



## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

January 31, 2020

### Regular Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:25 p.m. by President Wilson in Room BC of the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present, with the following Board members in attendance:

Governors Barnhill, Busuito, Gaffney, Kelly, Kumar, O'Brien, Stancato, and Thompson; and President Wilson

**Also Present:** Provost Whitfield, Vice Presidents Burns, Decatur, Lanier, Lessem, and Staebler; and Secretary Miller

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA — Reconsideration of Action Items of December 6, 2019 Board Meeting**

President Wilson presented several items from the Consent Agenda of the December 6, 2019 Board meeting, and asked if any of the four Board members who gave a negative vote at that meeting would reconsider and approve the remaining items.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kumar and seconded by Governor Busuito, several action items of the Consent Agenda presented at the December 6, 2019 Board meeting were reconsidered and approved as presented. The motion carried.

#### Board Meeting

- A. Approval of the Official Proceedings of September 20, 2019 (Regular Board)
- B. Personnel Recommendations

#### Academic Affairs

- C. Establishment of a New Program for the Master of Science Degree in Environmental and Sustainability Engineering

#### Budget and Finance

- D. Towers Residential Suites and Cafe Dining Addition – Construction Cost Authorization Increase

### **Approval of Official Proceedings (Board)**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kumar and seconded by Governor Busuito, the Official Proceedings of the June 22, 2018 Regular Meeting were reconsidered and approved as presented. The motion carried.

**Personnel Recommendations (Board)**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kumar and seconded by Governor Busuito, the personnel recommendations were reconsidered and approved and action authorized in accordance therewith. The motion carried.

**School of Medicine**

Yaddanapudi Raviindranath, for renewal of the Georgie Ginopolis Endowed Chair in Pediatric Cancer and Hematology, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2024.

Robert Welch, for renewal of the Brooks F. Bock, M.D. Endowed Professorship in Emergency Medicine, effective November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2023.

**Establishment of a New Program for the Master of Science Degree in Environmental and Sustainability Engineering (Academic Affairs)**

The Department of Civil Engineering was formed in 1925 and underwent a name change to the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1990. However, there was no name change in the available degree options, and students continued to graduate with a B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. The current proposal provides students with a degree that clearly designates the environmental specialization.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kumar and seconded by Governor Busuito, the Board of Governors reconsidered and established a new degree program, the Master of Science in Environmental and Sustainability Engineering in the College of Engineering, effective Fall 2020. The motion carried.

**Towers Residential Suites and Cafe Dining Addition – Construction Cost Authorization Increase (Budget and Finance)**

At its meeting of March 20, 2019, the Board of Governors approved the construction authorization for the Towers Residential Suites and Towers Café Addition. At that time the project architect's estimate was in line with the project funding request. A competitive bid process was completed in August 2019, and all four bids came in significantly over the estimated project cost. As with other projects, the current Detroit construction market poses major challenges to estimating projects due to the increased costs of construction, lack of available manpower, and cost fluctuations of materials and equipment.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kumar and seconded by Governor Busuito, the Board of Governors reconsidered and authorized the President, or his designee, to increase the current budget for the Towers Residential Suites and Café Dining Facility Addition for a project cost not to exceed \$2,835,000. In March 2019 the Board authorized \$2,150,000 in construction spending. Further, the Board of Governors authorized additional spending of up to \$685,000 for a total of \$2,835,000. Funding will be provided from the Residential Dining Operating Fund. The motion carried.



**CONSENT AGENDA — January 31, 2020**

President Wilson next presented the Consent Agenda for the January 31 Board meeting.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented. The motion carried.

Board Meeting

- A. Approval of the Official Proceedings of December 6, 2019
- B. Personnel Recommendations

Budget and Finance

- C. Gordon H. Scott Hall Vivarium Renovation Project
- D. Parking Lot 22 Michigan Department of Transportation
- E. Arena Cost Increase Authorization

**Approval of the Official Proceedings of December 6, 2019 (Board)**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the the Official Proceedings of the December 6, 2019 Regular Meeting were approved as presented. The motion carried.

**Personnel Recommendations (Board)**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the personnel recommendations were approved and action authorized in accordance therewith. The motion carried.

***School of Medicine***

Michael Cher, for renewal of the Donald J. Jaffar Endowed Research Chair effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012; July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017; July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019; and July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2024.

Mark E. Schweitzer, for appointment as professor with fractional 50% tenure per University year in the Department of Internal Medicine, effective April 27, 2020. Professor Schweitzer will serve as Dean and as Vice President for Health Affairs. The recommendation for tenure is contingent upon a positive recommendation from the faculty of the Department of Internal Medicine at a meeting to be scheduled.

Christina Shanti, for appointment as the Arvin I. Philippart, M.D., Endowed Chair in Pediatric Surgical Research, effective April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024.

Joseph Uberti, for renewal as the Lambert/Webber Endowed Chair for Clinical Hematology/Oncology, effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022.

***Special Notes on Administrative Appointments  
School of Medicine***

Mark E. Schweitzer, for appointment as Dean, effective April 27, 2020, for a term of five years, subject to the pleasure of the President or his/her designee during the term of the assignment. Professor Schweitzer will also serve as Vice President for Health Affairs.

**Gordon H. Scott Hall Vivarium Renovation Project (Budget & Finance)**

Scott Hall, constructed in 1968, provides classroom, research lab, and office space for the School of Medicine, as well as space for a 10,000 square foot vivarium. That facility went through upgrades in 1985 and 1997, and was one of the first to be certified by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) and has continuously maintained that certification. In order to meet current accreditation requirements, however, an extensive facility assessment survey was conducted to provide recommendations for the renovation of the facility. The assessment found that current room sizes, door widths, and operational workflows were inefficient due to the current layout, and the lab and building mechanical equipment, including the HVAC systems were unreliable.

Given the central role of the vivarium in support of medical research, it is necessary to address this issue in the near term for program sustainability while the University works toward the development of new research and educational facilities.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to award contracts to advance and complete design phase activities for the eventual construction of the Gordon H. Scott Hall Vivarium Renovation for an initial cost not to exceed \$550,000. Funding for this effort will be provided by the Division of Research and the School of Medicine. The motion carried.

