

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Board of Regents Meeting**  
**October 19, 2023**

These are the proposed minutes of the October 19, 2023 Board of Regents meeting.

The meeting of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents was called to order by Board Chair Eunice Jeffries at 2:04 p.m.

The Board members present were: Regent Nathan Ford, Regent Mike Hawks, Regent Eunice Jeffries, Regent Jessie Kimbrough Marshall, Regent Chad Newton, Regent Anupam Sidhu, Regent Alex Simpson and Regent Marques Thomey.

There was a quorum.

**Section 1**

**PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2023 GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

Regent Thomey moved and Regent Simpson seconded that the proposed minutes for the June 22, 2023 Board Meeting be approved as submitted.

**Motion Carried**

**Section 2**

**PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 21, 2023 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

Regent Ford moved and Regent Thomey seconded that the proposed minutes for the August 21, 2023 Board Meeting be approved as submitted.

**Motion Carried**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Jeffries asked the Board if there were any items on the consent agenda that the Board members wished to vote on separately. Hearing none, it was moved by Regent Hawks and seconded by Regent Simpson that sections 3 through 8 be approved in their entirety as presented.

### **Section 3**

#### **STAFF APPOINTMENTS**

Recommended that the Board of Regents approve forty-nine (49) staff appointments for the reporting period May 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023: Stephanie Lockwood-Brown, Lily Mays, Nicholas Stone, Jaden Zayas, Maribel Bustamante, Brett Carlisle, Karl Gage, Emma Wuetrich, Kira Grapentine, Alea Naber, Cecilia Santos, Emily Tran, Katie Condon, Evan Cornell, Lainey Stephenson, Zachary Lewis, Cole Littleton, Robert Britt, Laura McCoy, Keegan Davis, Sarah Joseph, Chad Wiard, Raven Wood, Yukari Amos, Reggie Austin, Sandra Kreger, Aaron Abraham, Trevor Beerman, Craig Prince, Alyssa Volz, Felicia Rush, William Heinze, Remy Foeman, David Galligan, Mark Hammond, Jordan Phelps, Matthew Tiaht, Ryan Kucera, Kiera McIntyre, Gabriel Schmidt, Katherine Shungu, Christopher Coursey, Alexander Hensley, Stephanie Lamphear, Elizabeth Whittaker, Christopher Roopchand, Mitchel McCartney, Daniel Baskin and Loren Hubbs.

### **Section 4**

#### **STAFF SEPARATIONS/RETIREMENTS**

Recommended that the Board of Regents approve forty-six (46) separations and retirements for the reporting period May 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023: Kaye Henry, Jeanne Justice, Akintunde Oluwadare, Andrew Wonnacott, Marguex Beaghan, Dontonette Patterson, Darrin Newlin, Emily Peters, Matthew Drazin, Connor Mooney, DeAndre Caldwell, Drake Peggs, Colleen Marks, Aaron Hilt, Eric Roof, Jonathan Roof, Stephen Siller, Loretta Householder, Kaelyn Rice, Carlos Adamson, Kaja Zum Mallen, Alexander Jewell, Kevin Kucera, Sarah Lally, William Landis, Emanuel Papageorgiou, Alicia Harrison, Christopher Dotson, Evan Maxey, Nicole Marek, Catherine Shafran, Doreen Mendelssohn, Traci Korte, Deanna Kowaleski, Stephen Schram, Jessica Rindo, Alan Carter, Timothy Ward, Stephanie Peck, Josiah Pankiewicz, Jenelle Dubey, Kristoph Lopata, Charnee James, Silisa Waldroop, Crystal Lyte and Douglas Wing.

### **Section 5**

#### **EMERITUS STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Recommended that the Board of Regents grant Emeritus Staff Status to one (1) staff member; Collen Marks, Director, Graduate Admissions, retired May 2023.

## **Section 6**

### **EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS**

Recommended that the Board of Regents grant Emeritus Status to five (5) former faculty: Linda Isenhour, Professor, Department of Management from 2004 to 2023 who retired after 19 years; Sayuri Kubota, Professor Department of World Languages from 2005 to 2023 who retired after 18 years; Denise Tanguay, Professor, Department of Management from 1986 to 2023 who retired after 37 years; Lorraine Uhlaner, Professor, Department of Management from 1981 to 2001 who retired after 21 years; and Fraya Wagner-Marsh, Professor, Department of Management from 1982 to 2023 who retired after 41 years.

