligations

McNally reported that S&P Global Ratings have affirmed its "A+" long-term rating and underlying rating on YSU's existing debt obligations (series 2016 and 2021 general receipt bonds). S&P also listed the university's outlook as "negative," which it said "reflects our view of the university's continued enrollment challenges, which, if unabated, will likely make stabilizing operations difficult." S&P also said, "We view the numerous expense-reduction measures implemented by management favorably and believe that these measures, coupled with stabilized enrollment, could lead to improved operations over the next few years."

## c. Student Union Project/Renovation

McNally and Joy Polkabila Byers, associate vice president for Student Experience, led a discussion about plans to renovate the campus student center. The board previously heard plans for an approximately \$40 million overhaul of Kilcawley Center. McNally said the university's existing debt obligations, totaling \$79.3 million through 2038, are going to get increasingly difficult to handle, without adding to it. He provided three financing scenarios for the student center project that include a combination of private gifts and bond issues. McNally said he was not comfortable recommending any of the scenarios. Polkabila Byers, however, said something needs done to address the student center, noting \$20 million in deferred maintenance alone in the current facility. "We have put a lot of Band-Aids on that building," she said. Trustees Mike Peterson and Joe Kerola said a student center is important for student recruitment. "We have to take some chances here" and "find a way," Kerola said. McNally, President Jim Tressel, John Hyden, associate vice president for Facilities, and trustees discussed various funding options, including gifts, debt and state capitol dollars. Trustte Seals said, "We need to assure more of the funds come from fundraising to offset the amount to be borrowed."

**Moved by Trustee George, seconded by Trustee Kerola and approved unanimously by roll call vote to approve a Resolution to Approve a Plan to Renovate the Student Center, consisting of a \$40 million student center that would include at least \$15 million in private gifts.**

## d. Planning and Construction Projects Update

Hyden and Rich White, director of Planning and Construction, updated the board on several capital projects, including elevator safety repairs and replacements, utility distribution upgrades and expansion, renovations to Moser and Fok Halls, completion of the Watson Team Center, emergency generator upgrades, campus roof replacements, and renovations to STEM science labs.

## e. Report on Facilities Maintenance Projects

## f. Campus Health and Safety Update

## g. Report of Audit Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair Peterson reported on discussions and activities of the Subcommittee's meeting earlier in the day.

### 3. Background Materials

- a. Reportable Budget and Interfund Transfers for the Quarter Ending September 30, 2022
- b. First Quarter Diversity and EDGE Spend Report
- c. Report on Endowment Funds as of June 30, 2022
- d. 2022-23 Annual Insurance Report

#### **D. New Business**

No New Business

#### **E. Adjournment**



## VI. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

John R Jakubek, Chair  
Charles T. George, Vice Chair  
All Trustees Are Members

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Governance Action Items

a. Change to the Bylaws - Creation of a Standing Committee: Workforce Education and Innovation

**Moved by Trustee Seals, second by Trustee Hackstedde, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

b. Resolution to Modify and Retitle 3356-1-11 - Development and Authorization of Administrative Procedures.

**Moved by Trustee Hackstedde, seconded by Trustee Peterson, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

#### 2. Governance Discussion Items

a. Future State Conversation(s) and Updating the Plan for Strategic Actions to Take Charge of Our Future

Mike Sherman, vice president for Institutional Effectiveness and Board Professional, presented a series of charts on YSU's enrollment trends compared to other public universities in the state. He also shared data showing that YSU's out-of-pocket student costs are \$26,413 lower than at other northern Ohio universities, while grant and scholarship support is \$6,900 higher. Sherman also said that the university will present to the board in September 2023 a revised strategic plan that focuses on a sustainability framework, academic master plan, student experience and success, marketing and communication, and workforce education and innovation linked to community engagement.

**b. Nominations for a National/Global Trustee**

Chair John Jakubek discussed with the board about identifying a national/global trustee to fill the spot left by Helen Lafferty, a national/global trustee who will be leaving her position to assume the position of interim president of the university.

**c. 2023 Schedule of Board Meetings**

**3. Background Materials**

**a. AGB National Conference on Trusteeship, April 2-4, 2023 San Diego, Calif.**

**D. New Business**  
No New Business

**E. Adjournment**

**VII. Lunch**

## VIII. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Molly S. Seals, Chair

Joseph J. Keroloa, Vice Chair

All Trustees are Members

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Academic Excellence and Student Success Consent Agenda Item

- a. Resolution to Modify Teaching by Staff Policy, 3356-10-12

**Moved by Trustee Hackstedde, seconded by Trustee Peterson and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 2. Academic Excellence and Student Success Action Items

- a. Resolution to Modify and Retitle Adjunct Faculty Policy, 3356-10-09

**Moved by Trustee Peterson, seconded by Trustee Hackstedde and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

- b. Resolution related to O.R.C. 3345.062 Remediation Report

**Moved by Trustee Peterson, seconded by Trustee Hackstedde and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 3. Academic Excellence and Student Success Discussion Items

- a. Academic Program Enhancement and Effectiveness Initiative, Increasing Effectiveness - Gaining Efficiencies and Optimizing the Academic Portfolio. Brien N. Smith, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and Jennifer Pintar, associate provost for Academic Administration, reported.

- b. Academic Senate Update.

Chet Cooper, chair of the Senate, reported the Senate has elected a new chair, Martha Pallante, professor of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Darling Endowed Chair of Early American History. Longtime chair of the YSU History Department, Pallante has also served as associate dean and interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at YSU.