**Parking Lot 22 Michigan Department of Transportation Construction (Budget & Finance)**

Parking Lot 22, located at the corner of West Palmer and Second Avenue, has served faculty, staff, and students with 183 total spaces. MDOT is leasing the Lot for construction and staging of the new Second Avenue Bridge. WSU will prepare the parking lot for the MDOT project and restore it to its original condition after the completion of the project. MDOT will pay the cost of the construction.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to award contracts to make various improvements to Parking Lot 22 for a project cost not to exceed \$522,000. The project will be fully funded by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The motion carried.



**Arena Cost Increase Authorization (Budget & Finance)**

In May 2019 the Board of Governors approved the design and construction of a 3,000-seat arena that will sit adjacent to Matthaei and Parking Lot 50. The arena will be used in partnership with WSU and the Detroit Pistons and will accommodate practice and play by the WSU Men's and Women's teams and the Piston's G-League team. The relocation of facilities within Matthaei will provide much needed space for intramural and student activities, which are currently being turned away.

The project estimate in May 2019 was in line with the funding request approved by the Board. However, costs for furniture and other equipment were based on reusing items from the Palace Arena, which proved to be incompatible with the smaller arena design. In addition, the volatile Detroit construction market caused major material and labor increases.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Stancato and seconded by Governor Kelly, the Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to execute contracts for the design and construction of a Wayne State/Detroit Pistons Arena. In May 2019 the Board of Governors authorized \$25,000,000 for the design and construction of the project. It is further recommended that the Board of Governors authorize additional spending up to \$3,800,000 to construct the Arena for a total project cost of \$28,800,000. Funding will be provided from bond proceeds and from philanthropy. A lease with the Pistons will partially fund the debt incurred. The motion carried.

**REQUEST TO AWARD BACCALAUREATE DEGREE TO A CRITICALLY ILL STUDENT**

The administration presented a request to award a baccalaureate degree to a critically ill student that would require an exception to statute sections 2.43.62.030 and 2.43.62.040. Provost Whitfield explained that Ms. Bri'Jon Moore is currently in hospice care, and family members were not at the meeting due to concern about leaving her side. Specifically, the request is to award Ms. Moore a Bachelor of Liberal Arts & Sciences with a major in Psychology. She has completed most of the degree requirements, all of her General Education and college group requirements, and 65% of the major, amounting to about 90% of the total requirements. Both the Department of Psychology and the College of Liberal Arts support the request.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor O'Brien and seconded by Governor Busuito, the Board of Governors approved a request for an exception to Statute sections 2.43.62.030 and 2.43.62.040, and award the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, with a major in Psychology, to a critically ill student, effective Winter term 2020. The motion carried.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Wilson gave a short report to the Board.

Athletics — WSU student athletes excelled in their academic achievements, with 57 athletes – a school record – receiving a perfect 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2019 semester, and a cumulative GPA for all student athletes of 3.31. Of the 17 teams, 15 had a cumulative GPA of at least 3.05%, and 72% of student athletes had a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0. The five fall sports combined for 72 academic all-conference student athletes, with football equaling the school record with 39 honorees. Finally, swim team member Adriana Waack was named one of 27 national semi-finalists for the Coach John Wooten Citizenship Cup.

School of Medicine — President Wilson thanked the Board and members of the Search Committee, chaired by Vice President Lanier, for the successful search for a new Vice President of Health Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine. Dr. Mark Schweitzer, a pre-eminent radiologist and Chair of the Department of Radiology at Stony Brook University in New York, will join the University in the School of Medicine on April 27. The President said the University community looks forward to his leadership for the University and the School of Medicine.

The President also thanked Dr. Jack Sobel for his leadership of the School of Medicine over the past five years. He described him as a consummate professional, a well-respected physician, and a trusted colleague who led the School through a very challenging era. The University owes him an immense debt of gratitude, and President Wilson was pleased he will remain on the faculty, treating patients and conducting research.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

The presentation on the Strategic Plan for this meeting dealt with Community Engagement, and President Wilson asked Vice President Lindsey to give the presentation.

Vice President Lindsey, quoting John Donne's words, "No man is an island entirely to himself," stated that no university is an island, but is interdependent and interconnected with the community around it. Wayne State University, in its vision and mission statement, is connected to the larger community; all 13 schools and colleges have a wide depth and breadth of activities in the community, as do many of the divisions under the President and the Provost. He explained further that his presentation in no way could encompass all aspects of the University's community engagement, but will provide merely a broad overview.

Community Engagement has three goals with 21 objectives. Thirty initiatives under those objectives have been completed, and others are moving forward.



The first goal is to enhance the University's leadership in the revitalization of the City of Detroit. As one of the largest employers in the city, WSU has an annual economic impact of \$2.5 billion not only through its employment but also its research funding. Wayne State has been a catalyst in the development of Midtown, much of it spearheaded by Vice President Staebler and the Office of Economic Development. He and his team are involved in a number of place-making activities, or how to make the campus and the surrounding community a vibrant, live place. The annual Noel Night and the development of the Warren/Woodward Park from a vacant lot to a welcoming meeting place are two examples.

Providing and supporting transportation is also part of community engagement. Examples are the installation of mobile bikes, partnership in the Q-line, Zip cars, and the distribution of Dart Passes for students to ride DDOT and SMART buses for free. Economic Development also supports small business through the Detroit Urban Solutions, Co.Act, the Goldman Sachs program, and the OneCard and Save program. Over 1600 jobs have been created through the efforts of that team. Economic Development is now working to take some of the support services into the neighborhoods and to also provide work-ahead meeting and event space.

