



***SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY***

***BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES  
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION***

***December 18, 2020***

**SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF CONTROL**  
**Minutes of the Regular Formal Session**  
**December 18, 2020**

A regular formal session of the Board of Control was held on Friday, December 18, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. via video conferencing.

Trustees present included:

John D. Cherry, Jr.  
JoAnn Crary  
Dennis Durco, Treasurer  
Lindsay Eggers  
Bhushan Kulkarni, Secretary  
John Kunitzer, Chair  
Vicki Rupp, Vice Chair  
Raj Wiener  
Donald Bachand, Ex Officio

Trustees absent included:

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President's Staff present included:

J.J. Boehm, Interim Executive Director of Communications & External Affairs  
Ellen Crane, General Counsel  
Dr. Deborah Huntley, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
John Kaczynski, Director of Governmental Affairs  
Mary Kowaleski, Executive Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Board of Control  
James Muladore, Executive Vice President for Administration & Business Affairs  
Dr. Mamie T. Thorns, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity Programs  
Rob Vallentine, Executive in Residence

Others present included:

Deborah Bishop, Faculty Association President  
David Lewis, Director of the School University Partnership Office  
Thomas Metiva, Student Association President

SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF CONTROL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 18, 2020  
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION  
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kunitzer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Kunitzer noted that the regular formal session of the SVSU Board of Control is being conducted via video conferencing. He stated that “Due to the unique situation and unprecedented times we find ourselves in today, we will consider today’s virtual meeting to be a Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control pursuant to Article II, Section 2.100 of our SVSU board bylaws.” Chair Kunitzer stated if there are no objections, let’s proceed. There were no objections.

Chair Kunitzer asked the Board Secretary to take a roll call to ensure a quorum. Secretary Kowaleski conducted a roll call of the Trustees and noted that a quorum was met with all Trustees being present.

**II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

A. Approval of Agenda and Additions to and Deletions from Agenda

Vice Chair Rupp requested that the agenda be amended to include an action item to establish compensation for the university President. Trustee Cherry supported the motion.

**BM-1233 It was moved and supported that an action item be added to the agenda to establish compensation for the university President.**

The agenda was unanimously APPROVED as revised.

Chair Kunitzer noted that the agenda would be amended to include a "Resolution to Establish Compensation for the university President" as Action Item No. 11.

B. Approval of the October 26, 2020 Minutes for the Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control

**It was moved and supported that the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Regular Formal Session be approved.**

The minutes were unanimously APPROVED as written.

C. Approval of the November 30, 2020 Special Formal Session of the Board of Control

**It was moved and supported that the minutes of the November 30, 2020 Special Formal Session be approved.**

D. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Faculty Association

Dr. Deborah Bishop, President of the Faculty Association, thanked the members of the Board of Control for making themselves available for the special Board meeting that was held on Nov. 30 to approve the 3-year contract between the University and the Faculty Association.

Professor Bishop also acknowledged the loss of Dr. Dennis Gray, Associate Professor of Biology, last month. She noted that many of Dr. Gray's colleagues have commented that Dr. Gray was passionate about his work, and wanted the best for his students.

Additionally, Professor Bishop commented that "the Faculty Association engaged in—what I believe to be—a first for us. The FA and the Student Association worked together to host a Zoom panel discussion on Education in the Time of COVID, with faculty and students as panelists. The faculty really enjoyed working with Thomas Metiva, Student Association President; Abby Smith, Speaker of the Association; and the student panelists to plan and execute this event."

Lastly, Professor Bishop noted a number of resolutions on the board agenda to grant emeriti status to several faculty and staff who retired at the end of the last academic year. She stated that "it's great to see people who have contributed to making SVSU what it is today being honored in this way. And, of course, it's wonderful to celebrate the achievements of our students who are graduating this weekend. We wish them well, and look forward to seeing them again when they return to campus for alumni events."

E. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Student Association

Mr. Metiva, President of the Student Association, commented that after 15 years of competing in the Battle of the Valleys, Grand Valley State University ended their participating in the fundraising event in 2019. Mr. Metiva noted that he is happy to announce that the longstanding fundraising tradition has been reinstated, with the next competition anticipated to be schedule for the fall of 2021.

