

**Lake Superior State University  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of Meeting  
Walker Cisler Student and Conference Center  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan  
January 22, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of Lake Superior State University met in regular session beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 22, 2021, in the Superior Room, of the Walker Cisler Student and Conference Center, Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The meeting was pursuant to Section 1.01. of the Bylaws of said Board with notice to the Board pursuant to Section 1.04., and public notice pursuant to Section 1.05. of the Bylaws.

The section numbers and headings of these minutes correspond to the agenda. A copy of the proposed agenda was distributed to each Trustee at the public session of January 22, 2021. The proposed agenda had been sent pursuant to Section 1.04. of the Bylaws. Copies of all such material are contained as appendices to these minutes.

At the call to order, there were several members in the audience.

**I. Roll Call**

Mr. Thomas Bailey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. He asked Ms. Lauren Pierce, Secretary, to call roll. The following members responded, “present”:

Mr. Thomas C. Bailey  
Mr. Richard Barch  
Ms. Patricia Caruso  
Mr. Timothy Lukenda  
Dr. Mark W. Mercer  
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma  
Ms. Cynthia Williams  
Dr. Rodney S. Hanley, President and ex-officio

Seven Trustees were recorded as present with Trustees Bailey, Barch, Lukenda, Mercer, Frost Steensma, and Williams connected via Zoom conference. Mr. Pingatore was confirmed to be connected via Zoom conference two minutes after roll was taken. Present for the University were Ms. Wendy Beach, Director of Human Resources, Safety and Risk; Dr. Michael Beazley, Dean of Student Affairs; Mr. Thomas Coates, Foundation Director; Dr. Lynn Gillette, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. Keegan Hoose, Student Government President; Ms. Laura Moening, Vice President of the Education Support Personnel; Dr. David Paitson, Director of Athletics; Mr. Fred Pierce, Dean of Admissions and Marketing; and Mr. Maurice Walworth, Vice President for Finance and Operations.

**II. Approval of the Agenda for January 22, 2021**

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval of the agenda for January 22, 2021, as presented; supported by Mr. Barch. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

**III. Approval of the Minutes for November 13, 2020**

Mr. Pingatore moved for Board approval of the minutes for November 13, 2020, as presented; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

**IV. Addresses to the Board**

There were no addresses to the Board.

**V. Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Bailey shared appreciation to all faculty, staff, and students for their efforts in preparing for the spring semester and moving forward through the pandemic, all while being mindful of the Four Pillars of Laker Safety.

**VI. President's Remarks**

Dr. Hanley provided a campus update one week into the start of the spring 2021 semester. He shared appreciation for the energy that is back on campus and thanked all the faculty and staff of the university who made it possible to achieve the opening of a new semester.

Dr. Hanley gave a special thanks to Dr. Michael Beazley, Dean of Student Affairs; Dr. Steve Johnson, Dean for the College of Science & the Environment; Ben Southwell, Assistant Professor for the School of Science & Medicine; and Karen Storey, Director of Health Services, along with everyone that had a hand in ramping up COVID testing.

Dr. Hanley stated that LSSU has more testing per capita on campus than any university in the state. LSSU has saliva based testing that allows for a large number of people to be tested rapidly. Dr. Hanley thanked the Lake State community for following the Four Pillars of Laker Safety.

Dr. Hanley stated that by the end of 2020, LSSU had among the lowest number of COVID-19 cases of any university in Michigan and the nation, with 58 cases. LSSU also had one of the lowest positivity rates of any university in Michigan. LSSU must continue to adhere to the Four Pillars of Laker Safety in order to have a successful spring 2021 semester.

Dr. Hanley highlighted non-COVID related campus updates, including:

- In late November, the University's Les Cheneaux Culinary Arts Regional Center was named the 2020 Institution of the Year by the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations went to the center director, Zach Schroeder.
- On January 1, the University released its annual banished word list. Some words included, "COVID", "Social Distancing", "in-an abundance of caution", and "in these uncertain times". The list was picked up by news outlets across the nation and in many other countries. Dr. Hanley thanked the English faculty who helped curate the list and the Marketing department for all of their efforts.
- The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration awarded almost \$1 million dollars to Dr. Ashley Moerke and the CFRE team to research and help build capacity in CFRE. The project is expected to create about 20 jobs and generate \$14.2 million in private investment. Congratulations went to Dr. Moerke and the CFRE team.