Goal 2 is concerned with providing, and sustaining, meaningful service learning opportunities for students. The University is committed to service learning, which helps students connect to the community in ways in which they not only benefit the community but bring back research that is useful in their studies, thereby hopefully producing students who are well engaged, well informed, civic minded, and learn to give back as just a way of life for them. Service learning permeates all 13 schools and colleges, with numerous programs, student-led initiatives, and partnerships with established organizations. In order to compile all the information on service learning activities, a Community Engagement Registry is being established to weave together the data and help determine how successful the efforts are in the community. This initiative is being led by Ahmad Ezzeddine and the Office of International Programs and is being funded by the Kresge Foundation. Dedicated personnel will help compile the information and work with the schools and colleges. The plan is to implement the Registry across the campus in August of 2020 and to have enough data by the end of the year to evaluate the programs. The Honors College is proposing the establishment of a Certificate in Civic Engagement, a capstone course open to all students that would include gateway courses, service learning opportunities, social justice, and civic literacy electives. The College is also planning to relaunch their Community of Scholars as Service Warriors.

The third goal is to maintain WSU's reputation through advocacy and outreach programs. The University has at least 600 partnerships with community organizations, with

120 of them in the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs. They include partnerships with schools in the city of Detroit and in the metro area, as well as over 100 programs offered by various units in the University that bring K-12 students on campus and introduce them to higher education. Civic partnerships include the Parade Company and city of Detroit government. Many University personnel serve on national, local, and regional boards, as does the President who works throughout the state of Michigan on any number of boards to represent the University. The President also has a Community Advisory Council whose members offer feedback that helps shape WSU policies and procedures. Community volunteers are thanked with a preview reception for the Thanksgiving Parade. There are 90 people throughout the University who have a role in Community Engagement who can be called on and collaborated with, and outside visitors on campus are often hosted at the President's tailgate parties.

Other tools are used to show how the University engages with the community. Marketing and Communications puts out a publication that showcases WSU's efforts. In addition, several programs are offered to the public to bring people on campus. One of the most successful is the Martin Luther King Tribute held every January, and mostly underwritten by outside support. Over 500 school students, potential WSU students, attend, as well as 1200 attendees to see a national speaker. Another program is the Spirit of Community Award, where faculty, staff, students, donors, and champions of diversity are acknowledged at a ceremony and reception.

Vice President Lindsey said he merely skimmed the surface of the many ways in which the University engages the community, and these efforts have led to the University receiving national recognition. Wayne State has been recognized by Carnegie as one of the few universities in this country to have both a high research classification as well as a high community engagement designation. In 2019 WSU received the American Public Land-Grant University's (APLU) Innovation and Economic Prosperity Talent Award for its efforts in economic and talent development. Mr. Lindsey concluded his presentation, stressing that the University must continue putting its effort, energy, and resources into maintaining good relationships and making an impact through service in the community. The floor was open to discussion.

Governor Thompson asked about the Community Engagement Registry and whether it includes any kind of training for students on how to meaningfully and respectfully enter into communities. Mr. Lindsey replied that the Registry itself does not because it is simply a data base. However, many of the student service learning programs prepare the students to



engage in a community in a culturally sensitive and respectful way. Provost Whitfield added that the Certificate of Civic Engagement being offered by the Honors College would serve the purpose of preparing students for engaging with the community, and also includes a debriefing so that students understand what they learned from the experience. Currently the certificate program is open only to students who are actively involved in formal community engagement efforts. The Provost explained that community service at Wayne has often evolved informally, almost casually, and it is difficult to specify and include all the various ways that community service is performed. It is hoped that with the student certificate and other organized efforts, a climate of expertise can be created that will help the entire University community avoid missteps when engaging with the community, formally or informally. Vice President Lanier added that staff in the Office of Governmental Affairs often accompany deans and other administrators who work in the community to help them navigate some of the problems they may encounter.

Governor Barnhill noted that training for community engagement could be part of student orientation. Many students are new to Detroit or to the state, and they could be given a guide on how to enter into the community. Resident students especially could profit if the training would be part of the Housing orientation. Associate Provost Brockmeyer agreed that there is a need for helping students to learn how to enter into the community. Practically speaking, student orientation is only one day, not multiple days like on other campuses, since many WSU students need to work. However, sensitivity to the community is introduced in Part 2 of the orientation process. In addition, the administration is following up on other ways to deliver an extended program on helping students become a part of the community.

Governor O'Brien asked what is being done to make it easier for students to navigate from the main campus to the Ilitch School of Business. Vice President Staebler replied that there is a dedicated shuttle between the campus and the Ilitch School that runs every 15-20 minutes. In addition, there is the Q-line, MoGo, and the DART bus passes, as well as the main campus and medical campus shuttles that both go in that direction.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Two of the Board's standing committees met during the morning session, and President Wilson asked the committee chairs to give a brief report. A detailed report of the discussions during each committee meeting can be found in the Minutes of that committee.

**Budget and Finance Committee** (Reported by Governor Kelly)

The Committee met and considered three action items and heard four informational reports from the administration. The action items which were part of the Consent Agenda heard earlier this afternoon included funding for the design authorization for the renovation of the vivarium at Scott Hall at the school of Medicine, funding to improve Parking Lot #22 which will be used by the Michigan Department of Transportation during the spectacular reconstruction of the Second Avenue bridge, and a budget allocation to cover expected cost increases for the Wayne State / Detroit Pistons arena.

In terms of the informational reports, the Committee received the annual report of the **Cash Pool Investments and Debt Programs** for the year ending September 30, 2019, and the annual report of the **Long-Term Investment Program** also for the year ending September 30, 2019; the update on **Major Capital and Real Estate Projects**, and the **Purchasing Exceptions Report** for purchase orders greater than \$25,000 which were issued without soliciting competitive bids during October and November 2019. The report on Cash Pool Investments advised that the portfolio's investment returns were 4.8% for the fiscal year, which is slightly below the allocation index of 5.7%. Returns were strong for fixed income equities and hedge funds. The Committee received an overview of long-term debt outstanding by bond issuance including a summary of projects funded. There were no requests for transfers from the **Contingency Reserve**. The Committee report was concluded.

