

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Kim Brunisholz	Anne-Marie Lampropoulos
H. David Burton	David Parkin
Katie Eccles (Vice-Chair)	J. Steve Price
Christian Gardner (Chair)	Randy Shumway
Ephraim Kum	Jim Sorenson

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Cathy Anderson	Chief Financial Officer
Joe Borgenicht	Director, PR Communication, University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics
Randy Dryer	President, Academic Senate
Linda Dunn	Interim Chief Alumni Relations Officer
Alison Flynn Gaffney	Executive Director, U of U Health Services Lines, Ancillary and Support Services
Michael Good	Senior Vice President, Health Sciences
Josh Grant	Executive Director Development, College of Engineering
Mark Harlan	Athletics Director
Jeff Herring	Chief Human Resources Officer
Steve Hess	Chief Information Officer
Laura Marks	Special Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mike Martineau	Director of Institutional Analysis
Lori McDonald	Vice President for Student Affairs
Robert Muir	Executive Director, Administrative Services, Treasury Services
Chris Nelson	Director, Communications
Robert Payne	Deputy General Counsel
Jason Perry	Vice President, Government Relations
Daniel Reed	Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs
Steve Robinson	Senior Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management
Patti Ross	Chief Business Strategy Officer
Laura Snow	Chief of Staff and Secretary to the University
Phyllis Vetter	Vice President and General Counsel
Mary Ann Villarreal	Vice President for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Ruth Watkins	President
Karen West	Liaison to the Board of Trustees
Andy Weyrich	Vice President for Research
Mark Winter	Associate Vice President, Budget and Finance
Shawn Wood	Communication Specialist, Marketing and Communications
Heidi Woodbury	Vice President for Institutional Advancement

## CALL TO ORDER

### Information: 1.01 – Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:02 AM via a Zoom meeting. Chair Gardner welcomed Trustees and others in attendance.

## GENERAL CONSENT

### Action (Consent): 2.01 – Minutes of the October 13 Meetings of the Trustees

### Action (Consent): 2.02 – Faculty and Staff Matters and Sabbatical Request (Appendix I)

### Action (Consent): 2.03 – Sponsored Projects Report (Appendix II)

### Action (Consent): 2.04 – Monthly Comparison (Gifts) Report (Appendix III)

### Action (Consent): 2.05 – University Leases (Appendix IV)

### Action (Consent): 2.06 – Report of Investments Portfolio for the Month of September (Appendix V)

### Action (Consent): 2.07 – Fleet Services Annual Report for FY20 (Appendix VI)

### Action (Consent): 2.08 – Name Change – Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy to be Changed to the Department of Neurobiology (Appendix VII)

### Action (Consent): 2.09 – Undergraduate Certificate in Digital Literacy for Business (Appendix VIII)

In response to a question from Trustee Shumway, a discussion on administrative leave for administrators and faculty ensued

**Motion to approve the Consent Calendar by David Burton, second by Katie Eccles. Final Resolution: Motion Approved.** Aye: H. David Burton, Kim Brunisholz, Katie Eccles, Christian Gardner, Ephraim Kum, Anne-Marie Lampropoulos, David Parkin, J. Steve Price, Randy Shumway, and Jim Sorenson

Background materials are included in the Appendix (as noted above) and are on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

## ACTION AGENDA

### Action: 3.01 – Creation of the H.E. Thomas Presidential Endowed Dean’s Chair in the College of Engineering

Heidi Woodbury, vice president for Institutional Advancement, introduced the creation of the H.E. Thomas Presidential Endowed Dean’s Chair in the College of Engineering.

H.E. “Ed” Thomas Presidential Endowed Dean's Chair - Mr. H.E. Thomas has committed \$4 million for the Presidential Endowed Dean's Chair in the College of Engineering and the University would like to name the Presidential Chair in his honor.

Josh Grant, executive director for development at the College of Engineering, offered background information on Mr. Thomas and shared his story of hard work and tenacity. He never received a formal education past high school but has always been incredibly interested in physics and engineering. Mr. Thomas established a relationship with Dean Rich Brown about 15 years ago, when Mr. Thomas began a scholarship in the College of Engineering..

**Motion to approve 3.01 by Anne-Marie Lampropoulos, second by David Parkin. Final Resolution: Motion Approved.** Aye: H. David Burton, Kim Brunisholz, Katie Eccles, Christian Gardner, Ephraim Kum, Anne-Marie Lampropoulos, David Parkin, J. Steve Price, Randy Shumway, and Jim Sorenson

A copy of the report is included as Appendix IX with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

## UNIVERSITY FOCUS

### Information: 4.01 – University Focus – Alumni Survey

President Watkins introduced the University Focus-Alumni Survey and invited Mike Martineau, director of Institutional Analysis and Linda Dunn, interim chief alumni relations officer, to give an overview of the data. The University of Utah participated as a pilot partner with Strada Education in late fall 2019 surveying a sample of alumni bachelor’s degree recipients from 2000 – 2019. The U received 634 valid responses from across 38 states, which were benchmarked against four other large public universities.

