

**MINUTES**  
Board of Trustees  
Bowling Green State University  
September 27, 2024

Notice having been given in accordance with the Board of Trustees Bylaws, the following members met in the McMaster Room, 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union at the Bowling Green campus on September 27, 2024: Drew Forhan, Chair; Judy Budi, Willa Ebersole, Paul Hooker, Russ Martin, Cole Nemeth, Paula O'Reilly, Dr. Richard Ross, Amy Shore, Mizell Stewart III, Howard Traul II, and Kathryn Ware.

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 1:30 p.m. The Board Secretary called the roll and announced that a quorum was present (eight trustees).

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Rodney Rogers welcomed the Board back to campus and provided updates on the state of Bowling Green State University. Highlights included the start of the academic year, Thompson Working Family Scholarship Program, increased enrollment and retention, and high levels of engagement in arts and athletics.

**MINUTES**

No. 1-2025 Mr. Traul moved and Ms. Budi seconded that the minutes of June 20, 2024 be approved as written.

All signified in affirmative. Motion carried.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Martin, Chair of the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee, reported that the Committee had one item for Board consideration.

Appointment of Dr. Sarah Emery as Professor with Tenure in the Department of Biological Sciences

No. 2-2025 Mr. Martin moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

the Board of Trustees ratify the appointment of Dr. Sarah Emery as professor with tenure in the Department of Biological Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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

Mr. Martin reported that the Committee heard an Academic Affairs Update from Interim Provost Glenn Davis; a Research Update from Dr. Laura Regassa, Vice President for Research; an Enrollment Management Update from Vice President Cecilia Castellano; a student Engagement and Success Update from Dr. Glenn Davis in his role as Vice President for Student Engagement and Success; and an Inclusion and Belonging Update from Dr. Katie Stygles, Chief Inclusion Officer

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Ms. Ebersole, Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee, reported that the Committee had three items for Board consideration.

Approval of Participation in the Local Administration Competency Certification Program of Capital Facilities Projects

No. 3-2025 Ms. Ebersole moved and Dr. Ross seconded that:

WHEREAS, the 126<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly enacted HB 16 establishing a Local Administration Competency Certification Program (the “Program”) for the benefit of certain state-assisted institutions of higher education, including state universities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3345.51 of the Ohio Revised Code (“R.C.”), the Program authorizes such institutions to administer state-funded construction, reconstruction, improvement, renovation, enlargement, or alteration of a public improvement under its jurisdiction without the supervision, control, or approval of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.C. 123.17 the Ohio State Architect’s Office (the “SAO Program”) may award local administration competency certifications to institutions of higher education and such certifications are required for participation in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the University to administer its own capital facilities projects in accordance with the requirements of both R.C. 3345.51 and R.C. 123.17 (the Program and the SAO Program hereinafter may be collectively or individually referred to as the “Local Administration Program”); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the University has adequate controls and sufficient personnel with the knowledge, skills, training, and professional certifications to satisfactorily participate in and manage the Local Administration Program in accordance with the requirements of the law;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that among other authorities, the President or the Vice President for Finance and Administration is hereby delegated the authority to provide written notice to the Ohio Board of Regents, pursuant to R.C. 3345.51 (A)(2), to convey the Board’s request to administer one or more specific capital facilities projects (as the President or Vice President for Finance and Administration may deem appropriate) within sixty days after the effective date of the section of an Act initially making an appropriation for the relevant project; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 3345.51(A)(3), the University hereby states its intention to comply with R.C. 153.13 and the guidelines established pursuant to R.C. 153.16 and all laws that govern the selection of consultants, preparation and approval of contract documents, receipt of bids, and award of contracts with respect to each project subject to the requirements of the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(6), and to the extent permitted by the Ohio State Constitution, the University agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State and the Ohio Department of Administrative Services for any claim of injury, loss, or damage that results from the University’s administration of a capital facilities project subject to the requirements of the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(5), the University represents to the Ohio State Architect’s Office that the University will conduct biennial audits of the University’s administration of capital facilities projects in accordance with R.C. 3345.51(C), for such period of time as the University may be participating in the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(2), the Board hereby provides its assurance to the Ohio State Architect’s Office that the University will select new employees to participate in the Local Administration Program as necessary to compensate for employee turnover; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes and directs the President or the Vice President for Finance and Administration to take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the University’s certification for and successful participation in the Local Administration Program.