**Student Affairs Committee** (Reported by Governor Busuito)

The Student Affairs Committee met this morning and had a full agenda with four presentations and the annual report from the Student Conduct Officer. The first presentation was the **Fall 2019 Enrollment Update** which had been rescheduled from the December Board meeting. It was given by Associate Vice President Dawn Medley. This is an annual report for the Board which provides information on total headcount, undergraduate enrollment, FTIAC enrollment, graduate enrollment, and identifies programs at the University where enrollment is increasing. In terms of highlights of that report, total headcount was down just under one percent, undergraduate enrollment is up one percent; programs where undergrad enrollment is increasing include Business, Information Sciences, Nursing, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences. While FTIACs are down slightly this year, there has been a 12% growth in full-time FTIACs since 2017, and 98% of these students attend full time. The Committee spent some time discussing FTIAC diversity population changes in the student body from 2018 to 2019 where new reporting methods allow for a more accurate designation of demographic



background. The report also touched upon community college transfer enrollment, transfer enrollment by college, and enrollment at the professional schools. An analysis of student credit hours showed an overall increase in credit hours of 1.5%.

Next we heard from Stuart Baum, the President of the ***Student Senate***, who provided background and updates on activities and projects the Senate is undertaking this academic year. The Senate is a committed and dedicated group of students working on a number of areas to improve campus life for our student body.

Sloan Taranella, the editor-in-chief of the ***South End***, spoke next. Resource issues continue to be a concern for the electronic paper as writers are in high demand. She provided an overview of the paper's operations and needs.

David Strauss, the ***Dean of Students***, spoke about campus activities and priorities for the year, and ongoing projects for the Dean of Students office. The meeting concluded with a brief overview of the ***Annual Report on Student Conduct***, which was submitted by Nikolina Camaj, Associate Director and Student Conduct Officer out of the Dean of Students Office. That concludes my report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION**

### **Academic Affairs**

Provost Whitfield pointed out that for the sixth consecutive year, the Wayne State University Law School was recognized as a Best Value Law School by *The National Jurist* and its sister publication *preLaw magazine*. Wayne's Law School is the only Michigan law school included in the 58 law schools listed in the 2019 ranking.

Governor O'Brien noticed there were no minority or female tenure promotions listed in the Personnel Recommendations. She asked that a document be prepared giving information regarding the number of minority tenure-track faculty. Provost Whitfield agreed to gather the data and break it down in terms of tenured and non-tenured in order to give an idea of how many minority are in the pipeline.

### **External Research Funding Report**

Vice President Lanier focused on the significant grants and contracts to the University listed in his report. They cut across engineering, education, medicine, and range from interventions for diabetes, the safety and environmental health aspects of chemical manufacturing, opiate addiction, cancer survivorship among African Americans, healthy lifestyles, projects in the environmental health sciences, and the development of a project called PHOENIX as a way to identify community health needs and outcomes. Dr. Lanier noted that

all of the grants and contracts tackle challenges that many communities face in the city of Detroit, thus fulfilling the vision and mission of the University as an urban-serving university as described by Vice President Lindsay.

In response to a question about the sources of funding, Vice President Lanier explained that the large jump between 2019 and the first quarter of 2020 was due to clinical trials driven from industry sponsors. NIH funding, which he considers a key barometer of the research portfolio, rose from \$78 million in 2015 to \$91 million in 2019, and National Science Foundation (NSF) funding rose from \$5 or \$6 million to \$10 or \$11 million during that time. Research funding has been steadily increasing since 2013 despite the challenges faced by the University, including the loss of three or four of its highest funded investigators from NIH at the School of Medicine. Nevertheless, the School and the University kept its forward momentum, and Dr. Lanier was confident that, with the groundwork laid by Dr. Sobel for Dr. Sweitzer, the upward trend will continue.

Governor Barnhill's comment dealt with the relationship between funding sources and the type of research being done. He asked if the administration creates goals for funding from various sources to support specific areas of research, or do they try to match incoming funds with research that is already ongoing or planned at the University. Dr. Lanier said it is a combination of both approaches. Many federal sources of funding have calls for proposals, so researchers try to be prepared where the calls match their areas of strength. Another approach over the last four or five years has been to promote inter-college grants and collaborative efforts that can lead to larger programmatic development across colleges.

### **Government and Community Affairs**

Vice President Lindsey commended Stuart Baum, the president of the Student Senate, for his work in bringing the Keith Polling Center to campus, which will be dedicated on February 5. He also announced that the Walter Reuther Humanitarian Award, endowed at the Reuther Library, will be presented to the Honorable John Lewis at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. by Dean Cawthorne of the School of Information Sciences.

Governor Thompson noted the reference in the written report to the Office of Women's Health and asked for further information on its function and activities. Vice President Lindsey explained that the Office was established by Dr. Sonia Hassan and her team for the purpose of looking comprehensively at all aspects of women's health such as high blood pressure, stroke, breast cancer as well as infant mortality issues. The Office of Governmental Affairs is looking at ways to assist Dr. Hassan in terms of federal funding and having it named as a



center of excellence. President Wilson added that over the past 20 years, women's health has grown into a discipline and center at the NIH, similar to the Office of Research and Minority Health. Vivian Pinn, the original director, was succeeded by Jeanine Clayton, who visited WSU last December to inaugurate the Office of Women's Health. Dr. Lanier further added that the Office is housed in iBio, and that Dr. Hassan has assembled a working group that studies the influence of the environment on women's health, and has also connected with several community organizations and cancer centers. The program is still in its early stages and in the process of developing a strategic plan, but the Board will be informed of its progress and perhaps have the opportunity to provide feedback.

### **Economic Development Report**

Vice President Staebler highlighted one aspect of his report, specifically, the Dart Pass project that provides passes on DDOT and SMART fixed-route buses. During the past four or five years, WSU has received more than \$1 million in value of bus passes, which have been distributed to students. More than 500 have been distributed so far this school year, and Mr. Staebler read the following e-mail from one of the students who received the pass.

