



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

- DATE:** Thursday, January 25, 2024; 8:00 a.m.
- PLACE:** Hybrid Meeting— The Wolstein Center, Gerald H. Gordon Conference Pavilion, West Wing and via Zoom; livestreamed for public view.
- PRESENT:** Board Chair David M. Reynolds; Trustees Nikki C. Byrd; Timothy J. Cosgrove, Patricia DePompei, Paul J. Dolan, Alan G. Starkoff, P. Kelly Tompkins, and Vanessa L. Whiting; Student Trustees Akshat Shah and Jake Wrege; Faculty Representatives Dr. Judy Ausherman and Dr. Anup Kumar; Ex Officio Trustee Karen A. White; President Laura Bloomberg; and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs and Compliance Sonali B. Wilson.
- Others in attendance: Provost and Sr. Vice President of Academic Affairs Nigamanth Sridhar; Sr. Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer David Jewell; Vice President and Dean of Enrollment Management Jonathan Wehner; Vice President, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, Roy Gifford; Vice President of Advancement Julie Rehm; Executive Director, Government Affairs, and Special Assistant to the President, Caryn Candisky; Chief of Staff Patricia L. Franklin; and Assistant Board Secretary Heather A. Link.

Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present. He welcomed members and noted that the meeting was being livestreamed for public viewing.

The first item of business was the approval of the minutes of November 16, 2023. Trustee Tompkins moved the approval, and Trustee Dolan seconded the motion. Board Secretary Wilson called the roll and the minutes were approved.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Reynolds reminded gubernatorial voting members that their annual financial disclosure statements are due on May 15; the board office will send reminders and is available to address any questions.

He reported that the Executive Committee of the Board met on December 12 and December 21. Chair Reynolds noted that at the meeting on December 12, the Executive Committee approved one resolution regarding the appointment of members to the Center for Civics, Culture and Society Academic Council, and the resolution is being recorded into the minutes today. There were no actions taken at the meeting on December 21.

Board Secretary Wilson noted for the record that there was an administrative error in the original resolution, the number of the House Bill was recorded incorrectly, and that the administrative error was being corrected.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2023-01**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CENTER FOR CIVICS, CULTURE AND SOCIETY ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 33 established, as an independent academic unit, a *Center for Civics, Culture, and Society*, at Cleveland State University; and

**WHEREAS**, the Center must conduct teaching and research in the historical ideas, traditions, and texts that have shaped the American constitutional order and society and will be housed in the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 33 requires the CSU Board of Trustees to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, a seven-member Center academic council by December 31, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill requires the academic council be comprised of scholars with relevant expertise and experience; not more than one member of the council may be an employee of the university; and best efforts must be made to have no fewer than three members from Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, in August 2023, President Bloomberg appointed an ad hoc working group to develop recommendations on the creation of this center, including recommendations for candidates to serve on the academic council; and

**WHEREAS**, recommendations from the ad hoc working group were shared with the Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees and that committee was charged with the further review and vetting of candidates to make final recommendations to the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, given the timing of when appointments are due to the Ohio Senate, at their meeting on November 16, 2023, the Board of Trustees delegated the appointment of members of the Center for Civics, Culture, and Society academic council to the Executive Committee of the Board:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Executive Committee of the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby appoints the following members of the Center for Civics, Culture, and Society academic council:

- Christina Bambrick (University of Notre Dame)
- Ronald Berkman (*President Emeritus*, Cleveland State University)
- Patricia Blackmon (Judge, *retired*)
- Jonathan Entin (Case Western Reserve University)
- David Forte (*Professor Emeritus*, Cleveland State University)
- Jerry Sue Thornton (Cuyahoga Community College, *retired*)
- Gregory White (US Magistrate Judge and US Attorney, *retired*)

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chairman of the Board will forward these names to the President of the Ohio Senate.

### **Memorial Tribute to President Emeritus Michael Schwartz**

Chair Reynolds brought forth a resolution in memoriam to honor the legacy of CSU President Emeritus Michael Schwartz, who passed away early in January; he called for a moment of silence in remembrance. The board office has shared details of the Celebration of Life service that will be held jointly with Kent State University.