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

Approval of Naming of the RING Center for Experiential Learning in Art and Design

No. 4-2025 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Traul seconded that:

WHEREAS, an anonymous donor has made a generous gift to Bowling Green State University;

WHEREAS, the donor earned a bachelor's degree in education from BGSU;

WHEREAS, as a student, he was involved in student organizations and had a successful career;

WHEREAS, the donor has had a long interest in BGSU's photography and print making, digital media studies and out-of-the-classroom experiences for students;

WHEREAS, he established the RING Fund for Entrepreneurial Photography and The RING Fund for Study Abroad to support those educational opportunities that translate into students becoming career ready;

WHEREAS, he is recognized as a member of multiple BGSU's donor recognition societies;

WHEREAS, with this gift, he requests anonymity and a specification to name the RING Center for Experiential Learning in Art Design; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this gift, it is fitting to name the RING Center for Experiential Learning in Art and Design.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the generous gift made by an anonymous donor, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the naming of the RING Center for Experiential Learning in Art and Design.

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

Approval of Naming of the Green, Remeis and Green Mezzanine

No. 5-2025 Ms. Ebersole moved and Ms. Shore seconded that:

WHEREAS, the Green and Remeis families are business owners and longtime supporters of Bowling Green State University;

WHEREAS, Allen A. and Mary D. Green, are owners of A.A. Green Realty Inc., and Allen A. Green Builder & Developer, Inc.;

WHEREAS, Al and Mary have been active participants in the BGSU community for many years, with commitment demonstrated through their long-time support of the Falcon Club, Al's six-year service on the BGSU Foundation Board, Al's induction in 2020 to the Entrepreneurial Leadership Hall of Fame, and their many business-related sponsorships to Falcon sports programs;

WHEREAS, their philanthropic gifts have established endowed scholarships in education, business, athletics, and the Alumni Laureate program, as well as many gifts to Hockey, Football, Men's Basketball, Baseball, Falcon Club Scholarship and Success, the BGSU Foundation Board Challenge, the Excellence Fund for BGSU, Schmidthorst College of Business Student Ambassadors, Paul J. Hooker Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, College of Musical Arts, and WBGU-TV Public Broadcasting;

WHEREAS, Mark '91 and Michelle '92 Remeis are BGSU Falcon Flames;

WHEREAS, Mark earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Michelle earned a Bachelor of Arts in Fashion Merchandising;

WHEREAS, Mark is a partner and Broker for A.A. Green Realty, Inc.;

WHEREAS, he has served in a leadership role on several industry organizations and boards, and created and taught the original Real Estate Investment course for the BGSU Entrepreneurship program;

WHEREAS, Michelle served on the BGSU Alumni Board and is a co-owner of Mecca Management, Inc. with her brother, Steve Green;

WHEREAS, she is also a Partner in GREM Family Investors and many other real estate investments;

WHEREAS, their gifts to BGSU include support for scholarships as well as Ice Hockey, Men's Soccer, Men's Golf, Women's Golf, Football, Women's Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Softball, the Stroh Center, the Athletic Fitness & Weight Room renovation, and Falcon Club Scholarship and Success;

WHEREAS, Steven A. Green '90 earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from BGSU;

WHEREAS, he is a Broker with A.A. Green Realty, Inc., developer, real estate consultant, and co-owner of Mecca Management, Inc., with his sister Michelle Remeis;

WHEREAS, he has held multiple Board Officer roles in the Northwest Ohio Apartment Association;

WHEREAS, he served on the College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Circle and the "Bring Back the Glory" campaign committee to support the BGSU ice arena and hockey program;

WHEREAS, Steve's wife, Michelle (Misty) Green, holds Master of Business Administration and Juris Doctorate degrees;

WHEREAS, she is a sole practitioner in Bowling Green with a practice focused on real estate, landlord tenant relations, development, and land use;

WHEREAS, their gifts to BGSU include support for Ice Hockey, Football, Volleyball, Women's Basketball, Falcon Club Scholarship and Success, the Excellence Fund for BGSU, the Stroh Center, and the College of Arts & Sciences;

WHEREAS, the University has received a generous gift from Al and Mary Green, Mark and Michelle Remeis, and Steve and Misty Green in support of the Slater Family Ice Arena; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this gift, it is fitting to name the Green, Remeis and Green Mezzanine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the generous gift made by Al and Mary Green, Mark and Michelle Remeis, and Steve and Misty Green, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the naming of the Green, Remeis and Green Mezzanine in the Slater Ice Arena.