As a financially struggling student, it was nearly impossible for me to finish my degree on account of a clinical experience all the way in Ferndale that I needed to complete. Transportation has always inhibited my ability to succeed, but this could have ended my degree. I was paying so much for bus passes and living expenses each month that I was ready to take a gap semester just to have enough money to finish this clinical experience. When my friend told me about the bus pass program at The W, I was over the moon. I really owe it to you all that I'm able to finish getting my teaching certificate this Winter semester, for helping me with food, and now with the transportation I so critically needed. Thank you so much for this incredible program.

Mr. Staebler noted that although most of us take transportation for granted, it can nevertheless be a major impediment to student success, and his office will work to expand the program and make it more effective.

### **Development and Alumni Affairs**

Vice President Burns had no additional information to report.

### **Establishment of Endowment Funds**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Thompson and seconded by Governor O'Brien, the Board of Governors established endowment funds that total \$807,525.57 for the purposes presented. The motion carried.

1. The Paul E. Andrews Memorial Spirit Walk to recognize his outstanding service to the University and his total philanthropic gifts, and the gifts and pledges received in his honor. The name replaces the Spirit Walk in the Athletic Department. \$43,000
2. The Dean John Corvino Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Irvin D Reid Honors College. \$50,000
3. The Dearborn Heights Rotary Club Endowed Scholarship for Mortuary Science in Memory of William A. "Biff" Querfeld to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. \$25,000
4. The Dibner Family Endowed Fund for Global Health Education to provide financial support for qualifying students and faculty engaged in international clinical experiences. \$30,000
5. The Diehl Giving Fund Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Law School. \$50,000
6. Professor Arnold L. and Gladys Goldsmith Endowed Memorial Scholarship in English to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. \$32,500
7. The Marlene J. Mayo Endowed Support Fund to support operations in the Department of History in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. \$25,000
8. The Mike Ilitch School of Business Faculty and Staff Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education at the Mike Ilitch School of Business. \$25,000
9. The Ralph W. Nicholas Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education at Wayne State University. \$29,000
10. The Francesca Moriconi Payne Memorial Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the College of Education. \$25,000
11. The Antoinette Pillzner Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Law School. \$25,000
12. The Francis Gerald Sullivan Memorial Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the College of Engineering. \$250,000
13. The Thekdi Family Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Law School. \$25,000
14. The Brian Thompson Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the College of Engineering. \$25,000



15. The LTC(R) John E. and Deborah L. Walus Endowed Scholarship for Veterans to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the Law School. \$25,000
16. The Edward Wise Memorial Endowed Faculty Development Award to recognize outstanding faculty achievement and encourage continued progress of faculty in the Law School. \$93,025.57
17. The Pamela G. Wojtaszek Witte Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education in the School of Social Work. \$30,000

#### **Dissolution of Endowment Fund**

The Dean of the Law School, with the knowledge and agreement of the donor, is requesting to dissolve the Edward Wise Memorial Endowed Symposium and use the funds to establish the Edward Wise Memorial Endowed Faculty Development Award.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Gaffney and supported by Governor Stancato, the Board of Governors dissolved the Edward Wise Memorial Endowed Symposium as presented. The motion carried.

#### **Ratification of Telephone Vote**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kelly and seconded by Governor Busuito, the Board of Governors ratified the action adopted by the Board of Governors by telephone vote on December 11 and 12, 2019, by a vote of 6-1. The action was a reconsideration of an earlier action considered by the Board, and the full recommendation adopted by this telephone vote is as follows:

Upon motion made by Governor Kumar and supported by Governor Gaffney, the Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to increase the current budget for the renovation and construction of the Hilberry Gateway Performance Complex. In March 2018, the Board of Governors authorized \$65,000,000 in construction spending. The request for additional spending is for \$4,500,000 for a total project cost of \$69,500,000. Funding will be provided from philanthropic gift contributions, Designated Fund Account for Nonrecurring Projects, and bond proceeds secured for the purpose of implementing this project. The motion carried.

The motion carried.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **Chair of the Board**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Gaffney and seconded by Governor O'Brien, the election of the Chair of the Board was tabled until the next Board meeting. The motion carried.

President Wilson noted that according to Robert's Rules of Order, the current Chair, Governor Marilyn Kelly, will continue as Chair until the Board takes other action at a future meeting.

### **Vice Chair**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Gaffney and seconded by Governor O'Brien, the election of the Vice Chair of the Board was tabled until the next Board meeting. The motion carried.

### **Treasurer**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Kelly and seconded by Governor Stancato, the nominations for Treasurer of the Board were closed, and Rebecca Cook was elected as Treasurer pro tem, for the period that she occupies the position of Vice Chair for Budget and Finance. The motion carried.

### **Secretary**

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Barnhill and seconded by Governor Kumar, the nominations for Secretary to the Board were closed, and Julie H. Miller was elected Secretary to the Board for 2020. The motion carried 7-1.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Secretary Miller received a number of requests to speak from members of the University community on various subjects. President Wilson explained that speakers will each have no more than three minutes for their statements, and will receive a signal from the Secretary when one minute is left.

### **Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)**

#### ***Kristina Curtiss***

Hello, President Wilson, Chair Kelly and the rest of the Board. Thank you so much for giving us the time to speak today. My name is Kristina Curtiss, and I am a fourth year student at Wayne State studying Political Science and Urban Studies. I am an



Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program or UROP for winter/spring/summer 2018 and fall 2019. I came to present to the Board last April regarding the status of Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program or UROP on campus. Today I am back to give you an update as well as have other students give testimony about the importance of maintaining undergraduate research on campus. In May of last year, funding for UROP was threatened due to the reallocation to the McNair Scholars Program. In an effort to protect research for all students as well as acknowledge the need for more target research programs that are accessible to all students' needs, Dr. Monica Brockmeyer came to the negotiating table with students to ensure that the program continued. Since that meeting, Dr. Brockmeyer has delivered on three promises. The first is that UROP program ran in fall of 2018, which I and other students are a part of, which awarded more research awards than any UROP to date, and demonstrated a strong student interest in research. Dr. Brockmeyer also opened up space to allow Academic Senate to provide feedback on the redesigning of UROP. The report conclusions that Academic Senate has come to conclude are in your packet, which put forth recommendations for how UROP needs to continue to change to ensure that it will be accessible to all students on campus.

