

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Bowling Green State University**  
June 22, 2023

Notice having been given in accordance with the Board of Trustees Bylaws, the following members met in the Mylander Room, 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union at the Bowling Green campus on June 22, 2023: Drew Forhan, Chair; Judy Budi, Willa Ebersole, Russell Martin, David O'Brien, Geoffrey Radbill, Richard Ross, Tom Shehab, Amy Shore, Mizell Stewart and Howard Traul.

Also present: Dr. Rodney Rogers, President; Dr. Patrick Pauken, Secretary to the Board of Trustees; members of the President's Cabinet, constituent representatives, members of the media, and a number of observers.

Mr. Forhan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Board Secretary called the roll and announced that a quorum was present (eight trustees).

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Rodney Rogers began by welcoming new National Trustee, Dr. Tom Shehab. He highlighted several of the activities taking place on campus this summer including new student orientation, Buckeye Girls State, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the President's Leadership Academy, faculty research, strategic partnerships and alumni accomplishments.

**MINUTES**

No. 51-2023 Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Traul seconded that the minutes of the May 4 and 5, 2023 meeting be approved as written.

All signified in affirmative. Motion carried.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Instructional and General Fee Revisions

No. 52-2023 Ms. Shore moved and Mr. O'Brien seconded that:

WHEREAS, boards of trustees at public colleges and universities in Ohio are responsible for establishing the fees to be charged for instructional and other educational services; and

WHEREAS, the state of Ohio's biennial budget (H.B. 55) for Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 permits a university to increase tuition and general fees for the incoming cohort of the Tuition Guarantee Program by the average rate of the consumer price index (CPI) for the previous 36-month period (4.6 percent); and

WHEREAS, based on our current, best judgment and the need to be financially prudent and prepared, the University has proposed the tuition and general fee increases as presented in the attached background and schedules;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposed instructional and general fee schedules, for the Bowling Green and Firelands campuses for Fiscal Year 2024 (effective fall 2023 semester) as presented and more completely described in the background and attached schedules to the resolution or to the extent permitted by Ohio law.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting "yes" – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Budgets – Bowling Green and Firelands Campuses

No. 53-2023 Mr. O'Brien moved and Mr. Traul seconded that:

WHEREAS, an annual budget is prepared to provide a financial plan to guide the University for the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the University's unrestricted Educational and General (E & G) Budgets reflect expected state

appropriations in Fiscal Year 2024 of \$89.6 million (\$2.5 million or 3.1 percent increase in funding over prior year budget) for the Bowling Green Campus; and \$4.5 million (remaining flat compared to prior year budget) for the Firelands Campus; and

WHEREAS, the Bowling Green E & G Budget provides \$211.4 million from total tuition and general fees (\$4.6 million or 2.2 percent increase over prior year) reflecting the anticipated impact of the Falcon Tuition Guarantee Plan related tuition increase, and revenue from new programs; and

WHEREAS, the Firelands E & G Budget reflects \$8.1 million from total tuition and general fees (\$283 thousand or 3.6 percent increase over prior year) reflecting anticipated enrollment increases in the Pathway Program and the anticipated impact of the Falcon Tuition Guarantee Plan related tuition increase; and

WHEREAS, both campus budgets include faculty merit compensation pools, promotion/tenure pools, staff compensation pools and associated benefit adjustments, as described more fully in the background to the resolution; and

WHEREAS, the combined, total revenues for Bowling Green State University of \$447.6 million as fully described in the detailed budget provided in the *BGSU FY 2024 Proposed Budgets Book* have been proposed;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the Fiscal Year 2024 Educational and General Budgets, the General Fee and Related Auxiliary Budgets, the Miscellaneous Auxiliary Budgets, the Residence Hall Budget, and the Dining Hall Budget as fully described in the detailed budgets provided in the proposed *BGSU FY 2024 Proposed Budgets Book* for the Bowling Green and Firelands Campuses.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O’Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

#### Approval of Naming of the Arjun K. Gupta Classroom

No. 54-2023 Mr. O’Brien moved and Ms. Budi seconded that:

WHEREAS, in 1976, Arjun K. Gupta, Ph.D., joined Bowling Green State University as a professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics;

WHEREAS, he received his doctoral degree from Purdue University, bachelor's and master's degrees from Poona University in India and a bachelor's degree in statistics from Banaras Hindu University in India;

WHEREAS, Dr. Gupta was an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Statisticians, and the Royal Statistical Society of England;

WHEREAS, he received the honor of Distinguished University Professor and the Olscamp Research Award at BGSU;