## **Section 7**

### **HONORARY EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS**

Recommended that the Board of Regents grant Honorary Emeritus Status for Meritorious Service to Professor Karen Smith-Meyer, who was a pillar of the Communication, Media, & Theatre Arts department until her passing in 2001.

## **Section 8**

### **LECTURER APPOINTMENTS**

Recommended that the Board of Regents approve two (2) new lecturer appointments for the 2023-2024 academic year: Adrienna Bartnicki and Nicole Johnson.

### **Motion Carried**

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

## **Section 9**

### **EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE**

Regent Kimbrough Marshall moved and Regent Thomey seconded that the Board of Regents receive and place on file the Educational Policies Committee Agenda for October 19, 2023 and the Minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting. It was noted that a correction was made on the minutes from June 22, 2023. The meeting was convened at 9:45 a.m., not 10:35 a.m.

### **Motion Carried**

**Section 10**

**FACULTY TENURE APPOINTMENTS**

Regent Thomey moved and Regent Simpson seconded that the Board of Regents approve the granting of tenure, effective beginning with the 2023 fall semester for one (1) faculty member: Jie Cao.

**Motion Carried**

**Section 11**

**REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Regent Kimbrough Marshall moved and Regent Thomey seconded that the Board of Regents reappoint the following candidates to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors for the following public school academies (charter schools) authorized by Eastern Michigan University: Pamela Theriot for the Commonwealth Community Development Academy, Todd Bettison for the Detroit Public Safety Academy, Bessie Harris for the Dr. Joseph F. Pollack Academic Center of Excellence and Harriet Rice for the Dr. Joseph F. Pollack Academic Center of Excellence.

**Motion Carried**

**Section 12**

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT**

Regent Thomey moved and Regent Ford seconded that the Board of Regents approve Mr. Gary Torgow as Commencement Speaker at the December 17, 2023 commencement ceremony as well as award an honorary Doctor of Commercial Science degree to Mr. Torgow.

**Motion Carried**

### **Section 13**

#### **NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM: Management of Innovation and Strategy, M.S.**

Regent Thomey moved and Regent Kimbrough Marshall seconded that the Board of Regents approve a New Academic Program: Master of Science in Management of Innovation and Strategy.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **Section 14**

#### **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regent Ford moved and Regent Sidhu seconded that the Board of Regents accept and place on file the Student Affairs Committee Agenda for October 19, 2023 and the Minutes of the April 20, 2023 meeting.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **Section 15**

#### **FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Regent Newton moved and Regent Simpson seconded that the Board of Regents receive and place on file the Minutes from the June 22, 2023 Finance and Investment Committee meeting and the Working Agenda for the October 19, 2023 meeting.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **Section 16**

#### **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

Regent Simpson moved and Regent Ford seconded that the Board of Regents receive and place on file the University's audited fiscal year 2022-2023 financial statements and auditor's report.

#### **Motion Carried**

**Section 17**

**FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 GENERAL FUND SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS REQUEST**

Regent Newton moved and Regent Simpson seconded that the Board of Regents approve the Fiscal year 2024-25 General Fund Scholarships, Awards, and Grants proposal of \$53,605,000.

**Motion Carried**

**Section 18**

**FISCAL YEAR 2025 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL OUTLAY PLAN**

Regent Simpson moved and Regent Thomey seconded that the Board of Regents approve the University's Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan and authorize the President to submit the renovation of Roosevelt Hall as Phase II of the GameAbove College of Engineering & Technology (GACET) growth and expansion as the University's top project request for state cost participation for Fiscal Year 2025.

**Motion Carried**

**Section 19**

**UNIVERSITY INVESTMENT POLICY**

Regent Newton moved and Regent Simpson seconded that the Board of Regents amend the University Investment Policy 11.1.2 in accordance with the provided document.

**Motion Carried**

## **NEW BUSINESS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **TAB A**

#### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AND THE EMU FEDERATION OF TEACHERS FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME LECTURERS UNIT**

Regent Hawks moved and Regent Newton seconded that the Board of Regents approve the recently negotiated collective bargaining agreement between Eastern Michigan University and the EMU Federation of Teachers Full-Time and Part-Time Lecturers (EMUFT) bargaining unit, and the authorization for the President to execute the Agreement on its behalf.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **TAB B**

#### **BOARD POLICY UPDATES**

Regent Sidhu moved and Regent Ford seconded that the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University approve the following revised Board Policies for Sections: 1.05: Bylaws, 9.02: Exterior Signage Systems, 13.01.04: Physical Facilities Capital Improvements, 13.01.05: Physical Plant Facilities Maintenance, 13.02.01: Building Security-Keys and Access, and 15.02: Information Technology Security and Confidentiality.