Dr. Hanley provided preemptive congratulations to all the professors as the final step in the faculty tenure and promotion process will be presented to the Board for approval.

Dr. Hanley stated that LSSU is moving in a great direction and will come through the pandemic as an institution stronger than where it was at the beginning of it.

## **VII. Academic Affairs Report**

Dr. Gillette opened with acknowledging the significance in presenting to the Board, the opportunity to recommend faculty tenure, promotions, and sabbatical for approval. He stated that the tenure, promotion, and sabbatical process is prescribed in the contract between the faculty union and LSSU. Dr. Gillette complimented the faculty and administration in working together to improve the tenure and promotion process for the new faculty contract that was completed in fall of 2019.

Ms. Caruso moved for Board approval of tenure and/or promotion to Mr. Tyler Dettloff promotion to Assistant Professor, Ms. Marta Diaz promotion to Associate Professor and Tenure, Dr. Jun Li promotion to Professor, Dr. Kristina Olson-Pupek promotion to Professor, Dr. Britton Ranson Olson promotion to Professor, and Dr. Cathy White promotion to Associate Professor; supported by Dr. Mercer. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Mercer moved for Board approval of two semesters of sabbatical leave for Dr. Jason Garvon for the 2021-2022 academic year; supported by Ms. Caruso. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Frost Steensma moved for Board approval to confer the appropriate degrees upon the list of candidates for fall semester 2020 as certified by the Registrar as having completed their graduation requirements; supported by Ms. Caruso. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Gillette provided the Board with informational items surrounding the upcoming Higher Learning Commission (HLC) 4<sup>th</sup> Year Comprehensive Review. The onsite visit is scheduled to take place on March 22 and 23, 2021. The majority of the visit will be conducted via video conference, along with one representative on campus. Dr. Gail Essmaker and the HLC team have been working diligently on the five criteria that make up the review. Assessment and Institutional Learning Outcomes have been a major focus of the review.

Dr. Gillette provided the Board with highlights from Academic Affairs, including:

- Ongoing saliva based COVID testing, with a special thanks to Dr. Steve Johnson and Ben Southwell, and several staff members in the College of Science and the Environment.
- The Winter Term was a huge success. For the first time, LSSU offered eight online general education classes for its first winter term. LSSU budgeted for 100 student enrollment and \$110K in revenue. The actual enrollment was 136 students, with a revenue of \$180K. A tentative Winter Term is planned for future academic years.
- The Robotics Engineering program has received several emails from robotics companies, praising the preparedness of LSSU graduates and looking to hire additional LSSU graduates.
- The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration awarded almost \$1 million dollars to Dr. Ashley Moerke and the CFRE team.
- Molly Wozniak, Fisheries and Wildlife student, created the first virtual fish dissection program in early December. The video recordings will be used for K-12 education programs and the CFRE website.
- Over 50 students participated in the CFRE hatchery broodstock collection and egg take process. Hatchery staff and students collected over 260K Atlantic salmon eggs this past year, with 45K that will stay and be raised by students in the CFRE fish hatchery, and the remaining 225K distributed to the MDNR's Harrietta and Platte River hatcheries.

Dr. Gillette stated that the HLC report has been the primary focus regarding the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Oshelski provided the Board with Charter School informational items, member appointments and/or reappointments, and academy reauthorizations. Current total LSSU authorized academies show enrollment on trend at just over 9K students. Many sites have plans for future campus tours and camps, along with the potential to open new charters. Although many charters have moved to a mostly face-to-face learning environment, most schools in the Detroit area maintain a virtual learning environment.

Ms. Caruso moved for Board approval of the recommendation for the appointment or reappointment of the following individuals to their respective Board of Directors of public schools academies for the terms listed:

**Bay City Academy:**

Louis Castillo nominated for an appointment with a term expiring on June 30, 2024.