4. Background Materials

- a. Homecoming 2022
- b. Office of Research Services Quarterly Report
- c. Current Accreditation Activity
- d. Academic Program Update

D. New Business

No New Business

E. Adjournment

## **IX. INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Allen L. Ryan, Jr., Chair

Anita A. Hackstedde, Vice Chair

All Trustees are Members

### **A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting**

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### **B. Old Business**

No Old Business

### **C. Committee Items**

#### **1. Institutional Engagement Action Items**

#### **2. Institutional Engagement Discussion Items**

- a. Youngstown State University Foundation Quarterly Report. Paul McFadden, president of the YSU Foundation, said the falling stock market caught up with the Foundation's fundraising in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023, with \$3.19 million in new gifts and pledges, down from \$5.19 million in fiscal year 2022. He also indicated, however, that the trend appears to be turning up, specifically mentioning a couple significant possible gifts for a proposed new student center on campus.
- b. Division of Workforce Education and Innovation Update. Jennifer Oddo, executive director of Strategic Workforce Education and Innovation, updated the committee on various activities in the division, including a \$1.25 million Appalachia Regional Commission Power Grant to support 5G/Broadband training. Oddo also updated the committee on the work of six training centers in the WEI: Excellence Training Center at Kohli Hall, National EV Training and Innovation Center, IT Workforce Accelerator, The Data Mine, Williamson Innovation Park and the Tressel Institute of Leadership and Teamwork.
- c. Penguin Pride - Community Engagement. Amy Cossentino, associate provost and dean of the Sokolov Honors College, updated the committee on the PenguinPulse community engagement initiative with the goal for YSU to be recognized as a community-engaged campus by the Carnegie Foundation.

#### **3. Background Materials**

- a. YSU Board of Trustees Scholarship Endowment Report from the YSU Foundation
- b. WYSU Memberships for First Quarter FY 2023

### **D. New Business**

No New Business

### **E. Adjournment**

## X. UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Anita A. Hackstedde, Chair  
Charles T. George, Vice Chair  
All Trustees are Members

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Executive Session

Chair Jakubek moved that the Board enter Executive Session for the purposes of, consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of one or more public employees or officials (O.R.C. 121.22 (G) (1)) and/or preparing for, conducting, and/or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation, or other terms and conditions of their employment (O.R.C. 121.11 (G) (4)), and/or conferences with the public body's attorney concerning pending or imminent court action by division (O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(3)).

**The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

The committee entered executive session at 2:11 p.m. and exited at 3:47 p.m.

#### 2. University Affairs Consent Item

a. Resolution to Modify Leave of Absence Without Pay, Extended Childcare, Excluded Professional/Administrative Staff Policy, 3356-7-0

**Moved by Trustee Hackstedde, seconded by Trustee Seals and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 3. University Affairs Action Items

a. Resolution to Modify Leave Without Pay for Extended Serious Health Condition Policy, 3356-7-08

**Moved by Trustee George, seconded by Chair Jakubek and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

b. Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Mike Sherman as Vice President of Student Affairs, Institutional Effectiveness and Board Professional.

**Moved by Trustee George, seconded by Trustee Peterson and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

c. Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Vice President for the Division of Workforce Education and Innovation.

The resolution appoints Jennifer Oddo as vice president for the Division of Workforce Education and Innovation. Oddo has been leading workforce education initiatives at the university since October 2020 under the title of executive director.

**Moved by Trustee George, seconded by Trustee Peterson and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

d. Resolution to Ratify Personnel Appointments - Faculty and Professional/Administrative Staff, including Athletics

**Moved by Trustee George, seconded by Trustee Peterson and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 4. University Affairs Discussion Items

- a. Medical and Prescriptions Insurance Cost Overview. Cindy Kravitz, associate vice resident and chief human resources officer reported.
- b. Support Area Assessment: Dean of Students and Ombudsperson. Nicole Kent-Stollo, dean of Students and ombudsperson, presented.
- c. Support Area Assessment: Student Success. Claire Berardini, associate provost for Student Success, presented.
- d. Support Area Assessment Schedule for 2023

#### 5. Background Materials

- a. Human Resources Update
- b. Human Resources Update on Position Searches
- c. Classified Civil Service Personnel Actions
- d. Report on Search Waivers

**D. New Business**  
No New Business

**E. Adjournment**

## XI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John R. Jakubek, Chair

Charles T. George, Vice Chair

Joseph J. Kerola

Anita A. Hackstedde

Molly S. Seals

Michael A. Peterson

Allen L. Ryan, Jr.

### A. Disposition of the Minutes for the Previous Meeting

Draft copies of the minutes of the committee's meeting held Sept. 20, 2022, were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting. Trustees accepted the minutes as provided.

### B. Old Business

No Old Business

### C. Committee Items

#### 1. Executive Committee Action Item

Chair Jakubek moved that the Board enter Executive Session for the purposes of, consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of one or more public employees or officials (O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1)) and/or preparing for, conducting, and/or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation, or other terms and conditions of their employment (O.R.C. 121.11 (G) (4)).

**The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

The committee entered executive session at 4:21 p.m. and exited at 5:07 p.m.

#### a. Resolution to Ratify and Approve Interim President Appointment Letter.

The resolution ratifies and approves the Letter of Appointment for Interim President Helen Lafferty. Lafferty will take the position Feb. 1 when President Tressel leaves. The appointment will continue until a permanent successor is selected and installed, or until terminated by either Lafferty or the university.

**Moved by Trustee Seals, seconded by Trustee George and unanimously approved by roll call vote.**

#### 2. Executive Committee Discussion Item

### D. New Business

No New Business

### E. Adjournment





# APPENDIX

## *YSU Board of Trustees Committee Meetings*

*Dec. 8, 2022*

*Resolutions, Supporting  
Documents and Background  
Materials*

**NOTE:**

*Resolutions and other supporting documents will be inserted after the narrative of the minutes is approved*