Vice Chair Cosgrove moved the resolution, noting that it would be impossible to overstate the positive impact of Dr. Schwartz's leadership and importance to Cleveland State University. Trustee Tompkins seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Board Secretary and the motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-1**

#### **A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT EMERITUS MICHAEL SCHWARTZ**

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University and higher education in Northeast Ohio have long benefited from the passion, commitment and talent of President Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Sociology Dr. Michael Schwartz; and

**WHEREAS**, a native of Chicago, Dr. Schwartz was the first in his family to pursue higher education, and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in labor and industrial

relations, and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which laid the groundwork for his decades of leadership in higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Schwartz joined Cleveland State in 2001 after teaching and serving as an administrator at Wayne State, Indiana State, Florida Atlantic, and Kent State Universities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, following a one-year term as interim president of Cleveland State University, Dr. Schwartz was appointed CSU's fifth president by the Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, during his eight years as president, Dr. Schwartz made an enduring impact on both the learning culture of Cleveland State and the physical structure of campus, by championing new admission standards, the first honors program, and the creation of a richer campus atmosphere for those who study, work and live on campus, in part, through the restoration of Fenn Tower and the construction of the Student Center, Recreation Center, and residence halls; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Schwartz was 100% invested in higher education as a mechanism to empower students to gain knowledge toward their careers, learn throughout their lives, inquire from multiple points of view, become critical thinkers, and separate evidence from opinion; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Schwartz's impact on CSU continues to this day and is memorialized in the naming of the Michael Schwartz Library and the Michael and Joanne Schwartz Endowed Scholarship Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, during his remarkable career, Dr. Schwartz changed the lives of thousands of students, and his impact and legacy will be felt for decades to come through the work of those individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, as president and in retirement, Dr. Schwartz exhibited a sense of Viking Pride while he fostered developmental relationships with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and business and community leaders in support of students and the core idea of "knowledge formation" at Cleveland State University:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees wishes to offer sincere and heartfelt condolences to Dr. Joanne Schwartz and family, as well as appreciation to a leader whose dedication and caring influence have made this world a better place and our University a better institution of higher education.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Bloomberg reported her feeling of gratitude for the members and their engaged support for the well-being of the University; she acknowledged that the University hosts many important and special events and it is very much appreciated when the members take time from their many other demands to participate with the campus community.

She thanked trustees for attending the “Future Leaders-Dreaming Forward” celebration brunch honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, that was co-hosted with Tri-C; Chair Reynolds also participated in the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission annual dinner, where CSU student athlete Destiny Leo, received the Female Collegiate Athlete of the Year award.

President Bloomberg also thanked members for attending the Center for Computing Science launch event; she noted that having the Lt. Governor, other elected officials, Board members, students, and community members together, further illustrates the impact of the work being done at the University.

Two members of the campus community were introduced: Kelsie Gory Harkey, as interim athletics director, and Dr. Jill Gordon, as the incoming Dean of the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education.

Cleveland State University will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, and events are being planned to acknowledge the year, 1964, as both the start of the University as well as the ratification of the Civil Rights Act. The first such event is a photo exhibit in Berkman Hall.

President Bloomberg took the time to laud President Emeritus Schwartz, and acknowledged his sage counsel to her throughout her time at the University. The Schwartz family requested to have his celebration of life at CSU, and she has been working with his family and her counterpart at Kent State on the programming for February 8.

A mid-year report on the president’s strategic commitments and goals was included in the meeting materials; she acknowledged that there are items that are still in process, and some that may not be feasible this year. The report will be updated and discussed more fully toward the end of the fiscal year.

An update on the Organizational Resilience and Financial Stability, Phase II, was discussed. EY-Parthenon has been engaged to provide a deeper understanding of the University’s current situation and how it may be addressed; a steering committee has been established and has been meeting regularly. President Bloomberg thanked Trustees Byrd, Kunkle, and Starkoff, and Chief of Staff Franklin, for serving on the committee.

In closing, President Bloomberg shared a video montage of the December 2023 commencement ceremony, and noted that the number of CSU alumni now tops 144 thousand.