Finally, Dr. Brockmeyer has opened up applications for UROP's spring/summer 2020 to ensure that UROP continues in current and upcoming academic years. It is important that changes to the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program continue to move forward. We thank Dr. Brockmeyer for her efforts to reform the program and the Academic Senate and the work of Dr. Brad Roth to ensure that we are taking the time to better the program to make sure that research accessibility can be available to all students. We hope to return to you by the end of this academic school year with an update regarding how changes to the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program are moving forward. It is important that there is an oversight mechanism that continues to be sustained to ensure that changes to undergraduate research can be continued. We also hope to see that the Academic Senate report will continue to be implemented to the best of its abilities. Undergraduate research at this University is central to fulfilling our mission as a research university in the middle of the heart of Detroit. It is important that the program of undergraduate research for undergraduates is continued, and we thank the administration for continuing to work to acknowledge that undergraduate research is appropriate and important and continues to work to provide student research opportunities. Thank you.

***Gabrielle Gordon***

Hello, I'm here to speak in favor of UROP. Thank you Kristina, she pretty much laid out the bare bones of it. I'm going to tell you how UROP has impacted my life. Research has defined my experience here at college. From freshman year I was involved in research, and it has gone on to bolster my confidence, it has taught me how to work as part of a team, and it has taught me, most importantly, how to ask for help. And now I'm asking you to help this program. UROP has enabled me to dedicate myself more fully to my research. It is of great importance not only to me but to the University as a whole. In order to establish equity in the research experience for undergraduate students, especially those of low socioeconomic status and from marginalized communities, you need to maintain this program. Wayne State's mission is to be a pre-eminent public research university known for its contributions to research, and this program does that. It's integral to the fulfillment of our vision, mission, and goals. It embodies our core values of collaboration, integrity, innovation, excellence, diversity, and inclusion. Thank you.



***Mazen Zamzam***

Good afternoon, my name is Mazen Zamzam, I'm a senior here at Wayne State, and I'm studying Public Health and Biology, and I am also here to talk about my experiences regarding UROP. So I started out here as an undecided freshman, no major, just Premed, and I want to talk about how UROP really helped shape my experience here at Wayne State. When I first applied for UROP during the fall of my sophomore year, I was awarded a public health research with one of my close colleagues now, Dr. DeWitt. That program really helped me figure out what I want to do with my career. It kind of threw me into the field; it gave me experience in ways that I really can't explain. And for me to stand here, it's kind of baffling that it's up for debate whether this program should be up for renewal or not. And I was in talks with a lot of the committees that were in charge of UROP, and we really appreciate all the feedback and all the inclusion of students in this. And myself, and two other students who spoke before me are graduating this upcoming May, and we really just want to keep this in your hands to make sure that UROP deserves the attention it gets and the funding it gets, so that students like ourselves can experience what we went through in the future. Thank you.

President Wilson assured the three speakers that the administration supports UROP, and the Provost and the Vice President for Research are developing a proposal that would greatly enhance UROP.

**National Gun Violence Survivors Week*****Meghan Dombrowski***

Hello, and thank you for allowing me to speak today. I'm Meghan Dombrowski, president of the Wayne State University chapter of Students Demand Action, a national initiative fighting gun violence in America. Wayne State University Students Demand Action wishes that the Board of Governors declare the first week of February as National Gun Violence Survivors Week by passing a formal resolution. Gun violence in any form leaves an enduring mark on the lives of those who are personally impacted. In the United States, (unclear) survivors, 50% of American adults or someone they care for have personally experienced gun violence in their lifetime, and gun violence is the second leading cause of death for children and teens in America. Yet as a society, we still struggle to grasp the toll of the crisis beyond statistics or what we see or hear on the news. Gun violence changes lives every single day whether has witnessed an act of violence, been threatened or wounded with a gun, or had someone they cared for been wounded or killed with a gun. Each of these experiences and every type of gun violence must be represented in the gun safety movement. Doing so might help more Americans acknowledge their own personal connection to gun violence, realize they are not alone with their experience with gun violence, and recognize the power of their voice. 2020 will mark the second National Gun Violence Survivors week. The first week of February represents the approximate time that gun deaths in the United States surpass the number of gun deaths experienced by our peer countries in the entire calendar year. Tragically, our gun death rate is ten times greater than that of our peer countries. Wayne State University Students Demand



Action feels it is important for the University to formally recognize National Gun Violence Survivors Week, for we are situated in the heart of Detroit, a city that faces a great deal of gun violence. By the University formally recognizing National Gun Violence Survivors Week, we hope that we can raise awareness among students and survivors. If you look at the documentation before you, we have outlined the proclamation we are seeking. Thank you for your time.

Governor Barnhill asked that the rules be suspended so that the Board can adopt the resolution at this meeting, given that the next Board meeting will be held in March.

**ACTION** — Upon motion by Governor Barnhill and seconded by Governor O'Brien, the Board of Governors adopted the Gun Violence Survivors Week proclamation, declaring the week of February 1 to 8, 2020 as National Gun Violence Survivor Week. The motion carried.

GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 1, 2020 TO FEBRUARY 8, 2020 TO MARK NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE  
SURVIVOR WEEK

This proclamation declares the week of February 1, 2020, to February 8, 2020, to be National Gun Violence Survivor Week on Wayne State University campus to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and uplift the resilient voices of survivors across the nation.

