

**KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES****MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING****MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024****4 p.m. DAVE GIBBONS CONFERENCE CENTER, KEAN HALL**

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**PRESENT:** Steve Fastook, Chair; Linda Lewis, Vice Chair, Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Secretary; John Kean Jr., Bertha Little-Mathews, Ada Morell, A. Todd Mayo, Matthew McDermott, Ed Oatman, David Spevack, Dr. Lamont Repollet, President; Board Secretary Audrey Kelly

**VIA CONFERENCE CALL:** Barbara Sobel, Richard Torres

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Itunu Balogun, Matthew Caruso, Michelle Freestone, Kate Gallagher, Kristin Ganley, Jerome Hatfield

Chair Fastook called the meeting to order at approximately 4 p.m.

1. **INSTALLATION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE DANIELLE BRATHWAITE**  
Chair Fastook administered the oath of office to new student trustee Danielle Brathwaite, and the Board welcomed her.
2. **ROLL CALL**  
Ms. Kelly called the roll and reported a quorum present.
3. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**  
Ms. Kelly read the statement of compliance and reported the meeting was properly advertised and in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
4. **CHAIR'S COMMENTS**  
Chair Fastook welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for joining today's session. He noted a busy agenda and said he would be brief. He commended the President and the administration for the strong audit report that was recently completed and is scheduled to be accepted by the Board at this meeting. He said the clean audit reflects the strength and the transparency of the administration and that it benefits the entire Kean community. He noted the upcoming dates for Commencement, May 14 and May 16, and encouraged everyone to participate.
5. **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**  
President Repollet welcomed everyone to the public meeting. He thanked everyone who participated in the various programs and activities for Black History Month, noting programs ranged from lectures to workshops to presentations. He also commended the creation of the new Center for Africana Studies, and said he looks forward to the work it produces.

The President also noted it was the start of Women's History Month, and he shouted

out all of the women serving on the Kean Board of Trustees, calling them intelligent, powerful and insightful.

President Repollet noted he attended Governor Murphy’s FY25 Budget address at the New Jersey Statehouse last week and that the message to higher education and other agencies is that the budget is tight. He said the University expects state funding to remain level in FY25. He also noted the University’s finances are strong and that the university is prepared to manage successfully to the benefit of its students, faculty and employees.

The President noted Spring Break for Kean students starts next week, and many students are participating in Travel Learns to countries ranging from China to England to Italy. He noted Kean is truly becoming an international university, and wished everyone a relaxing and safe break.

Dr. Repollet then introduced Jessica Barzilay, Assistant Vice President for Global Strategies, who gave an overview of the successful semester abroad program at Wenzhou-Kean University. She introduced Kean student Ben Antoine, who shared his experiences at WKU, noting it was the first time he has been on a plane and that he cannot wait to return. The students, faculty and campus were all welcoming, and he urged all students to try to take semester to study at WKU—“it’s truly life-changing,” he said.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments offered at the meeting.

7. **ITEMS OF THE STUDENT AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Lewis, Committee Chair, noted the committee met to discuss a number of items now on the Board’s agenda and to receive updates on various student affairs, athletics and enrollment matters. Trustee Lewis moved the following resolutions for Board consideration:

- 7.1 Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising in FY24

<b><u>Info Tech, Consulting</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
EAB	\$600,000

- 7.2 Resolution Authorizing the Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising in FY25

<b><u>Advertising, Marketing</u></b>	<b><u>Not to Exceed</u></b>
Outfront Media	\$600,000
Clear Channel Outdoors	\$180,000

The Chair opened the floor for questions on the resolutions. The resolutions were moved and seconded, and approved by the full Board.

**8. ITEMS OF THE FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Oatman, Committee Chair, noted the committee met to discuss several items, including the following resolution on the full Board agenda which he moved:

- 8.1 Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Contract Awarded to ABM Industry Groups LLC for Housekeeping and Grounds Maintenance Services (BID NO. K22-4-6-2)

Chair Fastook asked if the Board had any questions on the resolution. The resolution was seconded and approved by the full Board.

**9. ITEM OF THE LEGAL AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Trustee Morell noted the committee met to review various items including the personnel actions now before the board. She then moved the following items:

- 9.1 Personnel Actions—Administrative Report
- 9.2 Resolution Amending Resolution #22-03-07-2636 Delegation to the University President Authority of Certain Powers and Duties Granted to the Board of Trustees under the Kean University Act

Chair Fastook asked for questions on the personnel actions and the resolution. Each item was seconded and approved by the Board.

**10. ITEMS OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND AUDIT COMMITTEES**

Trustee McDermott reported the committees met jointly to discuss various items related to university finances. He moved each of the following items to the full Board for consideration:

- 10.1 Resolution Accepting the FY23 Annual Audit
- 10.2 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of the "Climb to Completion" Scholarship to Replace the "Climb Higher Scholarship" Program
- 10.3 Resolution Authorizing the Creation of the "Climb to Success Scholarship" to Replace the "Centennial Scholarship" Program
- 10.4 Resolution Authorizing the "Cougars Care Summer Program" for Undergraduate Students at Kean University
- 10.5 Resolution Approving Institutionally Funded Scholarship for FY25

- 10.6 Resolution Approving Institutionally-Directed Scholarships held by the Kean University Foundation, Inc. for FY25
- 10.7 Resolution Authorizing and Expanding the Summer 2024 Work. Earn. Live. Learn. (WELL) Program
- 10.8 Resolutions Authorizing the Waivers of Public Advertising and Bidding for FY24

<u>Entertainment/Commencement</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
The Devils Arena (Prudential Center)	\$190,000
NJ Performing Arts Center	\$140,000
MB Productions	\$118,000

<u>Fire Suppression Control Systems</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
Johnson Controls	\$250,000

Chair Fastook asked if the Board had any questions on any of the resolutions or bid waivers recommended by the joint Finance and Audit Committees. Each resolution was seconded and approved by the Board.

**11. ITEMS OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Bistocchi, Committee Chair, noted the committee met and discussed various items, including the action items now before the Board for consideration. He moved each of the following items:

- 11.1 Personnel Actions—Faculty Report
- 11.2 First Year Faculty Reappointments
- 11.3 Faculty Promotions
- 11.4 Resolution Amending a Waiver of Public Bidding and Advertising for Student Contracts/DECA in FY24

<u>Student Contracts, DECA, Inc.</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>
Caesars Entertainment Properties	\$1,200,000

- 11.5 Resolution Authorizing the University to Accept a Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor
- 11.6 Resolution Authorizing the University to Accept Grants from the N.J. Department of Education

- 11.7 Resolution Authorizing the Award of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Ms. Patricia Galeski.

The Chair asked if there were questions on each item. Each motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

**12. ITEM OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Morell, Committee Chair, noted the committee met and discussed various items, including the item now before the Board for consideration. She moved the following resolution:

- 12.1 Resolution Recognizing and Confirming the February 21, 2024 Declaration of a State of Emergency at Kean University Due to a Power Failure in Residence Halls

Chair Fastook asked for questions on the resolution. The item was seconded and approved by the Board. Trustee Oatman recused himself from voting on this item.

**13. RESOLUTION ADVISING THE PUBLIC OF A CLOSED MEETING**

Ms. Kelly read the resolution advising of a closed session. A motion was made, seconded and the Board unanimously approved the resolution.

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered Executive Session at approximately 4:40 p.m.

**15. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board returned to Public Session at approximately 6:30 p.m.

**16. FINAL APPROVAL OF MINUTES –MARCH 4, 2024**

Chair Fastook requested a motion for approval of the minutes of the March 4, 2024 public meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the board approved the minutes.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.