**Concord Academy of Petoskey:**

Shawna Messing nominated for an appointment with a term expiring on June 30, 2023.

**DeTour Arts and Technology Academy:**

Thomas Tessmer nominated for an appointment with a term expiring on June 30, 2022.

The motion was supported by Dr. Mercer. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Mercer moved for Board approval of the reauthorization of the Concord Academy of Petoskey charter contract, effective July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2028; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Mercer moved for Board approval of the reauthorization of the Detroit Service Learning Academy charter contract, effective July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2026; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Caruso moved for Board approval of the reauthorization of the Grand Traverse Academy charter contract, effective July 1, 2021 thru June 20, 2028; supported by Dr. Mercer. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Caruso moved for Board approval of the reauthorization of the Regent Park Scholars Academy charter contract, effective July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2026; supported by Ms. Frost Steensma. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Mercer moved for Board approval of the reauthorization of the Ridge Park Charter Academy charter contract, effective July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2028; supported by Ms. Caruso. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

### **VIII. Finance Report**

Mr. Walworth provided the Board with a review of the FY21 financials, with information pertaining to the General Fund (GF) and Auxiliary Fund (AF), as well as other significant financial events.

The GF revenues are at 73.6% of budget, and GF expenditures are at 51% of budget. This compares well with past years and no GF concerns were noted at this time.

The Housing budget and Cisler Operations revenue is slightly behind compared to this time in previous years. Expenditures are also down from where they are expected to be at this time of year. There are no Housing or Cisler Operations budgetary concerns at this time.

Athletics fund revenue streams have been greatly impacted by COVID-19. About 50% of budget revenue has been collected and about 40% of budgeted expenditures have been expended. At this point, there are no budgetary concerns for the Athletics fund.

Cash balances for the comingled LSSU and Foundation is slightly more than this time last year at \$14M. This balance includes both restricted and unrestricted funds; therefore, not all funds are available for day-to-day operation of LSSU.

Mr. Walworth provided the Board with an update on comparative reviews of various financial metrics of LSSU and how they are used by external agencies, such as HLC, S&P, potential lenders, auditors, and others. Some metrics include primary reserve ratio, viability ratio, return on net assets ratio, net operating revenue ratio, and debt service coverage ratio. The HLC uses four ratios to determine a Composite Financial Index (CFI).

LSSU's Maximum Annual Debt Service is not constant and is structured to grow until 2032. The current annual debt payment is approximately \$3M. The CFI is determined using four ratios that fluctuate due to annual deficits, addition of debt service, revenue, and state funding. HLC monitors the CFI and requires that it not fall below one (1.0). The CFI for LSSU has dropped below one (1.0) for FY22 largely due to the deferred \$1.5M payment from the State. LSSU will be prepared to respond to HLC with a plan for correction.

Mr. Walworth presented to the Board for approval, a Resolution that would transfer the CFRE building to the State of Michigan for a fixed period of time so that the project can be bonded by the state. For a typical Capital Outlay project, once the bonds are secured, a formal transfer to the State will take place. After a fixed time (30-35 years), LSSU will pay \$1(one dollar) for the transfer for the structure back to LSSU. In the meantime, a lease and easement agreement exists.

Ms. Caruso moved for Board approval of the “Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Lake Superior State University Approving a Construction and Completion Agreement, a Conveyance of Property, a Lease and an Easement Agreement, if Necessary, for the Lake Superior State University Center for Freshwater Research and Education” as presented; supported by Dr. Mercer. The Chair requested a roll call vote. The results of the roll call vote were:

Mr. Thomas C. Bailey	“Yes”
Mr. Richard Barch	Abstain
Ms. Patricia Caruso	“Yes”
Mr. Timothy Lukenda	“Yes”
Dr. Mark W. Mercer	“Yes”
Mr. Randy Pingatore	“Yes”
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma	“Yes”
Ms. Cynthia Williams	“Yes”

The motion carried with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Walworth presented to the Board for approval, the Auditor’s Report to the Board and the FY20 Annual Financial Report. LSSU has a contractual relationship with Andrews, Hooper, Pavlik PLC (AHP) to conduct auditing services. The auditors provide an annual report; oversee the audit in accordance with the Uniform Grant Guidance and Government auditing standards, along with guidance in submitting the report to the State of Michigan. AHP representative, Duane Reyhl provided a detailed auditor’s report, and draft Annual Financial Report to the Board in November 2020. The result of the final review and report by AHP is an unqualified opinion (meaning positive). There have been no significant material events since the audit was completed.