**WHEREAS**, every year, over 36,000 Americans are killed in acts of gun violence and 73,000 more are shot and wounded;

**WHEREAS**, by early February, more Americans are killed with guns than are killed in our peer countries in an entire calendar year;

**WHEREAS**, a gun violence survivor is anyone who has personally experienced gun violence — whether you have witnessed an act of gun violence, been threatened or wounded with a gun, or had someone you know and cared for wounded or killed;

**WHEREAS**, forms of gun violence can include, but are not limited to: gun suicides, gun homicides, domestic violence involving a gun, shootings by law enforcement, and unintentional shootings;

**WHEREAS**, 58 percent of American adults or someone they care for has experienced gun violence in their lifetime, demonstrating the reach and impact gun violence has in communities across America;

**WHEREAS**, firearms are the second leading cause of death for children and teens and the first leading cause of death for Black children and teens in America;

**WHEREAS**, Americans in communities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence by advocating for common-sense gun safety legislation;

**WHEREAS**, by commemorating National Gun Violence Survivors Week on February 1 to February 8, communities across America will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives stolen by gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our communities safe.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wayne State University Board of Governors declares February 1 to February 8, 2020 to be Gun Violence Survivors Week. We encourage all students to support their communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

### **Other Issues**

#### ***Tanya Reza***

Good afternoon. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to address the Board. My name is Tanya Reza and I work at the School of Medicine and I am also the former chair of the Progressive Caucus of the Michigan Democratic Party. So I just wanted to say, first of all, it's such a privilege for me to work with our students. And I take great pride and I am also really inspired by our students. I attended the December 6 Board meeting, and there was just something that came up of concern to me. And I felt that there were issues being brought forward by Governors Busuito, O'Brien, and Thompson that required more discussion. I understand that when it comes to decisions of financial responsibilities, especially when it comes to tuition increases, timely representation of these matters, a transparent process, and vigorous discussion are required. So I think in keeping with the spirit of what is best for the students and making decisions in the best way possible, it is really important to discuss these issues. Again, the Board needs access and time, and they need to be allowed to abide by proper process to do their job to the best of their ability. Thank you.

#### ***Dileonte Jones***

Good afternoon, I'm Dileonte Jones. It is a concern, President Roy Wilson, about the fact that there aren't enough Black professors here at Wayne State and not enough Black students. You just need to recruit more African Americans or resign. Thank you.

#### ***Monique McCullough***

Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Monique McCullough, and I am also here, my concern is that there isn't enough Black students, there isn't enough Black professors, and we would like Roy Wilson to resign if the problem is not fixed. Thank you.

#### ***Michael McCullough***

Hello, good afternoon. My name is Michael McCullough. I am here also to discuss concerns about President Roy Wilson. As my wife and my son spoke on earlier, I am not even concerned about the student population, I am concerned about the



professors, contractors, Black contractors, that don't seem to be a part of what's going on here in this community. We know that this community, not only this community, but this college, this University I should say, is, you know, a Black enrollment that we don't feel represented by. We just don't feel represented by it. So we're asking Mr. Wilson to either (unclear) or resign. I've heard about abilities. I studied here 30 years ago. I see things that was going on in this building 30 years ago, in this complex 30 years ago. It's still going on now as far as maintenance is concerned, elevators not working in certain buildings, a lot of different things going on there that I think should be corrected. So I'm asking this council to consider that, and I thank you very much.

### ***Vernelis Brown***

Ms. Vernelis Brown was not present at the meeting.

### ***Hayg Oshagan***

Thank you members of the Board and President Wilson for this chance to speak. I want to talk briefly about the issue of elevators on campus. To summarize, elevators are a crisis issue at Wayne State, an emergency, and we are concerned that it is not the top priority that it needs to be. To give you a sense of the gravity of the situation, I am speaking today on behalf of 10 Wayne State University unions as well as the Student Center. The list includes the Graduate Students GEOC Local 6123, the part-time faculty AFT local 477, the Electricians IWE Local 458, the Aramark Dining Workers Teamsters Local 337, Professional & Administrative Staff UAW P&A Local 1979, the Staff Association UAW Local 2071, the Custodial Staff Unite Here Local 24, the Operating Engineers IUOE Local 224, the Wayne State Police Officers Association, and the Wayne State University Faculty & Academic Staff AAUP Local 6075. This is an unprecedented coalition of organized labor and university students. We have joined our voices, we have started a public campaign because we care about our University and because we have become so completely frustrated with the situation with the elevators.

To give you a sense of the scale of the concern, in 2019 Wayne State University Police were called 139 times to rescue people trapped in elevators in buildings, parking structures, and housing. It's a rescue call almost every other day or every three days. To give you a sense of the scale of the concern, as soon as we publicized our campaign and asked for stories, we received over 60% of accounts within a matter of days of people being stuck in elevators. Believe me, it is hard to hear the story of a mother with a baby in a carriage being advised by Parking personnel to just use the ramp to walk down four flights of a parking structure while cars are going by, and then to have to walk it all the way back up. It is hard to hear the story of a colleague who had to stop half way up the stairs in Old Main drenched in a cold sweat as a pacemaker started to go off. It is hard to hear any of these and many other stories. My time is short. I won't belabor the point. I do want to say, though, that Mr. President and members of the Board, this is not some "us against others" issue. We all spend the better part of our lives here at Wayne, deans, vice presidents, administrators and the president all take elevators, as we all do. This is an issue for the entire Wayne State University family. We know that if we spend the money, elevators can get fixed. Crews can come from Chicago, from across the state, and things that can take three months can be done in three weeks. Prioritize this issue, please, make it a top priority, spend



the dollars that need to be spent to fix it now, and work with all of us to get this done. Thank you.

President Wilson thanked Mr. Oshagan for his comments. He noted that the topic was discussed at a meeting earlier in the day and that the administration does have plans to remedy the problems.

