

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY
June 9, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gualberto Medina, Chair; Michael Toscani, Vice Chair; Kemi Alli, Merodie A. Hancock, President; Eric R. Lear; Brian Maloney; Lydia Stockman; and Jerome Ingram, Jr. (student trustee)

ALSO PRESENT: **Cynthia Baum**, Vice President and Provost; **Matthew Cooper**, Associate VP, Organizational Learning & Chief Technology Officer; **Dennis Devery**, Vice President for Enrollment Management; **Mary Heagley**, Vice President for Public Affairs; **Chris Stringer**, Vice President and CFO; **Marcela Maziarz**, Vice President for Community and Government Affairs; **Jennifer Hoff**, General Counsel; **Jennifer Nelson**, New Jersey State Librarian; **Michael Mancini**, Chief of Staff/COO; **Misty Isak**, Secretary to the Board; and **Jamie Adams**, Executive Assistant to the President;

Mr. Medina officially called the public meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., followed by a statement of public notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 to 10:4-21.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Medina presented the minutes of the May 16, 2023, board meeting for approval and adoption.

Mr. Lear made, and Mr. Maloney seconded, a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Hancock reviewed her report with the trustees, which is attached.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION, AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Medina introduced Mr. Lear who presented the Administration, Audit and Finance Committee report. Mr. Stringer briefed the Board on the committee meeting held on May 13, 2023.

CONSIDERATION OF FY2024 TUITION AND FEES

Mr. Lear presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The “Higher Education Restructuring Act of 1994,” Chapter 48 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes requires the governing boards of public institutions to conduct public hearings prior to the date of the adoption of a tuition or fee schedule; and

WHEREAS: The Administration, Audit and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees held a public hearing regarding tuition and fee rates for Fiscal Year 2024 at Thomas Edison State University on May 16, 2023, and considered any testimony presented; and

WHEREAS: The Administration, Audit and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees has recommended that the attached tuition and fee changes be made for Fiscal Year 2024; and

WHEREAS: The action herein taken is pursuant to the recommendation of the President; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Thomas Edison State University Board of Trustees does hereby approve the proposed schedule of tuition and fees as recommended and incorporated herein as referenced, effective July 1, 2023.

Mr. Lear made, and Mr. Maloney seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

FY2024 BUDGET

Mr. Lear provided a brief report on the proposed FY 2024 budget for the University and the Library with the Board of Trustees. He turned the meeting over to Mr. Stringer to elaborate.

Mr. Lear presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The “Higher Education Restructuring Act of 1994,” Chapter 48 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes requires the governing boards of public institutions to approve a university’s proposed budget; and

WHEREAS: The University’s Chief Financial Officer has prepared a proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 totaling \$52,552,733 of which \$10,528,000 is the anticipated state appropriations; and

WHEREAS: The University’s Chief Financial Officer has prepared a proposed New Jersey State Library Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 totaling \$6,935,140, of which \$5,753,000 is the anticipated state appropriation; and

WHEREAS: The Administration, Audit and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees has met to discuss the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget and has recommended that the proposed budget for both the University and the Library be presented to the Board for its consideration; and

WHEREAS: The action taken herein is pursuant to the recommendation of the President; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget for the University and the New Jersey State Library as recommended and incorporated herein as referenced, effective July 1, 2023.

Mr. Lear made, and Mr. Toscani seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL RESULTS

Mr. Lear introduced Mr. Stringer who briefed the Board on the third quarter financial results.

CONSIDERATION OF BID WAIVERS

Mr. Stringer provided a summary of the proposed bid waivers. Mr. Lear presented the following resolution.