The focus for today’s discussion will provide insights on three C’s:

#### Cost:

- A question on the survey was, “My bachelor’s degree was worth the cost.” Overwhelmingly, alumni agreed with that statement on a likert scale of strongly agree to strongly disagree. Alumni definitely recognize the value of a University of Utah degree.
- Slightly over half of the respondents indicated that they earned a bachelor’s degree debt-free. This is unique in the national higher ed landscape.

#### Career:

- Career alignment is also a major component of the alumni survey. The majority of alumni respondents agreed that their degree has made them an attractive candidate for employers.

#### Connection:

- Based on the following three questions, the University is able to gauge alumni’s affinity to the University:
  - It’s important to me to remain engaged and supportive of the U (54% agree)

- When someone praises the U, it feels like a personal compliment (62% agree)
- If a story in the media criticized the U, I would feel embarrassed (50% agree)
- The connection piece is the heart of the matter. It validates the value the alumni feels they received and enables them to be engaged and give back to their alma mater.

President Watkins thanked Mike and Linda for embracing the opportunity to work with Strada. The survey results will help shape the future direction of the University.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix X with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

#### Action: 5.01 – Current Events and Announcement

Chair Gardner asked Trustee Randy Shumway to briefly report on the recent UBHE (Utah Board Higher Education) Town Hall which he attended representing the U Board of Trustees. The town hall addressed changes made to the UBHE under current legislation, S.B.111 Higher Education Amendments.

Trustee Shumway noted the following:

- Regent Harris Simmons reviewed:
  - The new structure of the UBHE will provide oversight of universities, community colleges network and technology colleges
  - The benefits of the Board collaborating across/overseeing all three areas
  - Decrease nationally in college enrollment by about four percent, but enrollment numbers throughout Utah are flat and slightly up at the University of Utah
- President Watkins spoke at the town hall and highlighted the collaborative efforts between Salt Lake Community College and the University of Utah. Trustee Shumway noted his appreciation for President Watkins and complimented her for the positive way in which she represents the University of Utah as the state's flagship university, Utah's research institution, and the intermountain west's sole AAU university. He acknowledged her key role in building the reputation of the University of Utah.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### Action: 6.01 – Honors and Awards to Members of the University Community, Distinguished Visitors and Research

President Watkins noted the written report included in the agenda materials and highlighted the following:

- Nels Elde, evolutionary geneticist at University of Utah Health, has been awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, popularly known as a “genius grant.” The highly regarded honor goes to talented individuals who have shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction.

Elde is one of 21 Fellows in 2020 who come from a variety of fields, each receiving \$625,000 in stipends with no strings attached. The fellowship is considered an investment in a recipient’s potential to exercise their own creative instincts for the benefit of human society. Elde says he may invest some of the funds into a storytelling project that highlights the ingenuity and humanity of science heroes.

- The Executive MBA program at the David Eccles School of Business is again ranked among the world’s best according to this year’s rankings by the Financial Times. The program ranked No. 4 in the West, No. 19 nationally, and No. 94 globally (up from No. 98 globally in 2019). It is the only school in Utah ranked in the Financial Times’ top-100 Executive MBA programs.

The Financial Times draws information for its rankings from two primary sources: surveys of EMBA alumni three years post-graduation and school administrators addressing a broad variety of criteria. These include alumni career progression, school diversity, international focus, idea generation, and research productivity of the faculty.

- The University of Utah’s undergraduate elementary teacher preparation program has been named among the top in the country by the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ), a nonpartisan, not-for-profit research and policy organization, for strong training in classroom management strategies and high-quality clinical practice experiences.

University of Utah’s program stands out as among only 17 elementary programs in the country that earn an A in both clinical practice and classroom management and serves as a model of excellence for others.

“This ranking recognizes the exceptional work of our College of Education leaders, faculty, and staff, who have created a high-quality undergraduate education program,” said Dan Reed, the University of Utah’s senior vice president for academic affairs. “Their progressive approach to evidence-based, clinical experiences for future teachers have made College of Education graduates highly sought-after educators in our state and beyond.”

A copy of the items is included as Appendix XI with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

#### Action: 6.02 – Current Events and Updates

President Watkins noted that she and Senior Vice President Michael Good met with Center for Disease Control Director Dr. Robert Redfield and White House Coronavirus Panel Expert, Dr. Deborah Birx, on October 31. President Watkins reported on their discussion of the U’s response to COVID-19 and their direction on the testing of our student population.

## SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

### Report: 7.01 – Health Sciences Report

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Senior Vice President Michael Good gave an update on the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the state of Utah and nationally, and responded to questions from trustees.

In a written report to the Board, Dr. Good noted the following:

#### New Leadership

- The Huntsman Cancer Institute and University of Utah Health announced, Sachin Apte, MD, M.S., MBA, has been named HCI Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) and Physician-in-Chief of the cancer hospital, effective February 2021. Apte is joining us from the Moffitt Cancer Center where he serves as Associate Chief Medical Officer.