Mr. Metiva noted that the student governments of SVSU and Grand Valley State University recently voted to reinstate GVSU as a partner in the student-run Battle of the Valleys fundraising competition. He explained that the rules were re-created to address issues both universities had in the past. He stated that the re-introduction of the competitive fundraising component is a strong incentive for more funds to be raised to benefit both communities.

F. Communications and Requests to Appear Before the Board

There were no requests.

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Resolution to Grant Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees

**RES-2374 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University is granted the authority to confer undergraduate and graduate degrees as outlined in Section 5 of Public and Local Acts of Michigan 1965; and**

**WHEREAS, Operating Policy 3.101 Article III of the Board reserves to the Board the authority to grant degrees.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University approves the awarding of 2020 undergraduate and graduate degrees as certified by the faculty and Registrar for those students who completed degree requirements.**

President Bachand commented that fall graduates will be recognized during a live virtual celebration this evening. He explained that each college will have its own virtual commencement ceremony at staggered times throughout the evening.

President Bachand noted that nearly 553 students are expected to participate in the December 2020 virtual Commencement ceremonies. He offered his congratulations to the graduates and their families.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

2. Resolution to Approve Confirmation of Board Members for Previously Authorized Public School Academies

**RES-2375 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, the Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control, the school's authorizing agent, requires that University Chartered Schools' Board of Directors have a minimum of five members and a maximum of nine members; and**

**WHEREAS, individual Charter Schools have a desire to replace Board members who have submitted their resignation; and**

**WHEREAS, certain Charter Schools have a desire to have parents of students represented on their Board of Directors; and**

**WHEREAS, certain Charter Schools desire to reappoint a board member whose term of office has expired;**



David Lewis, Director of School and University Partnerships, noted that the individuals being recommended for appointment have been thoroughly vetted. He stated that background, criminal record, and reference checks were conducted on each of the applicants.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

3. Resolution to Approve Faculty Sabbaticals for 2021-2022

RES-2376 **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University is committed to quality education and provides the faculty with opportunities to maintain and enhance their professional knowledge and expertise, and**

**WHEREAS, The University administration supports faculty sabbatical leaves as an integral part of the SVSU Faculty Development Program,**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, the following faculty members be granted sabbatical leaves as specified below for the academic year of 2021-2022.**

Name	Department	Term/s	Brief Title of Project
Sara Keough	Geography	Winter	Handbook of Material Culture
Natalia Knoblock	English	Fall/Winter	President Trump's Discourse and its Reception by his Supporters
Erik Trump	Political Science	Winter	Architecture of the Apocalypse: Designs for Survival in Popular Film
Matthew Vannette	Phycis	Fall	Initiating Research in Ferroelectric Materials

Dr. Deborah Huntley, Vice President and Provost, stated that each of the proposed sabbaticals support the university's teaching mission and she fully supports the individuals being recommended.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

4. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to George Eastland

RES-2377 **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. George Eastland arrived at Saginaw Valley State College in 1969 to join the faculty in the Department of Chemistry at the rank of assistant professor,**

receiving the rank of full professor in 1978, and dedicating almost 51 years to the University until his retirement in June 2020; and

**WHEREAS, Dr. Eastland was an early pioneer of the SVSU Chemistry Department, helping it achieve important certification from the American Chemical Society, and where he has a long and consistent record of service to all areas of the University, including serving as Assistant Dean for the college of Science, Engineering & Technology, multiple terms as Chair of the Chemistry Department, National Collegiate Athletic Association faculty representative and Interim Athletic Director; and**