WHEREAS: The “State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq. requires that contracts be made and awarded by the University, after public advertising, for bids for contracts in excess of the established bid threshold; and

WHEREAS: The State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56, permits, in certain specified instances, that contracts may be made, negotiated, or awarded by the University by resolution of its Board of Trustees without public advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees approved the “Thomas Edison State University Purchasing and Contracting Policy,” which governs purchases and contracts for the University and Library, on December 17, 2021; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees finds that the following purchases and contracts have met the criteria for award without public bidding, under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Thomas Edison State University Board of Trustees hereby approves waivers of advertisement for the following purchases and contracts for the purposes designated:

BID WAIVER REQUESTS

The State College Contracts Law requires that contracts be made and awarded by the University only after they are publicly advertised for bids. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56, a provision of that law, allows the Board of Trustees to waive advertising for bids in certain instances. The Board authorized the Thomas Edison State University Purchasing and Contracting Policy, by resolution dated December 17, 2021. The Policy requires that items exceeding \$10,000 be obtained through some price competition. The following proposed contracts will be processed in accordance with that Policy.

1. Student Assistance- \$100,000

The University seeks approval for a bid waiver to allow for online student assistance services. The services will provide student assistance on emotional support, school-life balance, stress management, tools for daily living, time management etc. The “Madison Holleran Suicide Prevention Act”, P.L.2016, c.18 (C.18A:3B-72 et seq.), requires that each institution of higher education have individuals with training and experience in mental health issues who focus on reducing student suicides and attempted suicides available on campus or remotely for students 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cost will not exceed \$100,000 for FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

2. Educational Services and Course Content - \$275,000

The University seeks approval for a bid waiver to provide course content associated with certain credit and non-credit courses. The MS degree in Data Science and the graduate certificate in Data Analytics, along with the non-credit Radiation Safety Officer course, will be offered through the Heavin School of Arts, Sciences, and Technology. The University will utilize Statistics.com courses reviewed and approved by the American Council of Education toward completion of the discipline-specific portion of the Data Science and Data Analytics credentials. For the undergraduate degree, Statistics.com will offer the area of study courses (the major) while TESU will offer the general education portion. Statistics.com will offer all of the courses eligible for the graduate certificate. Dade Moller & Associates will provide content for the non-credit Radiation Safety Officer course. Payments to Elder Research and Dade Moeller, calculated on a per-student basis, will not exceed \$275,000 during FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

3. Online Proctoring Service - \$600,000

The University seeks approval for the ongoing services of Meazure (formerly ProctorU) to provide online proctoring services to University students enrolled in a significant amount of courses. Payments to Meazure for their service to our students will not exceed \$600,000 during FY 2024.

18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

4. Online Book Vendor - \$1,500,000

The University seeks approval to contract with vendors to supply students with books and other prescribed media via online services. Students have the option to obtain textbooks and materials from any source they choose. The University provides all relevant information to students on the Thomas Edison State University website, so they are able to secure textbooks and materials from chosen vendors. No funds pass directly from the University to the book vendor but based on experience the total average annual revenue derived from sales to students is estimated to be \$1.5 million in FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (6) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for the purchase of books and other publications.

5. Web Hosting Service for Learning Management System - \$350,000

The University is seeking approval for a bid waiver in the amount of \$350,000 to cover the annual support and hosting of the University's Learning System. Hosting from OpenLMS (formerly eThink Education) will vastly improve the University's ability to deeply integrate with more third-party technologies, and expand the University's usage of academic technology solutions, which includes exploring a new learning management system, incorporating plagiarism tools that detect AI-generated content, using improved ADA compliance tools, and adopting a new CRM system. This will move the University toward an overarching efficient enterprise management approach to connecting all these powerful tools, sharing resources, and reducing redundancy to create a holistic approach to leveraging technology for students. The cost will not exceed \$350,000 for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for information technology.

6. QuickBase - \$225,000

The University seeks approval for a bid waiver for the QuickBase database platform that provides the framework for our CLT App, which serves as the technological backbone of CLT projects and services. The contract will cover the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$225,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56 (a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for information technology.

7. MyLab Course Resource - \$200,000

The University requests a bid waiver to use Pearson's MyLab Foundational Skills, which is a course resource customized to meet the University's need to specifically assess student performance in several important learning outcomes. No funds pass directly from the University to the course resource vendor but based on experience the total average annual transaction value is estimated to be \$200,000 in FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for information technology.

