

**Research Foundation****Board of Directors Meeting****May 3, 2019****9:00 a.m.****MINUTES**

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A meeting of the Board of Directors of San Diego State University Research Foundation was held at San Diego State University in the James W. Cobble Boardroom of the Gateway Center, San Diego, California, on Friday, May 3, 2019 pursuant to the notice duly posted for public information.

**The following Officers were present:**

Tom McCarron, Treasurer

Michèle Goetz, Associate Secretary-Treasurer

**The following Officers were absent:**

Adela de la Torre, President

Karen Emmorey, Secretary

Stephen Welter, Vice President

**The following Directors were present:**

Guadalupe X. Ayala

Chris Thomas

Kim Barrett Bill Brack

Ming-Hsiang Tsou

Joan Copenrath

Robert Zeller

Joseph Johnson

**The following Directors were absent:**

Vickie Capps

Randolph Philipp

Craig Hauser

Jennifer Thomas

Samuel Kassegne

**The following University administrators, Research Foundation staff members and SDSU faculty members were present:**

Debbie Brighton

Stanley Maloy

Christian Onwuka

Rulon Clark

Lizette Nájera

Rachel Raynoha

Eric Elson

Deb Naylon

Leslie Levinson

Agnes Wong Nickerson

## **I. Call to Order**

Vice President McCarron called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and welcomed guests: Stanley Maloy, Rulon Clark, and Christian Onwuka.

## **II. Consent Agenda**

Vice President McCarron requested a motion to accept the Consent Agenda.

**Motion: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to accept the Consent Agenda for the SDSU Research Foundation Board of Directors meeting thereby approving:**

- a) SDSU Research Foundation Board Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2019
- b) Resolution 19-06: Authorized Signatories for Banking and Investment Transactions
- c) Resolution 19-07: Industrial Security Clearance

## **III. Election of Finance and Investment Committee Chair**

Due to Vice President McCarron's departure from the SDSU Research Foundation board, he proposed that Agnes Wong Nickerson be elected as Chair of the Finance and Investment committee to finish out his term. Elections and appointment of committee members usually take place at the September board meeting but there is one Finance and Investment committee meeting planned before September.

Vice President McCarron called for a motion to approve the appointment. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve Agnes Wong Nickerson as Chair of the Finance and Investment Committee.

## **IV. Executive Director Report**

Ms. Goetz reported on the following:

- **Facilities Update:** There was an incident of vandalism at the Black Resource Center (BRC) in early April. The BRC is a research foundation-owned facility leased to the University. Research foundation staff worked closely with the BRC to implement additional security including exterior lighting enhancements, door and window alarms, a camera system, and panic buttons.
- **IT Update:** Wireless capabilities at Alvarado are slow due to outdated access point equipment that is creating a bottleneck on data traffic. TNS recommends upgrading equipment on a four-year cycle. Discussion about funding needs to take place; cost is estimated at approximately \$200,000 to upgrade the equipment for Alvarado, SkyPark and City Heights. Currently, there is no budget allocated for this.

- Federal Government Budget Update: The federal administration released their proposed budget in March for next fiscal year, which proposes significant cuts to non-defense funding. This includes 12% cuts to NIH and NSF. Congress is working on its version of the proposed budget. A number of key agreements must be made before October 1 to avoid another shutdown.
- The SDSU Research Foundation budget is balanced with no use of reserves. The budget includes a request for additional staffing.
- Human Resources Update: Continued investments will be needed to ensure the service needs of the university and researchers are met, as well as to plan for succession and growth.

Ms. Goetz read four resolutions of commendation for the following board members coming off the board: Tom McCarron, Joseph Johnson, Sam Kassegne, and Chris Thomas.

## **V. Finance and Investment Committee Report**

Finance and Investment Committee Chair McCarron updated the board on the meeting held on April 22:

- The investment results were not reviewed, as the final numbers were not yet available for the quarter ended 3/31/19.
- The majority of the meeting was spent reviewing the general fund budget.

Ms. Levinson reviewed the FY 2019-20 general fund budget packet in detail. The proposed budget is balanced with no funds needed from reserves.

Vice President McCarron called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 19-08:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF SDSU RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
APPROVING FY 2019-20  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

RESOLVED, That the mid-year General Fund Budget, as submitted to the board of directors at its meeting on March 1, 2019, at a level of \$30,801,000 be adopted as SDSU Research Foundation's budget for the remainder of the fiscal year, and forwarded to the President for her approval.

**Motion: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 19-08.**

## **VI. Vice President for Research Report**

Dr. Stanley Maloy provided the following updates in Dr. Welter's absence:

- Graduate Programs – Joint doctoral program applications increased this year.
- GREW Fellows Program - 110 participants; over 1/3 of the 771 proposals have been funded totaling \$21 million.
- Rising stars program is going well.
- Summer Undergraduate Research Grant Program awarded \$150,000 for this summer. Fifty recipients include students in every college including SDSU Imperial Valley.
- SDSU's NIH and NSF success rates are surpassing the national average in award rate. SDSU has a 27% success rate in both NIH and NSF. The national average for NIH is at 20.2% and 24% for NSF.
- Mission Valley will have an important impact on the future of research on campus. Research Advancement has been working closely with other groups on campus and bringing in experts from across the country who have great models to learn from.

## **VII. PI Presentation**

Associate Professor and biologist Rulon Clark presented his research on animal behavior and ecology. His current work uses a combination of field and laboratory studies and focuses on predator-prey interactions, social behavior, mating behavior, conservation ecology and molecular ecology.

## **VIII. New Business**

Vice President McCarron called for any items of new business. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michèle G. Goetz  
Associate Secretary-Treasurer