



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Academic Affairs Committee
April 24, 2023
Minutes

Via Zoom in accordance with Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 20 dated March 12, 2020.

A live stream of the meeting for public viewing also took place on YouTube.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY: Committee Chair Dr. Gloria Williams, Vice Chair Chloe Sanfacon, Secretary William Reichelt, Trustee George Gilmer, and Board Chair Dr. Robert Martin, ex-officio member

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustee Madeline Landrau

TRUSTEE GUESTS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY: Trustees Melissa Alvarado, Theresa Jasmin, and Ali Salehi [joined at 2:25 PM]

Also participating remotely were Westfield State University President Dr. Linda Thompson; Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Juline Mills; Associate Provost Dr. Brian Jennings, and Director of Faculty Affairs Susan Davignon.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Committee Chair Williams and a roll call was taken of the committee members participating as listed above. It was announced that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

MOTION made by Trustee Reichelt, seconded by Trustee Sanfacon, to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2023, meeting. **There being no discussion, ROLL CALL VOTE** passed motion unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative: Gilmer, Reichelt, Sanfacon, Williams, and Board Chair Martin.

Tenure and Promotion Review. Provost Mills presented information on the purpose, eligibility, process and criteria for evaluation, and outcomes for promotion and tenure.

Review Contractual Language and Procedures. Dr. Jennings reviewed Article 8 of the faculty collective bargaining agreement which explains the procedure and basis for personnel actions and the role of the Board of Trustees in the process.

Tenure and Promotion Candidates.

MOTION made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Reichelt, to approve the granting of promotion to the rank of Professor, effective September 1, 2023, to:

Dr. Imo Imeh
Dr. Timothy LeDoux

Art
Geography, Planning & Sustainability

To approve the granting of promotion to the rank of Senior Librarian, effective September 1, 2023, to:

Ms. Corinne Ebbs

Library

To approve the granting of promotion to the rank of Associate Professor, effective September 1, 2023, to:

Dr. Arne Christensen
Dr. Lauren DiCarlo
Mr. Anthony Furnelli
Dr. Susan McDiarmid
Dr. Princy Mennella
Dr. Beverly St. Pierre

Biology
Environmental Science
Marketing & Management
Health Sciences
Psychology
Health Sciences

Discussion: Provost Mills provided a detailed bio for each of the above candidates for promotion. One of the candidates does not have a doctorate but does meet the requirement of a terminal degree. The candidates have accomplished continued commitment and continuation toward scholarship and publication and investment in University committee work showing continual engagement in various categories described in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. All candidates have the requisite number of teaching years' experience. It was requested that next year's bios of the candidates include a sentence that speaks to their commitment to teaching. The student evaluations for the candidates have been above average.

Dr. Jennings stated there is a carveout where, under special consideration, the board may grant promotion early by establishing extraordinary service even if a candidate does not have the required number of years. Dr. Lauren DiCarlo has established the threshold for exceptional service, with 52 publications during the review period. Her full collective work goes above and beyond the standard.

There being no further discussion, ROLL CALL VOTE passed motion unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative: Gilmer, Reichelt, Sanfacon, Williams, and Board Chair Martin.

MOTION made by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Reichelt, to approve the granting of tenure, effective September 1, 2023, to:

Dr. Joan Kuhnly

Nursing

To approve the granting of tenure with automatic promotion, effective September 1, 2023, to:

Ms. Jessica Grabowski
Dr. Alina Gross
Dr. Tracy McLeod
Ms. Amber Monroe

Health Sciences
Geography, Planning & Sustainability
Education
Library

Discussion: Provost Mills provided a detailed bio for each of the above candidates for tenure. For Health Sciences, a terminal degree is required, and a Master of Science fulfills that requirement.

There being no further discussion, ROLL CALL VOTE passed motion unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative: Gilmer, Reichelt, Sanfacon, Williams, and Martin.

Review of Committee Charter. Trustee Williams presented the draft Committee Charter and stated revisions will be made to be consistent with language across all charters. Feedback on the Charter should be sent to the Board Assistant by May 9.

There being no further business,

MOTION made by Trustee Reichelt, seconded by Trustee Gilmer, to adjourn. **ROLL CALL VOTE** passed motion unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative: Gilmer, Reichelt, Sanfacon, Williams, and Board Chair Martin.

Meeting adjourned at 3:09 PM.

Attachments presented at this meeting:

- a. Draft Minutes, February 1, 2023
- b. Contractual Language and Procedures document
- c. Power Point presentation for Tenure and Promotion
- d. Promotion documents
- e. Tenure documents
- f. Motion: Promotion
- g. Motion: Tenure
- h. Committee Charter 2018
- i. Charter Template