**WHEREAS, as an inorganic chemist, he performed scientific research at the top of his field and was a noted expert in ESR spectroscopy, having worked with world-leading scientists in the field with very notable contributions to cancer research, and while his research was prolific, having authored over 40 research publications, he always kept his focus on providing students with opportunities to learn, consistently mentoring research students and inspiring them to pursue careers in chemistry; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Eastland's teaching is legendary because of his high energy and ability to communicate, dynamic lectures, exciting class demonstrations, and animated deliveries, in addition to his open-door policy where students would frequently line up to learn more, all of which earned him the prestigious SVSU Franc A. Landee Teaching Excellence award, the Terry Ishihara Co-Curricular Involvement Award and the Midland ACS Section Outstanding College Chemistry Teacher award; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Eastland was always a strong leader and mentor, selflessly and routinely he offered his time, advice and constructive observations to junior faculty, assisting them in becoming better teachers and researchers, and as his service reached outside of SVSU, where he was an active member of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society, receiving the Section award for Outstanding Service, and serving as the only person to be elected as Section Chair twice; and**

**WHEREAS, he is known around the region for his decades-long career of teaching chemistry at SVSU, leaving an outstanding legacy of chemists who followed in his footsteps who will always remember him as being their professor who took his gifts of a larger-than-life personality and outstanding abilities, and applied them to have a larger-than-life impact on so many chemistry students; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dr. George Eastland be recognized as Professor Emeritus.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

5. Resolution to Grant Emerita Status to Jane Girdham

**RES-2378     It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Jane Girdham gave twenty-five years of service to SVSU, having arrived in 1995 to join the faculty in the Department of Music at the rank of Assistant Professor, and receiving the rank of full professor in 2003, and spending two and a half decades until her retirement in June 2020 dedicated to serving the university in numerous capacities, including eight years as Chair of the Department of Music, member of the Graduate Committee, 12 years as Director of Forever Strings, editor of the SVSU Research Bulletin and evaluation team member for numerous faculty; and**

**WHEREAS, her scholarly contributions are numerous, including publishing a book and writing many papers, articles, reviews, compositions, and presenting frequently at domestic and international academic conferences on eighteenth century studies in music, and where she was awarded with a winning competition entry on “Musical Life in the Late Eighteenth Century: A Course Description” at national meetings on two occasions; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Girdham is a prime example of the teacher/scholar/performer who brought her extensive experience to her classes, not only raising the level of SVSU’s courses in music theory and music history/literature considerably, but also offering students the rare opportunity to be taught by an individual who is an expert in both areas of discipline, and while her courses were rigorous and demanding, she made course materials accessible and used a combination of traditional and innovative instructional strategies that motivated students to not just study the course material, but become actively engaged in the discipline while doing so as a constant presence who was always available to offer guidance while giving her students experiences that would prepare them to achieve their goals, and**

**WHEREAS, she has been actively involved in service, both with SVSU and in the community, serving the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra in numerous roles over the years and contributing pivotal support to Major Chords for Minors by teaching and serving on their Board of Directors; and**

**WHEREAS, as a colleague, she has always been available for advice and to share ideas with, and has always been forthcoming about her thoughts, even if that forced others to challenge their own, which allowed her to serve as a guiding force for the development of all of those junior to her in the Department of Music; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Music respectfully requests that Dr. Jane Girdham be awarded Emerita status based on her extensive contributions to SVSU throughout her successful career as a teacher, leader, researcher, mentor, and colleague who went "above and beyond" consistently; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dr. Jane Girdham be recognized as Professor Emerita.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

6. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to Wayne Mackie

RES-2379     **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Wayne E. Mackie arrived at Saginaw Valley State College in 1977, to join the faculty at the rank of assistant professor, receiving the rank of full professor in 1988, and dedicating more than 42 years to the university until his retirement in December 2019; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Mackie served as the Chair of the Department of Law and Finance for more than 30 years, in addition to two years spent serving as the Assistant Dean and two years spent as the Acting Dean of the College of Business and Management, providing leadership for the college, particularly with regard to the Taiwan MBA program, and mentorship for a number of full-time and adjunct faculty members who have gone on to serve the university with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, over the course of his career at SVSU, Dr. Mackie taught more than a dozen different finance courses including core courses for all business majors as well as a wide variety of upper level required and elective courses, regularly preparing and teaching more different courses in a single semester than any of his colleagues to ensure that finance majors had meaningful options to complete their degree programs, while also playing an instrumental and critical role in the development and improvement of the finance curriculum over the years; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Mackie, a dedicated educator, exposed his students to both the theoretical foundation of his discipline and the practical challenges faced by finance professionals, integrating contemporary examples, and an expectation for students to be aware of the state of the market as well as emerging issues, likely creating generations of professionals who consult The Wall Street Journal every morning and share his enthusiasm for the empirically-proven method of value investing; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Mackie consistently welcomed and supported international students in his courses, which encouraged them to pursue degrees in finance, expanding the program, and caused them to regard him with great respect and affection, evidenced by the large number of students who eagerly approached him after every graduation ceremony so they could introduce him to their families; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Mackie worked tirelessly to ensure that his students were exposed to the opportunities at all levels in the field of finance by serving as the advisor to the Finance Club and leading the members on a transformative trip to New York to participate in the annual Global Asset Management Education Forum, the largest student-run financial conference in the world; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dr. Wayne E. Mackie be recognized as Professor Emeritus.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

7. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to James P. Sullivan

RES-2380     **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, in his thirty-three-year career at Saginaw Valley State University, he has taught thousands of students in the disciplines of linguistics and literature with both rigor and compassion; and**

**WHEREAS, he has distinguished himself as a scholar of Irish literature, publishing several articles on such writers as James Joyce and Padraic Colum over the course of his career; and**

**WHEREAS, he has enriched the education of many students through unforgettable study abroad courses in Rome that introduced them to the culture and history of Italy; and**

**WHEREAS, he contributed numerous courses to the General Education program that offered students the opportunity to explore monuments of European literature in translation, including the works of Homer and Dante; and**

**WHEREAS, he faithfully offered his service in the administration of the University during his career, serving for a time as his College's Assistant Dean, as Associate Director of Sponsored Programs, and as the founding director of the Instructional Development Initiative; and**

**WHEREAS, five times he won fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities to participate in Summer Institutes on such topics as James Joyce's Ulysses and the translation of literature; and**

**WHEREAS, he has bequeathed to the English department his collection of volumes by and about James Joyce; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT James P. Sullivan be recognized as Professor Emeritus.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

8. Resolution to Grant Emerita Status to Laurie Reed

RES-2381     **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Ms. Laurie Reed gave twenty-six years of service to SVSU, having arrived in 1992 as a part-time technician and adjunct lecturer in the Department of Physics, and becoming a full-time lecturer in 1996, and spending more than two decades until her retirement in December 2018 dedicated to serving the university in numerous capacities, including serving as the Physics General Education Test coordinator, member of numerous faculty evaluation teams, coordinator of the department's 10-year self-study report, contact for the College of Education Content Partner Meetings, editor and primary writer of the Physics Department Annual Report and long-time instructor in the Osher Life-Long Learning program; and**

**WHEREAS, her exceptional record of innovative teaching has been publicly recognized with several honors and awards, including the SVSU Innovative Writing in Teaching Award, the Technology in Teaching Award and her election as a Fellow of the American Association of Physics Teachers where her lifetime commitment to the teaching of physics was recognized nationally; and**

**WHEREAS, Ms. Reed consistently showed dedication to the goals of SVSU and the department and displayed a willingness to do the hard work associated with achieving those goals, a telling example being her deliberate and significant effort to learn the skills and knowledge necessary to teach a meteorology course so she could fill an important gap in the department; illustrating her commitment to finding areas where her interests and abilities would produce positive outcomes and well-serve institutional goals; and**

**WHEREAS, the exceptional quality of Ms. Reed's teaching and her commitment to the profession is beyond question and were further proven by her willingness to go above and beyond for her students, including her frequent practice of pulling together resources (online resources, physical demonstrations, in class activities, etc.) to ensure the material she was teaching was as clear and accessible as possible for her**

**students, performing planetarium shows at Delta College's Planetarium each semester for her astronomy students and routinely spending Sunday afternoons on-campus to conduct exam reviews for her physics students; and**

**WHEREAS, her voluntary (as she had no formal requirement) research record in observational astronomy is very strong with publications in six papers, ten conference presentations (several with students), and regular attendance at academic conferences so she could stay up-to-date in her fields of interest (particularly with regard to innovations in teaching within those fields) throughout her career; and**