8. Course Development Services - \$200,000

The University seeks approval to engage with a firm for course development services and to assist the University with scaling out portions of the internal course development process. Payments to the firm for course development services will not exceed \$200,000 during FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (25) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for consulting services involving curriculum.

9. Nurse Educators - \$450,000

On behalf of its Accelerated BSN Program, the University seeks a bid waiver to contract with Capital Health System for educational services provided by nurse educators for a one-year period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The educational services include the provision of clinical, laboratory and classroom experiences for students. The cost will not exceed \$450,000 for FY 2024. 18A:64-56(a) (25) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract,

by Board resolution, for consulting services involving curriculum. 18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

10. Search Firm and Interim Personnel Services - \$200,000

Given the nature of rapidly evolving personnel changes, the University requests a bid waiver for search firm and interim personnel services for FY24. The search firm(s) will be responsible for aiding internal search committees in developing advertisement materials, placing advertisements, assisting with initial vetting of qualified applicants and performing other services as needed. The total cost for the search consulting services will not exceed \$200,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (20) permits the University to make, negotiate or award a contract, by Board resolution, for personnel recruitment services.

11. Institutional and Targeted Marketing and Advertising - \$4,000,000

The University seeks approval of a bid waiver to continue deployment of its integrated marketing strategy, which utilizes both traditional and digital advertising tactics. Multiple vendors will be engaged to plan, place, produce, monitor, and evaluate paid media, and to undertake other relevant activities pertaining to the execution of marketing and advertising campaigns in FY 2024. The University marketing outreach budget is \$3.3 million. The higher bid waiver request is due to possible grant funding that would be used for outreach. The cost of goods/services will not exceed \$4,000,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (20) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for advertising seeking student enrollment.

12. Public Utility Service - \$275,000

The University requests a bid waiver for utility service for University facilities and properties. Payments to public utility companies for these services in FY 2024 will not exceed \$275,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (8) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for public utility service.

13. Janitorial Services - \$105,000

The University seeks a bid waiver to engage a vendor to provide janitorial services for the Center for Learning and Technology and George A. Pruitt Hall. The cost will not exceed \$105,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (23) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for services at cost below state contract pricing for the same service.

14. HVAC - \$45,000

The University requests a bid waiver to cover costs associated with planned maintenance for the HVAC - heating, ventilating, air conditioning equipment and other mechanical equipment, for University facilities and properties. Preventative maintenance will occur four times per year in addition to emergency response services and repair calls within 24 hours, 7 days per week, at a cost not to exceed \$45,000 during FY 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (9) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for equipment repair service.

15. Replacement of Campus Telephone System -\$175,000

The requested waiver will cover the annual costs associated with the University's cloud-based telephone system, including acquisition and implementation if a new system is selected. The phone system provides advanced security and communications capabilities. Vendor(s) to be determined. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

16. Conference Room and Network Cabling Infrastructure Upgrades - \$300,000

The requested waiver will be utilized to cover expenses for upgrading the conference room technology and network cabling infrastructure of Kelsey Townhouse Complex and CLT. Vendor

to be determined. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

17. Enterprise Content Management System - \$200,000

The University requests a bid waiver to cover the annual support for the University's ECM (enterprise content management) system (Hyland). This system allows for scanning, storage and retrieval of documents, along with advanced workflow processing. The request also accommodates additional consulting and implementation engagements from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

18. Microsoft Product Maintenance - \$250,000

The requested waiver is to cover the annual maintenance for all Microsoft applications in use at the University. These include SQL database, MS Office, MS Exchange, D365, etc. Vendor to be determined. The contract will be from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

19. Campus IT Equipment Upgrades - \$350,000

The requested waiver will be utilized to cover expenses for replacing and upgrading existing campus access layer network switch hardware, WiFi access points, uninterruptible power supplies, and other network components approaching end of support / end of life. Vendor to be determined. Cost to not exceed \$350,000 for FY 2024.

