

LANDER UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lander University
Greenwood, South Carolina

Monday, December 14, 2020
Virtual Meeting
2:00 p.m.

Presiding: Linda Dolny

Members of the Board in Attendance:

Angela Strickland
Anne Walker
Cary Corbitt
Cathy Lee
DeWitt Stone
Don Lloyd
Robert Sabalis
John Craig
Marcia Hydrick
Ray Hunt
Robert Barber
Peggy Makins
Terry Pruitt

Absent:

Don Scott
Holly Bracknell

Others in Attendance: President Richard Cosentino; Dr. Scott Jones, Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs; Stacie Bowie, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Todd Gambill, Vice President for Enrollment and Access Management; Mike Worley, Vice President for University Advancement; Boyd Yarbrough, Vice President for Student Affairs; Adam Taylor, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Chief of Staff; Crystal Rookard, Vice President and General Counsel; Brian Reese, Director of Athletics; Megan Price, Assistant Vice President of University Relations and Publications; Matt Braaten, Assistant Vice President for Planning Analytics and Decision Support; Chief Greg Allen, Lander University Police Chief; Tracy Clifton, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator; Abdallah Haddad, Chief Information and Technology Officer; London Thomas, Director of Human Resources.

Board Chair Linda Dolny called the meeting to order and stated for the record that appropriate publicity in order to comply with the Freedom of Information Act had been disseminated and that this meeting is in compliance with that Act.

Dates to Remember:

December 15, 2020 – Fall 2020 graduating class commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Anne Walker motioned to approve the September 2020 board meeting minutes; seconded by Ray Hunt. The board meeting minutes from September 2020 were approved unanimously.

Cary Corbitt motioned to approve the October 2020 board meeting minutes; seconded by John Craig. The board meeting minutes from October 2020 were approved unanimously.

II. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dolny recognized the staff excellence award winners and faculty award winners.

STAFF:

- Justin Burger, director of marketing and productions for Lander Athletics
- Ebonee Dendy, director of CARE and advocacy for Student Affairs
- Jessica Partlow, employment coordinator for Human Resources
- Donna Knight, administrative assistant for the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Kenneth Calliham, assistant director of university transfer for Lander Admissions

FACULTY:

- Dr. Josie Ryan, Moore Award for Excellence in General Education Teaching
- Dr. Mandy Cleveland, Distinguished Professor
- Dr. Pragya Sharma, Young Faculty Scholar
- Dr. Michelle Deady, Young Faculty Teaching

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On Saturday, Lander successfully held two commencement ceremonies for Spring Class of 2020. Many measures were taken to create a safe environment for graduates to have the opportunity to be recognized appropriately. Tuesday, Lander will hold two commencement ceremonies for Fall Class of 2020.

Given the circumstances, Lander completed a successful semester. While other universities cut millions of dollars, laid off employees, furloughed thousands of employees, Lander gave a bonus, continued hiring and expanding. Lander will continue to observe Covid-19 safety protocols during the spring semester.

Lander has performed extremely well over the last five years, record enrollment, retention, state appropriation, and fund raising. Lander has been gained the attention of the General Assembly and other university presidents and their boards.

President Cosentino emphasized the importance that all board members hold the same vision, identity, and long-term goals for Lander University. The President concluded his report with a time of discussion.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs: Robert Barber

No action items.

Enrollment and Access Management: Holly Bracknell

No action items.

Finance and Audit/Governmental Affairs: Don Lloyd

1. Presentation of June 30, 2020 Financial Audit and Required Communication

Don Lloyd motioned to approve the June 30, 2020 Financial Audit; seconded by Anne Walker. The motion passed unanimously.

2. FY 2020-2021 Budget Proposal

Ray Hunt motioned to approve the FY 2020-2021 Budget Proposal; seconded by John Craig. The motion passed unanimously.

3. FY 2020-2021 Housing Rate Proposal

Don Lloyd motioned to approve the FY2020-21 Housing Rate Proposal; seconded by Cathy Lee. The motion passed unanimously.

4. FY 2020-2021 Food Service Rate Proposal

Don Lloyd motioned to approve the FY 2020-2021 Food Service Rate Proposal; seconded by John Craig. The motion passed unanimously.

Institutional Advancement: John Craig

No action items.

Student Affairs/Intercollegiate Athletics: Ray Hunt

No action items.

University Policies: Bob Sabalis

1. Honoraria

2. Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

3. Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment

Don Lloyd motioned to approve the three policies presented to the board; seconded by Ray Hunt. The policies were approved unanimously.

V. OTHER BUSINESS/Announcements/Reports

Ad Hoc Bylaw Committee – Bob Sabalis

No Action items. Bob Sabalis listed recommendations to the current Lander Board of Trustees Bylaws.

Faculty Senate: Dr. Pedro Lopes

Report was emailed to board members.

Staff Senate Report: Eddie Shaw

Report was emailed to board members.

VI. Executive Session

John Craig made a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, a student or person regulated by Lander University; seconded by Bob Sabalis. The motion passed unanimously.

The board returned to open session. Don Lloyd made the motion to approve the contract of President Cosentino, seconded by Ray Hunt. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Anne Walker made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by John Craig. The motion passed unanimously.