

CLARK STATE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, June 28, 2023 @ 11:30 a.m.
Brinkman Educational Center, Springfield, OH

MINUTES

Directors present: Patti Phillips (Chair), Cindy Barnett, Dr. Jo Alice Blondin, Bill Brougher, John Brown, Nettie Carter-Smith, Sue Evans, Dr. Robert Hill, Katherine Hoptry, Mitch Hurst, Sarah Mays, Peggy Noonan, Kerry Pedraza, Daragh Porter, Jo Ann Rigano and Tera Thornton

Staff present: Christa Bostick, Dr. Adrienne Forgette, Karen Hunt, Crystal Jones, Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Kathy Nelson, Toni Overholser, and Doug Schantz

Guests: Kelly Neriani, Director of Institutional Research and Dr. Shawnee Williams, Skillbridge Fellow

Welcome. Chair Patti Phillips welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:42 a.m. She recognized outgoing Board members, Jo Ann Rigano and Sue Evans, who have each served three 3-year terms on the Foundation Board. Both have been outstanding advocates for Clark State – Jo Ann in Greene County and Sue in Champaign County. Jo Ann has agreed to continue serving on the Resource Development Committee and Sue will continue to serve on the Scholarship Committee. They were both presented with plaques acknowledging their service to the Board.

Student Story. Dr. Blondin introduced Kelly Neriani, the Director of Institutional Research at Clark State. As part of Achieving the Dream, we are tasked with looking at data, and even if it is not favorable. Clark State explores ways to improve student outcomes and assure our students are served in an equitable way. Twenty-five percent of students in Fall 2021 walked away from us without earning any credits. Kelly then gave a presentation on “Brianna” who is a fictional example of an average student who falls within this 25%.

What are we doing?

- IR has developed a dashboard to track students; this will allow the Foundation to see how well Scholars students are doing
- Karen is working with TRIO to help support students and scheduling one-on-one meetings with Scholars
- TutorMe is available to high school Scholars so they are more familiar and prepared when they arrive at Clark State
- For general population students, Student Affairs is working to have holistic, wraparound support that supports every student; although this is not the data we wanted, we are responding. We are also implementing a co-requisite class that offers support along with college level classes in a face-to-face setting.
- We will continue to work with the superintendents of the high schools to help tackle these issues at that level.

Minutes. Bill Brougher presented the minutes from the March 15, 2023 Foundation Board meeting.

Nettie Carter-Smith made a motion to approve, Daragh Porter seconded, and the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Financials. Kathy Nelson presented the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2023 showing a fund balance of \$26,915,763 reflecting an increase of \$111,303 from December 2022. Current fund balances are \$873,000 unrestricted, \$15.7 million restricted, and \$10.4 million endowment. For our investments, last fiscal year we ended with a market loss, but at the beginning of June we are close to making up that loss.

A motion to accept the financial statements was made by Sarah Mays, seconded by Jo Ann Rigano, and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Audit/Investment Committee. Chair Bill Brougher reported these items have already been approved by the Committee but need to be presented and approved by the full Board:

- A. *Budget approval – approved by unanimous voice vote*
- B. *990 approval – approved voice vote*

Resource Development Committee. Chair Jo Ann Rigano shared that it has been an honor and privilege to be on the Foundation Board and thanked everyone for allowing her to serve. She reported that the Presidential Awards Banquet will be held on Tuesday, September 26 and two complimentary tickets will be given to major donors. This year's awardees are:

Richard O. Brinkman Award – The Springfield Foundation
Distinguished Alumnus Award – Manuel Lopez
Emerging Leader Award – Jordan Tyler

She also reported that the Committee reviewed and approved a marketing plan for the coming year. Slate, the College's new CRM system, is going to allow for deeper connections with donors and the social media campaign will highlight donors, students and community supporters.

Governance Committee. Chair Kerry Pedraza reported that the Committee met recently and discussed the importance of a board survey as a best practice with 100% participation. The committee also discussed the frequency of meetings that will be voted on later in the meeting.

Scholarship Committee. Chair Nettie Carter-Smith reported that the Committee met in May. There were 420 applications submitted for fall scholarships – thank you to everyone for taking time to help review.

Scholars Presentation – Dr. Shawnee Williams, Skillbridge Fellow, presented findings from the research she did on the Scholars Program during the time she was at Clark State.

Friends of the PACC. Katherine Hoptry reported that the Committee last met in May. After lengthy discussion about fundraising, it was decided that any funds raised will support all three entities who use the PAC (Clark State, Springfield Arts Council and Springfield Symphony Orchestra). There will be a more cohesive marketing plan going forward. Friends of the PACC minimum membership amount was raised from \$35 to \$50. A listing of benefits for each level will be sent out to Board. They are looking for more people to help serve on the committee.

STANDING REPORTS

Chairman's Report. Ballots were distributed for Board members to vote on acceptance of two candidates for the Board – Jordan Weideling, Project Manager for Transportation Research Center, and Eric Henry, Development Director for Greene County. The ballot also contained a vote regarding the frequency of Foundation Board meetings. Chair Patti Phillips announced the vote revealed 100% in favor of the two new Board members and 100% in favor of the current frequency of Board meetings. Out of respect of time, we will report on the results of the Board survey at the next meeting.

Board of Trustees Report. Peggy Noonan reported on the following from last night's meeting:

- The budget was passed
- There will be a \$5 increase in tuition per credit hour
- More than 50 high school students graduated from Clark State in May; the average savings for the families of these students was approximately \$57,000

President's Report. Dr. Blondin reported on the following:

- The Board Social will be rescheduled for some time in the fall
- Thank you to Jo Ann Rigano and Sue Evans for their dedicated service to the Foundation Board
- HLC visit was held virtually; we are accredited through 2028
- Dr. Blondin was selected to be a part of the Dayton Business Journal's Inaugural Workforce Advisory Committee
- State budget will be voted on tomorrow; anticipate 1.5 – 2.0 SSI increase
- \$5 increase per credit hour, fees stay the same

Adjourn. Please make note of the following dates: July 25 – Clark State Family Day at Mother Stewart's and September 26 – Presidential Awards Banquet. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Overholser
VP, Advancement
Clark State Foundation