Mr. Bailey added that in November 2020, the Board offered Mr. Reyhl the opportunity to speak with the Board privately to share any concerns, which he did not accept, as there were no concerns to report.

Dr. Mercer moved for Board approval of the Auditor’s Report to the Board and the Lake Superior State University, Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019; supported by Mr. Pingatore. The Chair requested a roll call vote. The results of the roll call were:

Mr. Thomas C. Bailey	“Yes”
Mr. Richard Barch	Abstain
Ms. Patricia Caruso	“Yes”
Mr. Timothy Lukenda	“Yes”
Dr. Mark W. Mercer	“Yes”
Mr. Randy Pingatore	“Yes”
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma	“Yes”
Ms. Cynthia Williams	“Yes”

The motion carried with seven affirmative votes.

Mr. Walworth provided the Board with a 2021 Bond Issuance Update. Since the Board approved a resolution to refinance the 2012 Bonds, interest rates have been monitored with little change from the previous Board meeting. Interest rates will continue to be monitored with a report back to the Board with plans to move forward with the refinance.

Mr. Walworth provided the Board with an update on activities related to the CFRE Capital Outlay Project. The new building continues to take shape with structural steel work complete, walls are underway, window cutouts, cement poured, and underground inspection of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work completed. The roofing material is on-site and installation will begin shortly. The CFRE project is on track for a late summer, early fall completion. The city of Sault Sainte Marie is working towards restoring the riverfront wrapping the CFRE building. Plans are still in development, with focus on examining the environmental impact of each option.

Mr. Walworth referenced his Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

## **IX. Student Affairs Report**

Dr. Beazley and Dr. Gillette presented to the Board, - a Club Shooting Sports and Academic Initiative at LSSU. Dr. Beazley stated the Club Sports initiative would entail the creation of teams for Shooting Sports, including Skeet, Trap, Five Stand, Sporting Clays, and Archery for the fall 2021 semester. Shooting sports have had an upward trend in popularity in recent years and are played at the international, national, and local levels. In the United States, some 22K high school student-athletes represent more than 800 school-approved teams in competition. In Michigan in 2018, nearly 1,000 student-athletes from 50 high schools have competing teams. Four institutions of higher education that have competitive shooting sports teams are all on the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Hunting and shooting sports enthusiasts are among the LSSU student demographic. Using Hillsdale College as a model, initiating the Shooting Sport Club teams in fall 2021 is based on a first incoming recruitment goal of 15

students, generating \$320K in new revenue projections with a cost of \$305K, leaving a net revenue of \$15K. By fall of 2025, with 50 new students, revenue projections show \$1.2M, with a cost of \$779K, leaving a net revenue of \$420K.

Dr. Mercer stepped away from the Zoom Video conference at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Gillette presented the Board with the Academic portion of the Shooting Sports proposal. Pending Curriculum Committee approval, several new academic courses and programs would be offered, including:

- Recreational Activities Courses
- Certificate in Recreational Shooting, Certificate in Shooting Sports Management.
- Minor in Shooting Sports Management
- Associate Degree and Bachelor's Degree in Shooting Sports Management – Shooting Preserve Management
- Summer: Competitive Shooting Competitions and Camps

Academic programming costs are expected to be relatively low. For the 2021-2022 academic year, expected Net Revenue from the academic shooting program is \$57K, going up to a net revenue of \$1M by the 2025-2026 academic year.

Dr. Beazley stated that additional revenue streams would include the education center, event hosting, and local law enforcement and community member use of the facilities. The Shooting Sports proposal would start with the hiring of a consultant to develop a master plan and self-propelling model, in addition to the hiring of a coach for recruitment of students.