#### **Motion Carried**

### **TAB C**

#### **OPEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Vice President Reaume announced there were ten (10) requests made to address the Board of Regents. Each speaker was given up to three minutes.

1. Wendy Thomas (EMU's Small Business Development Center) – EMU's Small Business Development Center 2022-2023 Update
2. Jessica Alexander and Mark Hammond (Engage @ EMU) – EMU's Family Empowerment Program
3. Ret. Lt. Col. Michael Wise (EMU's Kettles Military & Veteran Services Resource Center) – Update from EMU's Kettles Military & Veteran Services Resource Center

4. Matthew Gregory (Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response) – 2023-2024 Updates and Plans for EMU’s Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response Office
5. Sarah Schmitz (E Dining) – Student Success Internships
6. Julia Heck (EMU, NASPA First-Gen Forward Initiative Team) – EMU First Generation Forward Initiative & Designation
7. Anke Wolbert (EMUFT) – Conclusion of Bargaining Between EMUFT and EMU
8. Syed Wasiuddin (EMU Student Government) – EMU Student Government 2023-2024 Priorities
9. Roy Wilbanks – Ben Braun Basketball Floor Naming Campaign
10. Lucas Langdon and Celia Murkowski – Homecoming

## **TAB D**

### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Madam Chair and Distinguished Members of the Board of Regents:

Today’s action by the Board of Regents to approve the nearly 9% increase in our financial aid and scholarship support for students reflects the commitment of Eastern to support students and families. The \$53.6 million financial aid and scholarship budget for next year represents a 22% increase from a decade ago.

The budget will provide financial aid support to more than 60% of our total student population, and to about 90% of our first-year students. We recognize the challenging economic environment facing students. Our high level of financial support exemplifies the University’s mission as an institution of opportunity.

While on the topic of being an institution of opportunity, it’s important to note these are not just our words. I’m pleased to share that Eastern is tied for first among all Michigan universities in the annual Social Mobility ranking by U.S. News and World Report. This is not the first time the University has been recognized for this. It is an important reflection of everything for which Eastern stands. According to U.S. News, the rankings recognize universities that are more successful than others at advancing social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of economically disadvantaged students.

We are proud to have earned this distinction!



The U.S. News “Best Colleges” rankings also continue to recognize the excellence of our engineering programs. Undergraduate engineering programs climbed another 18 places in the national rankings this year – we are now 69th best in the nation, up from 87th last year and 119th two years ago.

We’re looking forward to next fall’s launch of the new Master of Science in Management of Innovation and Strategy, approved a short time ago. Leading innovation and strategy development for businesses large and small has never been more important. Students in the program will gain access to tools and techniques for fostering creativity, managing strategic plans, and communicating effectively as leaders.

The new five-year labor agreement between the University and the EMU American Federation of Teachers full - and part-time lecturers bargaining unit was the result of hard work between negotiators on both sides of the table. This was a positive outcome and I thank the teams for their time and dedication to reach a successful outcome.

While December’s graduation ceremony may seem like a long time away, we’re pleased to move forward with the announcement of our commencement speaker, Gary Torgow. He will receive an honorary doctor of commercial science degree at the December 17 ceremony. Gary Torgow is a highly accomplished business leader and is the chairman of Huntington Bank's Board of Directors.

It is important to take a minute to celebrate success. The University’s 102<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming celebration took place a week before last. The adage that “it takes a village” is never more true than when planning Homecoming. A special thank you to everyone involved. Students had a great time, as did our faculty, staff and alumni. “Build a Swoop” may have been a favorite event among students – and the rest of us had plenty to choose from, including a comedy show, and the Homecoming football game. Please join me in thanking the offices of Alumni Relations and Campus Life, and the many others in our campus community who work to make Homecoming an opportunity to celebrate our pride in the excellence of Eastern Michigan University.

As I conclude, congratulations to Board Chair Jeffries for her chapter in a new book titled: Dear Department Chair – Letters from Black Women Leaders to the Next Generation. Her chapter is about her journey to becoming Chair of the Board of Regents and is written in the memory of a treasured colleague of ours, Dr. Chiara Hensley.

