

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the  
Ferris State University Board of Trustees  
Saturday, December 17, 2005  
Whitney Young Room, Rankin Center  
Big Rapids, Michigan

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

A special meeting of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees was held on Saturday, December 17, 2005 in the Whitney Young Room of Rankin Center, Ferris State University campus, Big Rapids, Michigan. Chair Arthur L. Tebo called the meeting to order at 11:27 a.m. In addition to Chair Tebo, the following individuals were present: R. Thomas Cook, Olga G. Dazzo, James K. Haveman, Gregory L. Patera, and Ronald E. Snead; University President David L. Eisler; University Vice Presidents Richard P. Duffett, Michael Harris, and Daniel L. Burcham; University General Counsel Miles J. Postema; Recording Secretary to the Board Karen K. Paine; and members of the University community. Trustees Gary L. Granger and George J. Menoutes were absent with prior notification.

2. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Tebo's invitation to address the Board.

Change in Order of Agenda

Chair Tebo exercised his prerogative and changed the order of today's agenda.

4. Informational Item – Assignment of Trustee Representation on the Ferris Foundation Board

Chair Tebo reported that he had made a request of assignment, and it was accepted, of Trustee Gregory L. Patera to be the Board of Trustees Representative on the Ferris Foundation Board, as of today's date until December 31, 2006. Trustee Patera noted that he has accepted this assignment.

No additional information was requested regarding this item.

3a. Slate of Candidates for Ferris Foundation Board

Vice President Duffett and President Eisler provided additional information on the candidate for the Ferris Foundation Board of Directors.

In response to an inquiry from Trustee Dazzo, President Eisler indicated that the authority of the Board of Trustees regarding this item is to approve new directors to the Foundation Board. Board of Trustees approval is not required for those directors that are re-elected.

It was then moved by Trustee Cook, supported by Trustee Patera, and unanimously carried that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution:

*“WHEREAS, Section 4.04 of the "Restated Bylaws of the Ferris Foundation" (hereinafter "Restated Bylaws") provide that there will be a minimum of 13 and a maximum of 40 directors of the Ferris Foundation (hereinafter "Foundation") Board of Directors (hereinafter "Directors"); and,*

*WHEREAS, the maximum allowable number of Directors has not yet been attained, allowing for the election of additional Directors pursuant to Section 4.05 of the Restated Bylaws; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Ferris Foundation Board has approved the slate of names for addition to the Board of Directors, consisting of one individual, Mr. Richard (Dick) Shaw of Hesperia, Michigan.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the slate is hereby approved by the Ferris State University Board of Trustees.”*

3b. Trustee Travel

**i. Out-of-State Travel Request for 2006 Annual AGB Conference on Trusteeship**

It was moved by Trustee Cook, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution:

*“The Board of Trustees hereby approves the out-of-state travel request for attendance at the Association of Governing Board’s 2006 Annual Conference on Trusteeship in Orlando, Florida, as presented on this date.”*

**ii. International Travel Request, Art Tebo**

In response to an inquiry from Trustee Cook, additional information was provided by President Eisler and Vice President Harris regarding the benefits to the University of Trustee attendance in the signing of the agreement and the University’s relationship with An Giang University in Vietnam. Vice President Harris reported that An Giang University’s President will be visiting our campus in either March or April of 2006.

It was then moved by Trustee Cook, supported by Trustee Patera, and unanimously carried that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution:

*“The Board of Trustees hereby approves the international travel request for Arthur L. Tebo, traveling from Japan to Vietnam, and back to Japan, for the signing of the Exchange Agreement Between Ferris State University and An Giang University, Long Xuyen Vietnam, on or around January 24, 2006 to January 29, 2006, as presented on this date.”*

### **iii. Out-of-State Travel Request, Greg Patera**

In response to an invitation from Chair Tebo, no other trustees expressed interest in attending the 2006 PGM Merchandise Show and related Alumni and Emeriti events in January.

It was then moved by Trustee Cook, supported by Trustee Haveman, and unanimously carried that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution:

*“The Board of Trustees hereby approves the out-of-state travel request for Gregory L. Patera, to attend the 2006 Annual PGM Merchandise Show and related PGM Alumni events, in Orlando and Sarasota, Florida, from January 27-30, 2006, as presented on this date.”*

### **3c. Voluntary Resignation Incentive Program Requests**

President Eisler provided a brief overview of the Voluntary Resignation Incentive Program.

It was then moved by Trustee Cook, supported by Trustee Haveman, and unanimously carried that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following Resolution:

*“WHEREAS, Section 20 of the Agreement between the Board of Trustees of Ferris State University and the Ferris Faculty Association, MEA-NEA, which expires June 30, 2006 provides that eligible full-time faculty members may apply for a voluntary resignation from employment with Ferris State University under the provisions of the "Voluntary Resignation Incentive Plan"; and,*

*WHEREAS, on November 9, 2005, the College of Allied Health Sciences Professor Mary J. Cairy submitted in writing to the College of Allied Health Science's Dean Jacqueline Hooper a request for consideration in the voluntary resignation incentive plan effective May 7, 2006; and,*

*WHEREAS, on November 30, 2005, the University Counselor Carolyn S. Cook submitted in writing to the Vice President for Student Affairs Daniel L. Burcham a request for consideration in the voluntary resignation incentive plan effective June 30, 2006.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the Administration's recommendation, in the best interest of the University, to grant Professor Mary J. Cairy's request for a voluntary resignation, with emeritus status, effective May 7, 2006, and University Counselor Carolyn S. Cook's request for a voluntary resignation, with emeritus status, effective June 30, 2006, in accordance with the provisions of the "Voluntary Resignation Incentive Plan," and expressly conditioned upon the execution by Professor Cairy and Counselor Cook of an effective release of all claims, in a form approved by the University's Office of the General Counsel.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requests of Professor Cairy and Counselor Cook will be processed through the Office of Human Resource Development in accordance with the University's established procedures for the 'Voluntary Resignation Incentive Plan.'*"

5. Hearing of the Public

President Eisler distributed recent press materials regarding the IRC Renovation Project, the President's Pancake Breakfast, and the new Ferris DVD entitled, "Creating Opportunity, Realizing Dreams" that was shown at the annual Ferris Foundation Benefit.

No one else responded to Chair Tebo's second invitation to address the Board.

6. Informal Closed Session

It was moved by Trustee Snead that the Board of Trustees recess and go into informal closed session for the following purposes:

- 1. For strategy sessions connected with the negotiation of a successor collective bargaining agreement with the Ferris Faculty Association, affiliated with the Michigan Association for Higher Education MEA-NEA; and,*
- 2. To consider with University General Counsel the legal advice presented in his written legal opinion dated December 14, 2005.*

On a roll call vote of (6) "yes," the motion carried unanimously and the Trustees proceeded into informal closed session at 11:40 a.m.

7. Adjournment

At 11:53 a.m., upon returning to Open Session, it was moved by Trustee Patera, supported by Trustee Snead, and unanimously carried that the Board adjourn.

Approved by

Submitted by

Arthur L. Tebo  
Chair

Karen K. Paine  
Recording Secretary