WHEREAS, during his career, Dr. Gupta edited and authored over twenty books and 530 peer-reviewed publications, in addition to advising more than thirty Ph.D. students;

WHEREAS, he was invited to more than sixty countries for scientific symposia and conferences to present his cutting-edge research;

WHEREAS, he has presented more than 80 talks at various colloquia, universities and professional meetings, most notably including advanced lectures on statistical methods for the U.S. Air Force;

WHEREAS, the Gupta Family has made a gift in his memory to name a classroom on the fourth floor of the Mathematical Sciences Building; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this gift and Dr. Gupta's distinguished career, it is fitting to name Room 459, the Arjun K. Gupta Classroom.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the gift made by the Dr. Arjun K. Gupta Family, and in honor Dr. Gupta's accomplished career in teaching, research, and service at BGSU, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the naming of the Arjun K. Gupta Classroom in the Mathematical Sciences Building.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting "yes" – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Naming of Mitchell B. McLeod Hall

No. 55-2023 Ms. Budi moved and Mr. Martin seconded that:

WHEREAS, in 1985, Mitchell B. McLeod earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Bowling Green State University;

WHEREAS, Julie A. McLeod received her bachelor's degree in social work in 1985 from BGSU;

WHEREAS, they are Falcon Flames;

WHEREAS, Mitch began his career with the U.S. Department of Defense as a cryptanalytic mathematician where he was awarded four Special Performance Awards for exemplary service on mission critical projects, while also earning a master's degree in computer science from Johns Hopkins University in 1990;

WHEREAS, in 1993, he founded ARCOS, LLC, serving as President and Chairman until 2013 and serving on the Board of Directors until 2021;

WHEREAS, based in Columbus, Ohio, ARCOS has grown to be the leading Software as a Service solution in North America enabling electric and gas utilities and power generation plants to respond, restore and report in real-time for day-to-day events and emergencies;

WHEREAS, Julie began her career working as a social worker for the state of Maryland while attaining a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland at Baltimore;

WHEREAS, after moving back to Ohio, Julie worked as a medical social worker for Children's Hospital and Mount Carmel Health;

WHEREAS, Julie serves as the Board Vice President of Laces of Love, a charity that provides new shoes to school-age children, as well as actively volunteers at Grace Place for Children;

WHEREAS, in 2017, the McLeods established the Mitch McLeod Scholarship in Mathematics fund;

WHEREAS, they also have supported student scholarships through Bridge to BG and the Thompson Working Families Scholarship, as well as University support through The Excellence Fund for BGSU and the Mathematics and Statistics Department Fund;

WHEREAS, through their philanthropic giving, they are recognized as members of The Presidents Club, and Leadership Circle;

WHEREAS, Mitch is a past member of the BGSU Foundation Board and in 2018, was inducted into the Paul J. Hooker Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Hall of Fame;

WHEREAS, opened in 1970, the Mathematical Sciences Building houses classrooms, lecture halls, the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, the Department of Computer Sciences, the Digital Forensics Lab, and the recently established Geoffrey H. Radbill Center for College and Life Design;

WHEREAS, encompassing more than 113,000 square feet, the Mathematical Sciences Building has played a pivotal role in shaping the academic journeys of countless students;

WHEREAS, in sharing his thoughts about the building, Mitch stated, "My experiences in this building helped

pave the way for my future employment as a cryptanalytic mathematician at the National Security Agency. This naming opportunity is a true honor;”

WHEREAS, the Mitch and Julie McLeod Foundation, Inc. has made a generous gift to name the Mathematical Sciences Building; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this gift, it is fitting to name the building, Mitchell B. McLeod Hall.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the gift made by the Mitch and Julie McLeod Foundation, Inc., the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the naming of Mitchell B. McLeod Hall.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O’Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Honorary Degree: Wiley Blevins – Doctor of Education

No. 56-2023 Ms. Shore moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

WHEREAS, Mr. Wiley Blevins graduate summa cum laude from Bowling Green State University in 1987, with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education;

WHEREAS, Mr. Blevins earned his Masters of Education from Harvard University in 1990;

WHEREAS, Mr. Blevins is a thought-leader in the field of education, shaping literacy development and phonics instruction for readers and educators around the world;

WHEREAS, following his graduation from BGSU, Mr. Blevins taught in a variety of settings, from classrooms in Ecuador, to rural Fremont, Ohio, to New York City Public Schools;

WHEREAS, Mr. Blevins leveraged this broad experience throughout his publishing career, which focused on making teachers’ lives easier and their instruction more effective;