Additional information and accomplishments are listed in the appendix to this report on the University's website.

Thank you, Chair Jeffries.

James M. Smith, Ph.D.

President

## Recognition

- **Kyle Martin**, a senior environmental science major, has been awarded the **Mid-East Honors Association's James S. Ruebel Memorial Scholarship**. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates commitment to academic endeavors, community engagement, leadership, and service to their campus community.
- **ROTC Cadet Renan Martins** graduated from the **U.S. Army Sapper School**, which is known to be one of the most physically and mentally demanding schools currently offered in the United States Army.
- **Jarret Signoretti, Manraj Singh, Diagenieh Voker, and Johnathan Walatkiewicz** have been recognized as **National Cyber Scholars** by the **National Cyber Scholarship Foundation**.
- Eastern awarded 42 faculty members with **Faculty Research and Creative Activity Fellowships**. **Brittany Albaugh, Ruth Ann Armitage, Suleiman Ashur, Adam Bogedain, Darren Bolger, Noel Brock, Omar Abed Alkarim Darwish, Marguerite DeBello, Jason DeMarte, Ratan Dheer, Margaret Dobbines, Cory Emal, Xianghong Feng, Jeff Guthrie, Carla Harryman, Naomi Hashimoto, Raed Jarrah, Caralee Jones-Obeng, Kristin Judd, Andrii Kashliev, Roxanne Katus, Phillip Lewis, Dustin London, Uttara Manohar, Lon Mitchell, Ryan Molloy, Inae Oh, Alankrita Pandey, Valerie Pauli, Renuka Roche, Amy Sacksteder, Sarah Shea, Heather Shouldice, Brian Spolans, John Staunton, Zuzana Tomas, Audrey Viguier, Moira Visovatti, Sarah Walsh, Jamie Ward, David Wozniak, and Chuyang Yang** received awards.
- Eastern's **Aviation** programs have earned accreditation from **Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI)** through July 2028.
- The **Fermentation Science** program took second place in this year's **U.S. Open College Beer Championship**, the only competition for beers exclusively from colleges and universities with brewing and fermentation programs.
- The online **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** program (**BSN**) has been ranked 1st in Michigan and 37th overall for the 2023 to 2024 school year by **EduMed**.

- **Ryan Gildersleeve**, dean of the College of Education, has been named an **Impact Academy Fellow** by **Deans for Impact**. Gildersleeve is one of 24 leaders announced as part of the fellowship's eighth cohort. Fellows lead traditional and non-traditional educator-preparation programs reaching 25 states and the District of Columbia.
- **Eastern** has been recognized as a top performer earning a bronze position in the **2023 Sustainable Campus Index**, which recognizes top-performing sustainable colleges and universities in 17 impact areas.
- **Eastern** has been recognized by **Forbes** on its list of **America's Best-In-State Employers 2023**, based on 2.1 million employer recommendations from employees working for companies with more than 500 employees in the United States.

#### Of Note

- The **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** awarded assistant professor **Matthew Kautz** a \$169,000 grant to support a two-week residential institute for 25 middle and high school educators.
- The **Southeast Michigan Stewardship (SEMIS)** received a grant for \$160,000 from the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Bay Watershed Education and Training Program**. SEMIS is one of seven environmental education projects throughout the Great Lakes basin to receive a grant to enhance environmental education through place-based education.
- The **GameAbove College of Engineering and Technology** participated in the **North American International Auto Show (NAIAS)** as part of the AutoMobili-D technology showcase, which was dedicated to showcasing innovative and future technologies ranging from inventive software and AI platforms to advanced charging stations, drones and the latest research and development from leading universities.
- **Engage@EMU** and the **Engineering Society of Detroit** joined forces to host the **Girls in Engineering Academy Residential Camp**. The camp brought together seventh and ninth-grade girls, offering them a unique opportunity to delve into the world of engineering, computer science, advanced coding, and 3D Computer-Aided Design (CAD).

#### Events

- The **Holman Success Center** held a **Scholarship Game Night Workshop** on September 27.
- The grand opening of the **EMU Upshur Institute for Civic Education and Constitution Day** with guest speaker **Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson** was held on September 21.
- Eastern hosted an artist lecture with popular photographer **Wang Qingsong** on September 19.