### **REPORT FROM STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Trustees Wrege and Shah reported that students have noticed the removal of the Huntington Bank satellite office and an ATM on campus, and that plans for the re-use of the space is unknown to them. They also relayed two other student concerns: the closure of a small cash-and-carry store on the first floor of Fenn Tower, and a need for expanded/amended dining hours, especially for students who observe Ramadan.

CFO Jewell noted that students who had established accounts with Huntington Bank had received notice of the change.

### **REPORT FROM FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Faculty Representative Ausherman opened her report with a memory of President Emeritus Schwartz and his vision for reimagining the CSU campus to make it more inviting and aesthetically designed.

Dr. Ausherman suggested that it might be beneficial to include faculty when planning for survey distributions to CSU students and that response rates could be increased for a better representation of the current student body.

Dr. Ausherman commented that there appears to be a discrepancy in campus hiring versus appointment opportunities, and that issue was also noted in the most recent HLC reaccreditation report.

Faculty Representative Kumar remembered President Emeritus Schwartz as a noteworthy academician and strong defender of higher education.

Dr. Kumar reported that Faculty Senate has been busy with a number of initiatives: working through the approval process for the new integrated majors; a revamped core curriculum for students; and reviewing the student evaluation instrument for improved student participation and relevancy.

Dr. Kumar also reported that following the mergers of colleges from CSU 2.0, new bylaws for each college have been approved, and will be reviewed by Senate's University Faculty Affairs Committee for consistencies across units.

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Report of the January 18, 2024 Meeting**

Committee Chair Cosgrove reported that the Committee received an update from Provost Sridhar on the core curriculum review; artificial intelligence (AI) issues that impact campus; and the successful launch event for the Center for Computing Education and Instruction. The Provost also updated the committee on Global Tech Experience opportunities offered to CSU students through a partnership with Podium Education.

Chair Cosgrove reported that the committee reviewed items for action, which are included on the consent agenda for approval by the full board (approval of professional leaves of absence, award of tenure and rank for Dr. Jill Gordon, and four new integrated degrees).

The Committee also received informational items including a report from Levin College Associate Professor, Dr. Megan Hatch, on her work during her sabbatical; a report on the College of Law from Dean Lee Fisher; an overview and demonstration of the dashboard that has been provided by Grey Associates regarding program evaluation; and an update on the new Division of Student Belonging and Success from Vice President Banks.

The meeting concluded with an update from Executive Director of Government Affairs, Caryn Candisky on the Ohio legislative calendar, including the status and ongoing discussions of current legislation that impacts institutions of higher education (HB68 on gender affirming care, HB183 regarding public bathrooms, and SB83 regarding higher education).

Trustee Dolan asked if the core curriculum committee is considering options for students that will fall in line with the planned Center for Civics, Culture and Society; Provost Sridhar replied that yes, there are options for students that will align with the center.

Chair Cosgrove asked about the amount of State appropriation for the Center for Civics, Culture and Society; CFO Jewell noted that the \$2 million each year will be held until the center is up and running, and that he will report back to the committee at a later time with more detail.

## **FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

### **Report of the January 18, 2024 Meeting**

Trustee Tompkins shared a remembrance of President Emeritus Schwartz, and noted that his wise and thoughtful vision helped to attract former and current leaders in the College of Law

like Geoffrey Mearns (current president of Ball State University) and Lee Fisher (former Lt. Governor).

Trustee Tompkins noted that the Committee received updates from CFO Jewell, and were provided with a FY24 Q2 Budget Report, a Cash & Investment Update, and updates on the budget planning for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Jewell presented follow-up information on contracts that the university has entered into during the first half of the fiscal year that range from \$250K to \$1M.

The Committee received updates on enrollment and changes for the FAFSA application form from VP Wehner; and on strategic marketing efforts aimed toward increased awareness of the CSU value proposition with the goal of increased enrollments from VP Gifford.

The Committee received updates regarding real estate and facilities, including the current status of the proposed renovation of Rhodes Tower, as well as potential (not yet finalized) leases with Dunkin Donuts and Discount Drug Mart.