**WHEREAS, Ms. Reed achieved the highest rank in the lecturer appointment, serving with distinction and achieving exceptional success in teaching, service and scholarly activity; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Ms. Laurie Reed be recognized as Professor Emerita.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

9. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to Joe Vogl

**RES-2382 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Joseph Vogl has devoted 42 years of service to SVSU in various roles. He joined SVSU in 1978 as Manager of Operations for Athletic Facilities. He then held positions as Director of Athletics and Athletics Marketing & Development Director. Most distinguishingly he dedicated 35 years to the SVSU golf program(s) as head coach. In addition to his role in Athletics he also served as an adjunct faculty member and held positions in the Foundation Office as Development Officer and Director of Annual Giving.**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Vogl was head coach of the men's and women's golf programs for 35 and 4 years respectively. During this time, the men's program claimed 19 team titles and finished runner-up in 36 different tournaments. Joe also led the Cardinals to two Conference Championships in 1996 and 1997 and qualified for three NCAA Division II National Championship tournaments in 1997, 1998 and 2014. The women's program won three tournaments and finished runner-up another pair of times.**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Vogl has coached two All-Americans, 27 Academic All-Americans, with the men's squads being named Academic All-American as a team nine different times.**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Vogl has coached, 36 men and 2 women who have earned All-Conference honors, 11 men who have earned all-region honors and was named Conference Coach of the Year for Men’s Golf on three occasions.**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Vogl competed as a Men's Golf student-athlete for Saginaw Valley from 1973-76 and was the first-ever Cardinal to record a hole-in-one in tournament play (1975). He is a member of the SVSU Athletics Hall of Fame, being inducted as an assistant coach on the 1984 team that finished national runner-up at the NAIA National Championships.**

**WHEREAS, Mr. Vogl served on the conference coaches committee since 1989; he spent 13 years on the Midwest Regional Ranking Committee and served on the Division 2 National Men’s Golf Committee from 2017-2020.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Mr. Joseph Vogl be recognized as “Head Men’s & Women’s Golf Coach Emeritus.”**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

10. Resolution to Reappoint Auditors for Fiscal Year 2021

**RES-2383 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, It is a good management practice to have conducted an annual independent financial audit; and,**

**WHEREAS, Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC (AHP) submitted a proposal to the University to provide financial audit services for a five-year period beginning with fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2025; and,**

**WHEREAS, The Business, Finance and Audit & Facilities Committee has reviewed and finds satisfactory the past performance of AHP and as a result recommends this firm’s reappointment for fiscal year 2020-2021;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That AHP be reappointed to conduct the fiscal year 2020-2021 financial audit.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

11. Resolution to Establish Compensation for the University President

**RES-2384 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, The Board of Control retains unto itself the authority to establish the compensation for the University President; and**

**WHEREAS, The Board of Control has received and accepted a favorable performance evaluation for Dr. Donald Bachand; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Bachand voluntarily reduced his 2020 annual base salary by 10% from May until December, 2020.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the University President's base salary for the 2021 calendar shall be reinstated to the annual base salary established for the 2020 calendar year; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the University President shall receive a one-time appreciation bonus in the amount of \$7,724; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University award President Bachand the maximum amount of deferred compensation as outlined in his current contract.**

Chair Kunitzer noted that, based on their evaluation of the President, the Board had nothing but praise for the efforts put forth during the past year. On behalf of the Board of Control, Chair Kunitzer offered sincere thanks to President Bachand for his leadership during a difficult and unprecedented year.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

#### **IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no information and discussion items.

#### **V. REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT**

President Bachand offered his thanks to the Board for their steadfast leadership and ongoing support throughout the past year.

#### **VI. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Chair Kunitzer announced that the next Regular Formal Session of the SVSU Board of Control is scheduled for Monday, February 15, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

##### **12. Motion to Adjourn**

**BM-1234 It was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

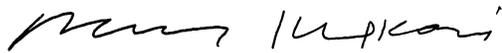
The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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John Kunitzer, Chair



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Bhushan Kulkarni, Secretary



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Mary Kowaleski  
Recording Secretary