- Students and Eastern's public safety officers spent time with pet rabbits as a way to relieve stress at the **Hops and Cops** event on September 13.
- The **LGBT Resource Center** held its annual **BBQueer** on September 7.
- **Dining Services** hosted a **Commuter Cookout** on September 5 for commuter students and the campus community.
- The **George Gervin GameAbove Center** held a ceremony to unveil a bronze statue of **George Gervin** on August 31. The statue, depicting The Ice Man and his signature finger roll, was unveiled with Gervin, his family, and supporters on hand for the ceremony.
- Eastern hosted its annual **Eagle Fest** on August 29. Students were able to interact with over 100 different student organizations, as well as play outdoor games and enjoy free carnival food.
- **TruEMU Night** with the **Detroit Tigers** at Comerica Park was held on July 25. The night drew more than 500 alumni, students, employees, and supporters for a great night of baseball and Eastern Michigan University pride. Five dollars from every ticket sold through the Tigers-EMU partnership was donated to the EMU Student Emergency Fund, netting a total donation of \$2,600.

### **Athletics**

- Golf (Women): **Alyssa DiMarcantonio, Lyleigh Dull, Adeline Lau, and Anna Watson** have earned **WGCA All-American Scholar Honors**.
- Golf (Women): The team was named as an **Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic Team**.
- Golf (Men): **Cam Kellett** was named a **Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) All-American Scholar**.
- Gymnastics (Women): **Gianna Antonio, Cassie Bergin, Raisa Boris, Katie Butler, Ella Chemotti, Haydn Crossen, Hannah Hartung, Jordan Janowski, Emma Lewis, Kyrie Lowe, Trinity Macy, Anna Grace McCullough, Molly Paris, Sophia Rios, Mickayla Stuckey, and Mayleigh Vanderbeek** have all earned **Scholastic American Status** as named by the **Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association (WCGA)**.
- Lacrosse: The **Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA)** recognized the team as an **Academic Honor Squad** and as an **Academic Merit Squad**.
- Lacrosse: **Tracy Grollman** and **Avery Schwab** were named **College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District At-Large** honorees.

- Track and Field (Women): **Mair Edwards** has been named a member of the **2023 Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Collegiate Sports Communicators Academic All-America Third Team**.
- Track and Field (Women): **Miranda Cadwell** has earned **United States Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic** honors.
- Track and Field (Men): **Toby Gualter, Brendan Hill, Dante Lander, Baldwin Magnusson, Callum Robinson, Richie Sadler, Kaleb Simpson, Newlyn Stephenson,** and **Almighty Williamson** have all earned **United States Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic** honors.
- Tennis: **Sabrina Brichackova, Linda Eloundou Nga, Andrea Quiroz,** and **Perna Vichare** have all earned **Intercollegiate Tennis Association Scholar-Athlete** status.
- Volleyball: The **Volleyball** program received its 19th consecutive recognition by the **United States Marine Corps (USMC)** and the **American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA)** who announced the Eagles as recipients of the **2023 USMC/AVCA Team Academic Award**.
- Five new members of the **E-Club Athletic Hall of Fame** have been announced. The Class of 2023 includes exceptional athletes who have left an enduring mark at Eastern Michigan University. The honorees are **Eric Alejandro**, a track and field champion, that excelled in hurdles and represented Puerto Rico at the Olympics; **Ryan Coleman**, a women's basketball legend, who rewrote records and earned All-American honors; **Charles Gordon**, a football star, that shone as a defensive back on the 1987 championship squad and continued his success in the CFL; **Natalie Hashimoto**, a gymnastics standout, who achieved numerous accolades, including a perfect 10; and, **Camila Olaio**, a volleyball sensation, that earned All-MAC recognition and set records for aces and assists, leaving a lasting legacy.

## **TAB E**

### **2024 BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING DATES**

The following meeting dates in 2024 are set for the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents: Thursday, February 8; Thursday, April 18; Thursday, June 20; Thursday, October 17; and Thursday, December 5.

Chairman Jeffries reminded attendees that the next general board meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2023. She called for any further business to be brought before the Board.

Regent Newton thanked the Union leaders for the completion of the collective bargaining agreement with the EMU Federation of Teachers Full-Time and Part-Time Lecturers unit. He asked for all of us not to wait to improve the University. He stressed we are a team and need to continue to work together. As leaders, we are always looking for ways to improve. He once again congratulated all involved.

There being no further comments and discussion, Regent Ford made a motion to adjourn. Regent Sidhu seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Vicki Reaume  
Vice President and Secretary to the Board of Regents