18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

20. Managed Security Partner - \$125,000

The requested waiver will be utilized to cover the expense of engaging with a security partner to assist with monitoring and defending the TESU data resources as a Managed Security Service Provider (MSSP). Vendor to be determined. Term will be from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

21. Help Desk Licensing - \$200,000

The requested waiver will be utilized to cover the licensing expense for the University's staff help desk (case management) system, supplied by Zendesk. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

22. Data Center Improvements-\$200,000

The requested waiver will cover expenses for replacing servers that have reached end of support and/or end of life. Vendor(s) to be determined. 18A: 64-56 (a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional services.

23. Staff Access Devices-\$600,000

The requested waiver will cover expenses for replacing and upgrading staff access devices (laptop and desktop computers) and associated hardware that have reached end of support and/or end of life. Vendor(s) to be determined. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology.

24. Adaptive Equipment for TBBC's Assistive Technology Program - \$200,000

The Talking Book & Braille Center, through a grant from the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI), operates the Assistive Technology Loan Program to serve CBVI

clients throughout the State. This waiver will permit TBBC to purchase adaptive equipment to loan to CBVI clients who participate in the program in FY 2024, as well as expand the computer equipment that is placed in partner public libraries should CBVI wish to continue this project in FY 2024 for an amount not to exceed \$200,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology, and N.J.S.A. 18A:73-43.4(d) extends this exception to the State Library.

25. Jersey Connect Statewide Technology System - \$700,000

The State Library maintains and supports the centralized JerseyConnect statewide technology system that provides internet access, email hosting, firewall protection, and other services to almost 300 libraries statewide. This waiver will permit the State Library to support Internet Service Providers, purchase hardware and software computer components, rent collocation space, continue to support the core network service from communications service providers, purchase consultative services, as needed, and support ongoing maintenance expenses to manage the Infrastructure Network System. The State Library will periodically review alternative pricing from competitors for services such as Internet Service Providers, co-location services, and/or core network services providers in an effort to obtain the best possible pricing. The cost will not exceed \$700,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology, and N.J.S.A. 18A:73-43.4(d) extends this exception to the State Library.

26. Library Materials - \$2,300,000

The Library requests the approval to spend \$2,300,000 for the purchase of library materials in both print and electronic formats to add to the collections housed at the State Library Information Center (SLIC), the Talking Book and Braille Center (TBBC), and at branch library locations within various state agencies. The Library will use multiple vendors for the purchase of books, periodicals, journals, electronic databases, online resources, and other formats to update and enhance the holdings of the State Library. The FY 2024 costs will not exceed \$2,300,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (6) and N.J.S.A. 18A:73.35.1 permit the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for the purchase of library materials.

27. Statewide Virtual Catalog, Interlibrary Loan System and Authentication - \$400,000

Since FY 2003 Auto-Graphics Inc. has been providing a virtual web-based catalog system that enables the State Library to offer and maintain a statewide interlibrary loan service, commonly referred to as JerseyCAT. This service allows New Jersey residents to locate, borrow and receive books and other library materials from throughout the State and nationally quickly and easily. The total cost will not exceed \$400,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology, and N.J.S.A. 18A:73-43.4(d) extends this exception to the State Library.

28. Library Public Awareness Campaigns - \$110,000

The New Jersey State Library will continue to sponsor public awareness campaigns to promote the value of public libraries and the services that libraries are providing for NJ residents in areas of continuing need such as workforce development and small business, digital literacy, e-government, education, high school completion and diversity. The public awareness plan will include traditional print and online media advertising, use of social media to maintain online presence, website maintenance, marketing collateral pieces for the NJSL and individual libraries, consulting to develop a statewide campaign promoting LSTA activities, video production costs, and appropriate promotional giveaways. Multiple vendors will be utilized to achieve desired results. The total cost will not exceed \$110,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (15) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for professional consulting, and N.J.S.A. 18A:73-43.4(d) extends this exception to the State Library.