#### Top Performer in Quality for 11 Years

- The 2020 Vizient Quality and Accountability Ranking recognized U of U Health as a “top performer” for delivering high-quality in-patient care (for the 11th consecutive year) and ambulatory care (for the 6th consecutive year).

#### Ranked Best Employer in Utah by Forbes

- In September, Forbes released its second annual ranking of America's Best Employers by State, and U of U Health was among five health systems that earned the top spot in their respective states in 2020. Forbes surveyed 80,000 Americans to identify the organizations liked best by employees.

#### Research Milestones

- The Huntsman Cancer Institute and College of Pharmacy are partnering to establish the University of Utah Therapeutic Accelerator Hub (U2TAH). U2TAH provides needed resources to develop therapeutic discoveries into life-changing treatments for patients. Former Tolero Pharmaceuticals CEO David Bearss, Ph.D., is the inaugural director of U2TAH.

#### Awards, Grants & Recognition

- Alison Flynn Gaffney, MHA, executive director for Service Lines, Ancillary and Support Services at U of U Health Hospitals and Clinics, was named a Utah Business 2020 Women of the Year award winner. She will be featured in the November issue of Utah Business Magazine.
- The American Urogynecologic Society selected Ingrid Nygaard, MD, M.S., professor of obstetrics and gynecology, for the prestigious Jack Robertson lifetime achievement award for urogynecology.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XII with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

Report: 7.02 – Academic Affairs Report

In a written report to the Board, Senior Vice President Dan Reed noted the following:

News Items

- College of Engineering Dean Rich Brown Receives Presidential Endowed Chair
  - University of Utah College of Engineering Dean Rich Brown was installed as the inaugural chairholder of the H.E Thomas Presidential Endowed Dean’s Chair on October 27.

A longtime supporter of the college, H.E. “Ed” Thomas donated \$4 million to establish the endowed deanship. Thomas is a self-made entrepreneur and perpetual “tinkerer” from humble beginnings. He built a successful construction company which led to a series of investments in commercial and industrial land development. In 2006, he created an endowed scholarship for students from his hometown of Springville.

“I deeply appreciate the honor that my friend, Ed Thomas, has brought to me and to the College of Engineering by endowing the deanship,” Brown said. “His generous donation will help ensure the college’s financial vitality and enable it to take advantage of emerging opportunities as it continues to provide the workforce and ideas that drive Utah’s tech economy.”

Brown has been dean at the college for nearly two decades.

- New Leader Named for SCI Institute
  - National Science Foundation and Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) veteran, Manish Parashar, a distinguished professor of Computer Science at Rutgers University, will join the U’s Scientific Computing Imaging Institute (SCI) on January 1, 2021.

“He brings an unparalleled depth and breadth of experience in cyberinfrastructure and computer and computational science that will advance SCI as it continues to innovate, grow and build research collaborations across the entire University of Utah campus,” said Dan Reed, senior vice president for Academic Affairs. SCI is a campus research center where over 185 faculty, staff, and students work together to shape the future of advanced computing. Computer Science Rankings places the University at No. 2 in visualization work internationally.

- Spring Semester Planned with Two Non-Instruction Days
  - The University of Utah will once again schedule a two-week “circuit breaker” halfway through the Spring 2021 semester to interrupt and slow COVID-19 infections on campus. In addition, two non-instruction days are scheduled for Friday, March 5 and Monday, April 5.

“We want to be the university that gets this right,” said Dan Reed. “Under the wise counsel of our University of Utah Health epidemiologists, we implemented the fall semester circuit breaker, and it has served us in good stead, interrupting exposures and infections on campus. We hope to duplicate this phenomenon next spring.”

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XIII with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

### **ASUU UPDATE**

#### Report: 8.01 – ASUU Report

Trustee Ephraim Kum gave an overview of his written report noting accomplishments and issues of focus over the past month.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XIV with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

### **ACADEMIC SENATE**

#### Report: 9.01 – Academic Senate Report

Academic Senate President Randy Dryer referred Trustees to his written report and offered to respond to questions.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XV with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

#### Information 10.01 – Open Meeting and Conflict of Interest Training

Robert Payne, deputy general counsel, presented information from the Open Meeting Act regarding the open meeting law. He stated that, as a public body, whatever the Board does, needs to be made available to the public every time a quorum is present. Mr. Payne reviewed the topics that qualify for a closed session. He also reviewed the Conflict of Interest statement and reinforced the requirement for annual review and signature by each individual trustee.



A copy of the training is included as Appendix XVI with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

**ADJOURN**

Resolution: Chair Christian Gardner recommended adjournment of the open meeting of the Board of Trustees.

At 11:00 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on December 8, 2020.

**Motion to approve by Jim Sorenson, second by Randy Shumway. Final Resolution: Motion Approved.** Aye: Kim Brunisholz, H. David Burton, Katie Eccles, Christian Gardner, Ephraim Kum, Anne-Marie Lampropoulos, David Parkin, J. Steve Price, Randy Shumway, and Jim Sorenson

Signed by: Laura Snow

Date approved: 8 December 2020