



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 24, 2024

KEENE STATE COLLEGE
KEENE, NH

MEETING MINUTES
Draft

Attendance

Committee members present: M. Jacqueline Eastwood, committee chair; Wayne Semprini, committee vice chair; MJ Condon; Anthony DiVito; Ethan Dupuis; Frank Edelblut; **Isabella Falcetti**; Nathan Fredrickson; Tim Hoheneder; Shawn Jasper; Mackenzie Murphy; Sarah Thornhill, Christiana Thornton; David Westover; Matthew Winders

Other trustees present: Kassandra Ardinger; Maureen Beauregard; Donald Birx; James Burnett, III; Elizabeth Chilton; James Gray, designee for the president of the NH Senate; Cathy Green; George Hansel; James Gerry, Governor Sununu's designee; Kevin Knarr; Rick Ladd, designee for the speaker of the NH House of Representatives; Brian McCabe; Joel Nkounkou (remote); Peter Paul; Michael Pilot; Gregg Tewksbury; Melinda Treadwell

Other participants: Nathaniel Bowditch

University System Student Board (USSB)

Student trustees and USSB representatives presented information about upcoming campus events and welcomed attendance by trustees. The information was well received, and it was suggested that notice of campus events be regularly/periodically communicated to trustees and potentially to state legislators. The students also presented information about student transportation challenges in terms of reliability, safety, and parking, as a retention factor. Discussion addressed the universal nature of transportation issues on college campuses, with advice to explore solutions that have been successfully implemented by other institutions.

Student Success and Well-being

The provosts reported on fall enrollment levels, noting a decrease in first-generation students attributed to the delayed FAFSA redesign and rollout. The vice presidents for enrollment management followed with a presentation on enrollment strategy. They described differentiated institutional missions and student profiles and discussed opportunities for growing net tuition revenue through nonresident, nontraditional, and graduate student enrollment. They emphasized that this work would occur while continuing to vigorously recruit NH high school and transfer students, working closely with NH's Community College System, Department of Education, and middle and high schools. Chair Eastwood expressed interest in learning more about the institutions' middle school outreach.

Graduate Student Presentation

Provost Bowditch, Interim Provost Sandy, Ashby Kinch, vice provost and dean of the UNH Graduate School, and Brian Walker, director of the PSU Holmes Center for School Partnerships and Educator Preparation, presented information about graduate enrollment trends, the value of graduate education and return on investment, and opportunities for market-driven program development and enrollment growth across the system. Dean Kinch additionally underscored the role of PhD students in advancing UNH's research mission and driving an innovation economy.