WHEREAS, Mr. Blevins has worked with several of the leading publishing companies (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Open Court, Scholastic, and Macmillan/McGraw-Hill), editing numerous educational books and series, as well as earning accolades as an author;

WHEREAS, of particular note is Mr. Blevins’ skill in using evidence-based practices to develop reading materials for learners at virtually all levels;

WHEREAS, he is a regular presenter and invited speaker for the International Reading Association, works with teachers in school districts across the country, and publishes regularly in practitioner journals;

WHEREAS, while he has spent much of his career authoring books for teachers and children, he has also worked directly with children, teachers and school administrators as a consultant and educational facilitator;

WHEREAS, as a consultant, he has worked with educators throughout the United States and Korea;

WHEREAS, Mr. Blevins’ books are adopted regularly by BGSU faculty members in the College of Education and Human Development;

WHEREAS, Dr. Angela Falter Thomas, Associate Professor at BGSU, wrote in her letter of support: “My first course teaching assignment [as a faculty member at BGSU] was to teach two sections of EDTL 3010: Phonics and Word Study for Middle Level Educators. There was no question of which textbook I would adopt: I’d use one that had helped me in my own classroom for years. It was Wiley’s book, *Teaching Phonics and Word Study in the Intermediate Grades*, one that resides in my office to this day;”

WHEREAS, Ms. Kristi Borchardt, Associate Teaching Professor, noted: “Several of Wiley’s books serve as a

resource for both myself and my students here at BGSU. I teach a Phonics course here at BGSU for Intervention Specialist Teacher Candidates. Wiley’s books, *Phonics from A to Z: A Practical Guide* (2017) and *A Fresh Look at Phonics* (2016), are used to help elaborate and clarify phonics concepts I am teaching about in my course;”

WHEREAS, in her letter of support, Dr. Colleen Boff, Head Librarian, Curriculum Resource Center, wrote: “Mr. Blevins clearly understands the need to translate his evidence-based research into actionable and influential reform which makes him an excellent candidate for this honor and aligns perfectly with our University goal of being a public university for the public good;”

WHEREAS, this nomination has the support of the faculty in the College of Education and Human Development, including Dean Dawn Shinew; and

WHEREAS, the Bowling Green State University Faculty Senate Executive Committee has approved the nomination of Mr. Blevins for an honorary degree.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees, in recognition of his distinguished career as an author, presenter, consultant, and thought-leader in the field of education, confers upon Mr. Wiley Blevins an honorary Doctor of Education degree.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O’Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Tenure Recommendations: Mr. Amorak Huey and Dr. Stephanie Wladkowski

No. 57-2023 Ms. Budi moved and Ms. Shore seconded that:

the Board of Trustees approve the Tenure Recommendations, as submitted:

***Professor - College of Arts and Sciences***

Amorak Huey, M.F.A., Department of English

***Associate Professor - College of Health and Human Services***

Stephanie Wladkowski, Ph.D., Department of Human Services

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O’Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Emeritus Recommendation Dr. Kamau Mbuthia

No. 58-2023 Mr. Traul moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

approval be given to the emeritus status of Dr. Kamau Mbuthia, Associate Teaching Professor, who has retired or will be retiring by the end of the summer term, as recommended by the appropriate department, the college dean, the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Commemoratives, the Senior Vice President and Provost, and the University President.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Forhan, Mr. Martin, Mr. O’Brien, Dr. Ross, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with eight affirmative votes.

Approval of Revised 2024-2025 Board of Trustees Schedule of Meetings

No. 59-2023 Ms. Budi moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

Approval be given for the Proposed Board of Trustees Schedule of Meetings for 2023-2024, as listed below,

September 26-27, 2024  
December 5-6, 2024  
February 20-21, 2025  
May 1-2, 2025  
June 26-27, 2025

All signified in affirmative. Motion carried.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 11:14 a.m., Mr. Forhan moved and Mr. O'Brien seconded – pursuant to the provisions of the Ohio Open Meetings Act, Ohio Revised Code section 121.22 – to enter into executive session to discuss: (1) pending and imminent court action and (2) preparation of collective bargaining strategy.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Mr. Forhan reconvened the meeting and announced that the Board met in executive session, at which no action was taken. A quorum was noted. Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Traul seconded that the board come out of executive session. The motion was approved.

Executive session concluded at 12:07 p.m.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Forhan provided a few brief announcements and noted that the next meeting will be held on September 21-22, 2023, on the Bowling Green Campus.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:09 p.m., Mr. Martin moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.