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

Ms. Ebersole reported that Ms. Sheri Stoll gave presentations on the following informational items: List of Tentative Capital Project Board Action Items for FY2025; Status of Capital Projects Status Report – Over \$1,000,000; Market Performance and University Investment Schedule through July 31, 2024; and the E&G Expenditure Report through June 30, 2024.

#### **AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Joint Development Committee Chair, Mr. Traul, stated that the only action item before the committee was the approval of meeting minutes from the last meeting. Discussion items included a Risk Management and Insurance Update from Dr. Stephanie Sickler; a Fiscal Year 2025 Risk Assessment from Mr. Jim Lambert; a summary of fraud hotline statistics; a corrective action update; and a training topic on Deloitte's 2024 Higher Education Trends

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Joint Development Committee Chair, Ms. Budi, stated that the only action item before the committee was the approval of meeting minutes from May 2, 2024. Discussion items included a University Advancement Report from Vice President Pam Conlin, a Foundation Board report, and fundraising plans and strategies.

## INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Shore, Chair of the Investment Subcommittee, stated that the only action item before the committee was approval of meeting minutes from the May meeting. The Committee also discussed House Bill 2 – State FY2025-FY2026 Capital Appropriations for BGSU; Preliminary Update on Cash Flow Projections for FY2025; Strategic Asset Allocation special topic discussion on Equity Structure Review; and Review of Market Performance and July 31, 2024 Investment Schedule.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Chair Forhan stated that there was one additional action item for consideration and introduced Chair of the Compensation Committee, Ms. Shore, to introduce the item. Ms. Shore noted that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees wished to acknowledge President Rodney K. Rogers' significant contributions to advancing the University's strategic plan, *Forward*, focusing on its mission to create public good during the academic year 2023-2024. Ms. Shore highlighted several notable accomplishments.

### Presidential Evaluation and Compensation

No. 6-2025 Mr. Traul moved and Dr. Ross seconded that:

WHEREAS, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees wishes to acknowledge President Rodney K. Rogers' significant contributions to advancing Bowling Green State University's strategic plan, *Forward*, focusing on its mission to create public good during the academic year 2023-2024 by:

1. Achieving record-breaking enrollments and student success rates and welcoming the University's largest and highest achieving freshman class in history, with first-time student enrollment up 14% over fall 2023 and up 20% compared to fall 2022, according to 15<sup>th</sup> day census reporting, and also achieving nearly 82% retention of the fall 2023 cohort.
2. Continuing to scale Life Design, a comprehensive effort to redefine and differentiate the undergraduate experience to ensure students are positioned to be successful in college and in their careers and life.
3. Leveraging the region's research and industry strength in glass to secure \$31.3 million in state support to establish the Northwest Ohio Glass Innovation Hub to focus on workforce demands and bolster economic growth.
4. Completing the exploratory phase of Campus Master Plan 2024, which was approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2024, and implementing initial phases to identify funding sources and finalizing construction and renovation timelines for recommendation.
5. Achieving historic fundraising success, securing more than \$110 million in gifts and pledges in FY24 – the first time the University has raised nine-figures in a single year.
6. Serving in critical leadership roles such as chair of the Inter-University Council of Ohio and other external organizations to advance the mission and brand of the University and advocate to strengthen the public's trust and value in higher education.

WHEREAS, all administrative staff at the University received a 3 percent annual salary increase effective September 1, 2024, the Board of Trustees proposes an equivalent 3 percent annual increase (\$15,800) to President Rogers' Base Salary, effective September 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, President Rogers' exemplary performance in leading Bowling Green State University during 2023-2024 academic year, inspires the Board of Trustees to award a discretionary bonus of 15 percent (\$79,000) of President Rogers' Base Salary currently in effect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees acknowledge President Rogers' significant contributions during academic year 2023-2024 and thus approves an annual salary increase of 3 percent of President Rogers; Base Salary, effective September 1, 2024 and a discretionary bonus payment of \$79,000 of President Rogers' Base Salary.

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

### **CONSTITUENT GROUP REPORTS**

The following representatives updated the Board on recent activities of their constituent groups: Jason Hanely, Administrative Staff Council; Deb Lowery, Classified Staff Council; Dr. Allen Rogel, Faculty Senate; David Fisher, Graduate Student Senate; and Heidi Gasser, Undergraduate Student Government.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Forhan provided a few brief announcements and noted that the next meeting will be held on December 6, 2024, at BGSU Firelands.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 2:32 p.m., Ms. Shore moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.