### ***Jeffrey Taub***

I'm Jeffrey Taub, Chief of Oncology at Children's Hospital of Michigan, a tenured professor, and a member of the Department of Pediatrics at Wayne State University for the past 25 years. I have served on multiple committees at the University including the Admissions Committee and Promotion and Tenure Committees. I am very concerned about the current status of the Department of Pediatrics and certain actions that have led to an implosion of the Department of Pediatrics at the current time. My dedication to the mission of Wayne State University and particularly to the underserved in an urban setting is matched by all of my colleagues in the Department of Pediatrics and our Physicians Group, University Pediatricians. Despite limited resources, we excel in providing the highest level of care for children and teenagers of all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Unfortunately, over the past approximately three years, all of our professional lives have been disrupted and turned upside down by the ongoing threats initiated by the administration. On October 12, every (unclear) member in the Department of Pediatrics, numbering over 100, received notification that our faculty appointments at Wayne State were being terminated. Such an unprecedented action will severely harm the School of Medicine, the teaching of hundreds of medical students each year, as well as compromising the care of children in our community by our faculty members, cut off access to children to receive life-saving treatments on clinical trials overseen by Wayne State, and disrupt important biomedical research. What did I do or any of my colleagues do to deserve this treatment when we are a model of a successful clinical department based on our (unclear) mission with the University. Our Practice Plan has been financial viable and allowed us to recruit new pediatric specialists to our community to improve access to children. Professor Parrish is someone who I have a high level of respect for. He is always factual and (unclear) in his comments, and I want to quote two of his most recent e-mails regarding this matter. In one e-mail Dr. Parrish quoted, "By the time he is forced out by a 6-2 vote of the Board of Governors, referring to David Hefner, our Department of Pediatrics is destroyed." In another e-mail, he said that President Wilson has allowed Mr. Hefner to divert substantial Medicaid funds and (unclear) services provided to other purposes such as institutional adjustments." This amounted to millions of dollars which was supposed to be transferred to University Pediatricians in support of our clinical care of underserved and underinsured children. I am very bothered that there should be greater oversight in this egregious actions which have been directed towards the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics have been allowed, and hopefully further harm will not be brought to the faculty and to the School of Medicine which will impact the students, the faculty, the community, and the mission for Wayne State. Thank you.



**Herman Gray**

Sorry, I didn't hear you. Governors, President Wilson, fellow citizens. I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this afternoon. As some of you know, I have had the distinct honor of serving as the chair of the Department of Pediatrics in the Wayne State University School of Medicine now for two years. I began this role during a turbulent time for the Department. I accepted the role because after serving as the President of the Children's Hospital of Michigan for roughly eight and a half years, where I grew up professionally and where virtually all of the Wayne State pediatric faculty practices, and also serving as an Associate Dean in the medical school for several years, and as the CEO of the United Way here in southeast Michigan, I thought I might be helpful. Most importantly, I wanted to be sure that the main thing stayed the main thing; that is, my entire career and that of many of my colleagues, such as Dr. Taub, has focused on service to infants, children, youth, and young adults and their families. I can think of no more gratifying work or calling to protect, advocate for, care for, and lift up our children and young people. Indeed, that is why many, if not most, of us are here at WSU – the children, the young people, the generations to come. James Baldwin, noted writer, author, poet, civil rights advocate, and scholar wrote, "... for these are all our children. We will all profit by or pay for whatever they become." However we care for our children, youth and young adults – HOW we care for our children, youth and young adults is critically important to our school, our community, our state, the world. Unfortunately, as we adults and leaders struggle to find common ground, there is less and less conversation about the main thing, our children. As a result, we have lost our focus, our moral compass and failed our children. WSU Department of Pediatrics was not long ago recognized as one of the top 20 academic pediatric departments in the country. Today, we are not in the top 60. Working together, it is possible to get back to the lofty position we once occupied. Vice, arguments, lawsuits, difficult personal relationships are common in the world of health care and the academic environment and in the business world. Typically leaders work through these challenges, ultimately focusing on our mission to drive success. We can recover; we will get past this. Focus on the mission and commit to what is far more important than our personal agendas or issues. Keep the main thing – the main thing; we know we can do this because Detroit and this premier university, Wayne State University, have pulled ourselves up, have literally risen from the ashes many times before. I leave you with the words from Gabriella Mistral, a poet from the country of Chile, who wrote: "Many things can wait; the child cannot. Now is the time, his bones are being formed, his blood is being made, his mind is being developed. To him, we cannot say tomorrow; his name is today." Thank you.

**Jesse Yost**

Mr. Jesse Yost was not present at the meeting.

**Bridget Huff**

Hello, I'm here today as a community advocate, progressive caucus chair and future Wayne State mom. Quorum for this body is five voting members. As a chair myself I'm aware that the position is ex-officio, the president, meaning you have a presence but not a vote. The Board of Governors exists to hold the President to account so voting would be a direct violation of that structure. However when the meeting was called to increase tuition 3.2 percent, it was done with a four board member vote and you, Mr. Wilson. It's recorded as a four-person vote, correct? I'm no Wayne State

grad but I can do the math on that one. That vote which also increased the cost beyond the 2.9 percent previously agreed upon by the body was a blatant and calculated violation of the very rules this body is charged to uphold. I would expect Board members who call out this violation to be applauded for their integrity, but instead I've seen them vilified as problematic and divisive by the other members and the President. In an email to my caucus, Kim Trent, on December 10<sup>th</sup> stated to me, "it's true that the entire board was not notified regarding the Heart of Detroit pledge". I would expect any governing body to be very vocally in opposition to tremendous and costly programs being announced without ample notice and discussion. Kim Trent also speaking on behalf of "her side" in an email, she was very clear that her side included half of the board that does not agree with the other half currently, she stated that her side is all Democrats and gave a very extensive example of those credentials, she also stated that, and I quote, the other side is being led by a Trump-supporting Republican, that was in bright blue font, Governor Busuito. I seriously doubt that your caucus wants to hold a Trump-loving Republican as an exemplar of progressive political leadership in our state. Our caucus, to be clear, is involved because we seek fairness, honesty and transparency. We do not support or oppose based on political party and I find it shameful that any among you would try to use party to discredit elected members.

Finally, since the Board exists to balance the power and agendas of the President, I'm also extremely disappointed to see University resources, specifically tuition-payers hard-earned money being used to interfere with the election of a member who spoke up and held the body to account. We're watching our President being held accountable by half of our governing body in this country with his attempts to interfere with an election and eliminate opposition, we're watching the other half of that body state that the rules don't apply and transparency is optional. We all deserve better from our elected at every level, from federal to state universities.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie H. Miller  
Secretary to the Board of Governors