The meeting included a discussion regarding the aging infrastructure of the campus and physical plant, and the substantial investment that would be needed to address a backlog of issues.

Two items were approved during the meeting, both are included on the consent agenda for full board approval (approval of an MOU between Cleveland State University and Euclid Avenue Development Corporation and the FY25 tuition rates).

### **Report of the December 18, 2023 Audit, Compliance, and Risk Subcommittee**

Trustee Tompkins reported that the committee received updates on several key areas from Internal Audit Director, Larry Johnston. Director Johnston reviewed functional board reporting throughout 2023, which included the approval of the internal audit charter and risk-based internal audit plan.

Mr. Johnston then reviewed the fiscal year 2023 open audit recommendations, identified fiscal impacts and risks, due dates and pending cases by category and year.

Trustee Tompkins reported that the subcommittee also met in executive session to discuss matters required to be kept confidential.



## **REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION**

CSU Foundation Chair White offered a remembrance of President Emeritus Schwartz noting that he helped to further the Foundation's relationship with friends and donors. He also fostered increased giving to the University through those relationships and by establishing a standard of excellence for such gifts, in part, through the Moses Cleveland fundraising event (the predecessor to Radiance).

Ms. White reported that she and a few Foundation members will be attending the AGB conference for foundations, and that stewardship of donors remains a focus for the year. She asked board members to look through a new fundraising collateral brochure which was designed by CSU alumnus Mark Lantz (Founder and Partner of Factory Detroit Inc.).

VP Rehm reported on fiscal year attainment and annual giving (forecasted to meet the year-end goal of \$22 million).

Two large gifts were highlighted: an anonymous \$5 million gift to the College of Law to establish the Student Opportunity and Success Program Fund pipeline program, and a gift of more than \$12 million from the estate of Walter and Katherine McCombs.

The Advancement team is scheduled to travel to Florida and Arizona in February, when they will engage with alumni and friends of the University on relevant topics such as "student belonging and success" (hosted by Kurt and Tracey Keller), "transformational leadership" (hosted by Beth Mooney), and "entrepreneurship" (hosted by Jim Kandrach and Myles Gallagher). These trips have been successful in connecting out-of-town alumni with current initiatives and leadership.

In closing, VP Rehm reminded members that this year's Radiance scholarship fundraiser will honor Marjorie Brintnall Shorrock (MBA '98) with the President's Medal.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Reynolds stated that routine matters, or those recommended by committees and discussed previously, are considered on the Consent Agenda. He asked if there were any items that Board members wished to discuss or remove; there were none.

Trustee Tompkins moved, and Trustee Dolan seconded, the motion to approve the following consent agenda items: Faculty Professional Leaves of Absence FY24-25; Award of Tenure and Rank for Dr. Jill A. Gordon, Dean, Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; New Integrated Degree Programs: Computer Science + Electrical Engineering, Criminology +

Journalism, Economics + Mathematics, Sociology + Journalism; Approval of MOU between Cleveland State University and the Euclid Avenue Development Corporation; Approval of FY24-25 Tuition Rates; and Accepting Gifts and Pledges, 2nd Quarter, FY24, October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

A roll call vote was taken by the Board Secretary; the consent agenda was approved.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-2**

#### **PROFESSIONAL LEAVES OF ABSENCE, AY2024-2025**

**WHEREAS**, the individuals in the Professional Leaves of Absence Summary Report for the Academic Year 2024-2024 have been reviewed by the appropriate committees and administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, they have fulfilled the requirements for professional leave as set forth in Article 20 of the Agreement between Cleveland State University and the CSU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, or in the case of the College of Law faculty, of Section 3344-11-09 of the CSU Faculty Personnel Policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed professional leaves of absence as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the granting of Professional Leaves of Absences for the academic year 2024-2025 to those individuals as outlined in the Summary Report.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-3**

#### **AWARD OF TENURE TO DR. JILL GORDON**

**WHEREAS**, an external search was conducted to fill the position of Dean of the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the search attracted a substantial pool of well-qualified candidates, including Dr. Jill Gordon, Assistant Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University; and