29. Cataloging Library Materials - \$200,000

The State Library will continue to use the services of OCLC, a worldwide library technology cooperative, for services such as basic cataloging, statewide interlibrary loan, and statewide Union List of Serials. For all of these projects, the State Library holdings are maintained on a single worldwide database to be made available to all OCLC members. In FY 2017 the State Library moved to OCLC's hosted environment as identified in the Library's Business Continuity Plan. OCLC is the sole source for external cataloging, interlibrary loan and all associated projects. The total cost will not exceed \$200,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology, and N.J.S.A. 18A:73-43.4(d) extends this exception to the State Library.

30. Statewide Electronic Resources Licenses - \$2,200,000

This waiver reflects the estimated costs for FY 2024 electronic database licenses. The Library will use multiple vendors for the purchase of electronic resources. The total cost will not exceed \$2,200,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:73-35.1 permits the State Library to purchase library materials without advertising for bids.

31. Legal Services - \$200,000

This waiver reflects the estimated costs for FY 2024 legal services. The total cost will not exceed \$200,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (15) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution for professional consulting services.

32. NJSL Website Redesign and Development - \$150,000

The State Library received approval for a \$120,000 bid waiver on June 10, 2022 to cover expenses associated with the redesign and development of the NJSL website, including design theming, content migration, web and domain hosting and ongoing security and software updates. The Library is seeking approval to increase the bid waiver amount to \$150,000. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (1) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for professional service. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (15) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for professional consulting services. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (19) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for information technology. N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a) (25) permits the University to make, negotiate, or award a contract by Board resolution, for consulting services involving information technology.

Mr. Lear made, and Ms. Stockton seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was unanimously carried.

A-133 COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Mr. Stringer gave details on the additional pages of the A-133 Compliance Audit, which was approved previously.

REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Maloney provided a brief report of the Academic Affairs Committee before turning the meeting over to Dr. Baum. A formal report is attached.

CONSIDERATION OF UPDATED UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS POLICY

Dr. Baum discussed the changes to the policy.

Mr. Maloney presented the following resolution:

- WHEREAS:** The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University has the authority and the responsibility for oversight of academic governance; and
- WHEREAS:** The University Academic Council of Thomas Edison State University (TESU) has the authority and the responsibility to recommend through the Provost and President to the Board of Trustees the University educational curriculum and academic policies;
- WHEREAS:** Thomas Edison State University has the responsibility to ensure its policy language is clear and comprehensible for the student population and aligns with signed legislation from the State of New Jersey;
- WHEREAS:** The University has been a leader in recognizing and providing academic credit for learning that occurs outside of the classroom and continues to extend these efforts in workforce relevant areas such as registered apprenticeships and pre apprenticeships, attractive to young adult high school students and graduates who have not historically entered degree programs; and
- WHEREAS:** Self-direction can be demonstrated in ways that are not age-related; and
- WHEREAS:** The University has been more restrictive in setting a minimum age requirement than institutions in its benchmark and competitive sets; and
- WHEREAS:** The University wishes to expand its admission criteria in recognition that self-direction is not always correlated with age while at the same time maintain consistency with its mission that it does not aim to serve first time, full time traditional students; and
- WHEREAS:** TESU proposes to revise its Undergraduate Admissions Policy to broaden acceptance of demonstrably self-directed students under a distinct and specific set of criteria; and
- WHEREAS:** The Provost's Cabinet reviewed the revision of the Undergraduate Admissions Policy and recommends presentation to the University Academic Council; and
- WHEREAS:** The Provost and Senior Vice President of the University has reviewed and approved the recommendation from the Provost's Cabinet to present the updated Undergraduate Admissions Policy to the University Academic Council;
- WHEREAS:** The University Academic Council of Thomas Edison State University supports presenting the Undergraduate Admissions policy to the Board of Trustees; now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby adopt and affirm the Undergraduate Admissions policy as presented and incorporated herein by reference.

