

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY SPONSORED PROGRAMS FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

May 11, 2021

8:30-10:00 a.m.

ZOOM Meeting ID: 994 8018 9845

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Alstone
Jenn Capps
Taylor Bloedon
Carly Marino
Jeff Kane
Amber Gaffney
C.D. Hoyle
Samantha Diel
Katia Karadjova
Jason Meriwether
Dale Oliver

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Jackson
Frank Whitlatch
Amelia Towse
Jason Ramos

OTHERS PRESENT: Kacie Flynn, HSU SPF
Binta Wright, HSU SPF
Erika Wright, HSU SPF
Denise Bettendorf, Accounting
Catalina Cuellar-Gempeler, Biological Sciences

I. Call to Order

Peter Alstone called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

II. PI Presentation: Catalina Cuellar-Gempeler, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences

Since arriving at HSU in 2018, Dr. Catalina Cuellar-Gempeler has earned widespread recognition for her expertise in the fast-growing field of microbial ecology. She heads a cutting-edge research program at HSU that combines modern lab techniques, advanced programming languages, and traditional ecological field work. Most recently, she secured a prestigious \$949,500 National Science Foundation grant to research the effects of colonizing microbes on carnivorous plants. She was also named one of the 2021 McCrone Scholars.

III. Time Certain 8:45- 9:00 am: Open Forum for the Campus Community

There were no guest speakers present.

IV. Proposed Meeting Dates for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Board meetings will continue to be held Tuesday mornings from 8:30-10:00am in an effort to avoid peak hours in the course blocks and to accommodate as many teaching schedules as we can. The following is the upcoming meeting schedule for the 21/22 fiscal year:

September 28, 2021

December 14, 2021 **finals week*

March 8, 2022

May 10, 2022 **finals week*

Action Item: Jeff Kane m/s C.D. Hoyle “Motion to approve the new meeting schedule for the 2/22 fiscal year.” Motion carried unanimously.

V. Review and Approval of Minutes of March 9, 2021 Board Meeting

Action Item: Jason Meriwether m/s Dale Oliver. “Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the March 9, 2021 Board Meeting.” Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Investment Committee Report

Kacie Flynn gave a brief recap of the Investment Committee meeting that took place in March. NFP reviewed the current investment market and discussed their scorecard methodology with the Committee. One low performance fund was removed from the lineup and those assets will be mapped to a new Transamerica International Fund. The full Fiduciary Investment Review is included as an executive summary.

Action Item: Jeff Kane m/s Taylor Bloedon “Motion to accept the Investment Committee Report.” Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Finance Committee Report

Jeff Kane gave a brief recap of the Finance Committee meeting that took place last week. For the first nine months, the effective IDC rate was 10.8% which is a 0.6-point increase from the prior year. At the end of the 3rd Quarter, there were 595 active projects with a total award portfolio of almost \$109 million. Comparatively, at this point in FY 19/20 there were 556 active projects with a total award portfolio of \$98 million. In the first nine months, the foundation submitted 209 proposals requesting \$54 million in funding; a record high for the foundation. In that same time, SPF received 127 new awards totaling \$26 million.

The committee also reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2021/2022 General Operations Budget as presented by SPF management, and made a formal recommendation to the Board for adoption today.

Action Item: C.D. Hoyle m/s Carly Marino “Motion to accept the Finance Committee Report.” Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Sponsored Programs Foundation FY 21/22 Proposed Budget

The budget is being presented after having been reviewed and recommended by the Finance Committee as outlined in Attachment D. Kacie Flynn highlighted a few of the major line items that included notes to the Board. Discussion ensued.

Action Item: Carly Marino m/s Katia Karadjova “Motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 General Operating Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.” Motion carried unanimously.

IX. Equipment Transfer to HSU for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2021

Kacie Flynn reviewed the proposed equipment transfer items as outlined in Attachment E and gave a brief recap of the process for transferring equipment purchased on HSU SPF grants and contracts.

Action Item: C.D. Hoyle m/s Jeff Kane “Motion to approve the transfer of ownership of equipment on the attached list from the Sponsored Programs Foundation to Humboldt State University for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2021.” Motion carried unanimously.

X. Follow-Up Discussion: Research and Creative Projects for Equity and Justice

At the March 9, 2021 Board Meeting, those present established broad support for a new funding concept to be developed and piloted next year. An ad hoc group comprised of Board Members & SPF Management met to draft a framework for the new program, “*Research and Creative Projects for Equity and Justice*.”

This fund would be focused on supporting research, scholarship, and creative activities that benefit black, indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) communities in our region, including direct support for faculty and students at HSU who participate in research, scholarship, and creative activities. After receiving favorable reception from the Board, this draft concept will next be presented to HSU’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council on May 19, 2021 to garner additional feedback and engagement with campus partners. An update will be brought back to the Board in September on the status of the pilot.

XI. Other


XII. Adjournment at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:

AF6F1FF941D54E8...

Peter Alstone, Board Vice President

DocuSigned by:

08700C4F497B4C3...

Amber Gaffney, Secretary