**WHEREAS**, the credentials of Dr. Gordon have been reviewed by the appropriate faculty peer review committee in the Department of Management, the Chair, the Provost and the President; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Gordon has fulfilled the requirements for tenure at the rank of Professor as set forth in Article 12.10 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed award of rank and tenure as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the award of tenure at the rank of Professor to Dr. Jill Gordon in the Department of Criminology and Sociology, effective January 1, 2024, the first day of full-time employment at Cleveland State University.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-4**

##### **APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM BACHELOR OF SCIENCE COMPUTER SCIENCE + ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

**WHEREAS**, the Washkewicz College of College of Engineering has proposed to offer the Bachelor of Science Computer Science + Electrical Engineering degree; and

**WHEREAS**, if students have applied experience in two disciplines, they will be better able to learn new sets of knowledge in different areas and will develop a wider range of skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the integrated BS in Computer Science + Electrical Engineering degree offers an interdisciplinary experience that merges software and hardware technology and offers students an opportunity to gain skills, knowledge, and experience in two areas (Computer Science and Electrical Engineering) which is a growing necessity for employability in 2023 and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, an integrated degree is distinct from a double major because the course map is a streamlined and flexible path to graduation that integrates courses in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering without overburdening students to complete majors in two separate departments; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting on December 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the new Bachelor of Science Computer Science + Electrical Engineering Degree to be housed in the Washkewicz College of Engineering.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-5**

##### **APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM BACHELOR OF ARTS CRIMINOLOGY + JOURNALISM**

**WHEREAS**, the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education has proposed to offer the Bachelor of Arts Criminology + Journalism degree; and

**WHEREAS**, if students have applied experience in two disciplines, they will be better able to learn new sets of knowledge in different areas and will develop a wider range of skills; and

**WHEREAS**, criminology provides conceptual and contextual grounding to understand how societal biases and systemic processes result in disparities in outcomes including incarceration, arrest and prosecution rates and journalism plays a critical role in democratic societies and often spurs actions to address inequities and unfair outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a clear parallel between the work of the investigative journalist and the criminologist and a combination of classes in the two fields will result in a strong major that provides students robust future opportunities for immediate employment or graduate training; and

**WHEREAS**, by establishing this integrated major, students will receive complementary training without needing to take over 70 credit hours that a double major would entail; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting on December 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor of Arts Criminology + Journalism Degree to be housed in the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-6**

##### **APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS ECONOMICS + MATHEMATICS/STATISTICS**

**WHEREAS**, the Monte Ahuja College of Business and The College of Arts and Sciences has proposed to offer the Bachelor of Arts Economics + Mathematics/Statistics degree; and

**WHEREAS**, if students have applied experience in two disciplines, they will be better able to learn new sets of knowledge in different areas and will develop a wider range of skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Economics + Mathematics/Statistics B.A. will integrate the core principles of economics, mathematics and statistics and will provide students with a comprehensive education in these fields; and

**WHEREAS**, in the job market there is high demand for economics majors with strong quantitative and statistical skills and this program will produce career-ready graduates, able to excel in a variety of fields involving quantitative analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Economics + Mathematics/Statistics B.A. program will be ideal for students seeking a variety of industry or government jobs that require more technical training, or for students who plan to pursue a graduate degree in economics after completing their BA degree; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting on December 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor of Arts Economics + Mathematics Degree to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences.

**RESOLUTION 2024-7**

**APPROVAL OF NEW INTEGRATED DEGREE PROGRAM  
BACHELOR OF ARTS SOCIOLOGY + JOURNALISM**

**WHEREAS**, the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education has proposed to offer the Bachelor of Arts Sociology + Journalism degree; and

**WHEREAS**, if students have applied experience in two disciplines, they will be better able to learn new sets of knowledge in different areas and will develop a wider range of skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the field of sociology provides conceptual and contextual grounding to understand how societal biases and systemic processes result in disparities in outcomes and journalism plays a critical role in democratic societies and among its roles is to draw attention to the disparate treatment of different, including underserved, populations and this work often spurs action to address inequities and unfair outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, a clear parallel links the work of sociological researcher who discovers new knowledge and the journalist who communicates it to the public and a combination of classes in the two fields will result in a strong major that provides students robust future opportunities for both immediate employment and graduate training; and