Mr. Maloney moved, and Ms. Stockton seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF JEFFREY C. FOX FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Dr. Baum reviewed the credentials of Jeffrey C. Fox.

Mr. Maloney presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby appoint Jeffrey C. Fox, John S. Watson of Public Service mentor and Curriculum Committee chair, as a member of the University Academic Council for Thomas Edison State University during his term of service as Chair of the Curriculum Committee. The action herein taken is pursuant to a recommendation by the Provost of the University.

Mr. Maloney moved, and Mr. Toscani seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

Dr. Hancock reviewed and presented the recommendation of Senator Troy Singleton for an honorary degree.

WHEREAS: Senator Troy Singleton has distinguished himself in his outstanding service to the citizens of New Jersey as a member of the New Jersey State Senate; and

WHEREAS: The Senator is a loyal advocate for Thomas Edison State University; and

WHEREAS: The Senator championed need-based aid that fueled *GoTESU*, ensuring TESU's nontraditional students have equal access to need-based state aid; and

WHEREAS: Senator Singleton's achievements as an outstanding leader, his commitment to education, and his continued contributions to public service and the State of New Jersey, are worthy of the highest recognition Thomas Edison State University can bestow; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University, upon the recommendation of the President, does hereby award Senator Troy Singleton the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*; and be it further

RESOLVED: That said degree be conferred upon him at the University's annual Commencement Ceremony, to be held on September 30, 2023.

Mr. Lear moved, and Mr. Toscani seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE

Mr. Maloney presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby approve the awarding of the appropriate degrees to those June 9, 2023 candidates cited on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

The action herein taken is pursuant to a certification by the President that the aforementioned candidates have satisfied all relevant degree requirements as recommended by the Academic Council and as established by the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Maloney moved, and Mr. Toscani seconded, a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT RENEWALS

Dr. Hancock presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University is authorized to approve and act on contract renewal recommendations for employees of the University, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 64-6(h) and (i), as well as for State Library employees, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 73-34; and

WHEREAS: The President has made the contract recommendations as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS: The action taken herein is pursuant to an evaluation of each employee's work performance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby approve the contract recommendations as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

Mr. Toscani made, and Mr. Lear seconded, the motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Dr. Hancock presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University is authorized to approve and act on contract renewal recommendations for employees of the University, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 64-6(h) and (i), as well as for State Library employees, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 73-34; and

WHEREAS: The President has made the contract recommendations as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS: The action taken herein is pursuant to an evaluation of each employee's work performance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby approve the contract recommendations as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

Ms. Stockton made, and Mr. Toscani seconded, the motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF FY 2024 BOARD MEETING DATES

Dr. Hancock presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University does hereby approve the following meeting dates for FY 2024:

September 8, 2023	-	10:00 a.m.
December 8, 2023	-	10:00 a.m.
March 8, 2024	-	10:00 a.m.
June 7, 2024	-	10:00 a.m.

The action herein taken is pursuant to a recommendation by the President.

Mr. Toscani made, and Mr. Lear seconded, the motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Dr. Hancock thanked Mr. Jerome S. Ingram, Jr., for his service as a Student Trustee. Mr. Medina presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees, President, and staff of Thomas Edison State University wish to heartily thank Mr. Jerome S. Ingram, Jr. for his dedicated service as Student Trustee and for his specific and special interest in the growth and development of Thomas Edison State University.

We applaud and commend Mr. Ingram’s accomplishments and look forward to his continued interest in the University.

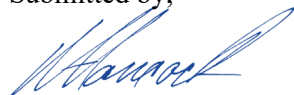
Mr. Ingram thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as a Student Trustee.

Mr. Medina made, and Mr. Maloney seconded, the motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Submitted by,

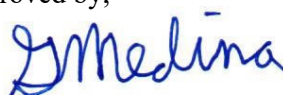


Merodie A. Hancock, PhD
Secretary of the Board

9/11/2023

Date

Approved by,



Gualberto Medina
Chair

10/16/2023

Date