**WHEREAS**, Students will receive complementary training in the core curricula of each of the programs separately, without needing to take over the more than 70 credit hours a double major would entail; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a demonstrated need for such a program in Northeast Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by all appropriate faculty entities and academic administrators, including approval by the Faculty Senate at its meeting on December 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee has reviewed the proposed new integrated degree program as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor of Arts Sociology + Journalism Degree to be housed in the Levin College of Public Affairs and Education.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-8**

##### **AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EUCLID AVENUE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Euclid Avenue Development Corporation (EADC) is an Ohio nonprofit corporation, whose primary purpose is to construct, acquire, equip, furnish, own, develop, operate, and maintain real and personal property for the benefit of Cleveland State University; and

**WHEREAS**, EADC, in support of efficiently and successfully implementing its organizational purpose, desires to engage the University to provide certain administrative and operational services that are not set forth in any other written agreement executed between the parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the University desires to establish protocols that initiate the timely and appropriate flow of relevant information from the EADC to the University concerning current and prospective EADC projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the parties desire to set forth their understandings regarding University-provided administrative and operational support, and information sharing in a written memorandum of understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, the memorandum of understanding is not intended to limit, modify, or amend the terms, commitments and/or responsibilities set for in any existing or future written agreements executed between the University and EADC, or between the University and/or EADC and any third party; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees grants the University Administration the authority to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between Cleveland State University and the Euclid Avenue Development Corporation.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-9**

##### **APPROVAL OF TUITION RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the University is mandated by the State of Ohio's FY2024-FY2025 budget and tuition authority legislation (House Bill 33); and

**WHEREAS**, undergraduate tuition and general fee (in-state) increases in the tuition guarantee programs are authorized by ORC Section 345-48. FY 2025 tuition and general fee increases have been capped by the state at 3% per year for the incoming cohort; and

**WHEREAS**, increases in graduate (masters and doctoral) and law programs of study will be 2% for FY2025 and the domestic surcharge on masters programs will be \$1.00 at the directive of the President as delegated by the Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, the Financial Affairs Committee has reviewed the FY25 tuition rates as submitted by the University Administration and recommends full Board approval:

**BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED** that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves the tuition rates as submitted by the university Administration.

#### **RESOLUTION 2024-10**

##### **ACCEPTING GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS 2ND QUARTER, FY 2024 OCTOBER 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**RESOLVED**, that the gifts and pledge payments totaling \$4,686,973 received by the Cleveland State University Foundation during the period October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 are hereby accepted with thanks, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President is hereby directed to use these gifts subject to their terms and conditions.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Reynolds moved for the Board to recess into Executive Session to consider personnel matters involving the appointment of public officials, to discuss imminent and pending litigation with the University General Counsel, and to discuss trade secret information required by law to be kept confidential. Trustee Starkoff seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Ms. Byrd, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Dolan, Mr. Starkoff, Mr. Tompkins, Ms. Whiting, and Mr. Reynolds. The motion carried.

Chair Reynolds excused everyone except the voting trustees, President Bloomberg, ex officio Trustee White, Provost Sridhar, Sr. VP Jewell, Chief of Staff Franklin, VP Gifford, VP Wehner, Assistant Board Secretary Link, and VP, General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 9:39 a.m.

At 11:56 a.m., Chair Reynolds announced that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

Chair Reynolds called on Board Secretary Wilson, who noted that Trustees Cosgrove and Dolan recused themselves from part of the discussion, leaving the session at 11:02 a.m., and returning to the discussion at 11:32 a.m.



**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON MARCH 21, 2024**

Sonali B. Wilson  
Vice President of Legal Affairs and  
Compliance, General Counsel and  
Board Secretary

**APPROVED ON MARCH 21, 2024**

David M. Reynolds  
Chairman, Board of Trustees