Ms. Williams moved for Board approval to explore the initiation of Shooting Sports by hiring a master planning consultant and coach for recruiting students; supported by Mr. Lukenda. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Bailey shared appreciation for the administration, and faculty's pursuit of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Mr. Pingatore moved for Board approval to adopt the Board Resolution to purchase property not to exceed \$500,000; supported by Ms. Caruso. The Chair requested a roll call vote. The results of the roll call were:

Mr. Thomas C. Bailey	“Yes”
Mr. Richard Barch	Abstain
Ms. Patricia Caruso	“Yes”
Mr. Timothy Lukenda	“Yes”
Dr. Mark W. Mercer	“Yes”

Mr. Randy Pingatore	“Yes”
Ms. Sandi Frost Steensma	“Yes”
Ms. Cynthia Williams	“Yes”

The motion carried with seven affirmative votes.

Dr. Beazley provided the Board with an update of the University response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The cumulative positivity rate for LSSU in 2020 was 2.9%, the lowest among Michigan universities. There are currently eight active cases among the LSSU population. With support from Dr. Steven Johnson, COVID-19 testing has developed since the last board meeting with scaled-up saliva-based surveillance testing. Student athletes are able to meet the current state requirements for testing. The Health Care Center has a second ID NOW analyzer. A third analyzer was on-loan from the Bay Mills Indian Community Health Center to assist in collecting nearly 1,200 samples during the fall move-in process. The University remains in partnership with War Memorial Hospital and the Chippewa County Health Department, with upcoming plans to participate as a host for a mass vaccine clinic in the Norris Center.

Dr. Beazley referenced his Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

Mr. Hoose provided the Board with updates from Student Government (SG). Mr. Hoose congratulated recently promoted faculty members, and shared excitement for the Club Sports shooting proposal, stating the program fits the LSSU student body well. Mr. Hoose will be focused on working alongside the administration in formatting the academic calendar to include a winter term and the opportunity for students to take additional classes. The next SG meeting will discuss feedback from students regarding the winter term. The LSSU SG will host the next United Conference virtually. Mr. Hoose continues to meet virtually with the SG Presidents at Northern Michigan and Michigan Tech, along with SG Presidents of Algoma and Sault Ontario. The One UP conference is upcoming in February with more to report at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Paitson provided the Board with informational items and activities within the department of athletics. The NCAA, GLIAC, WCHA and LSSU have all remained committed to ensuring the health and safety to all student-athletes. COVID-19 data shows LSSU athletics to have the lowest number of cases in the GLIAC and second lowest in the WCHA over the fall semester. Dr. Paitson thanked Dr. Steven Johnson and staff for their role in facilitating the required COVID testing for athletes, along with the collaboration with War Memorial Hospital in providing trainer space with overlapping team schedules due to

COVID-19 restrictions. Non-COVID related - Ongoing conversations are taking place to discuss the addition of women's sports.

Dr. Paitson referenced his Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

**X. Admissions & Marketing Report**

Mr. Pierce shared with the Board, up to date enrollment data, stating that 2,081 applications have been received; on track to have one of the best application years in about a decade. First Time in College numbers are tracking at 9.7% ahead of the 2020 recruitment cycle.

Dr. Mercer returned to the Zoom video conference at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Pierce stated that the fall 2021 recruitment cycle has been affected by protocols placed for the COVID-19 environment. School visits, fairs, conferences, events or any other face-to-face meetings have been canceled or held virtually. The spring 2021 semester continues to be very promising with the new student orientation completed last week. To date, 107 students have registered for the spring semester, almost 29% higher than this time last year. In fall of 2020, the Admissions office restructured staff responsibilities and activities. Kristin Graham was promoted to Executive Assistant and Data Analyst. Additionally, Sara Nicholls joined the Admissions team and is focusing on transfer credits and office logistics. In partnership with Charter Schools, planning has begun to develop, host, and deliver Summer Camps beginning in late May 2021.

In Financial Aid, first time FAFSA applications for fall 2021 are up 15% over fall 2020. Returning and current applications are slightly up by 2.5% from last year. The Financial Aid team has processed 436 FTIC awards for fall 2021, representing a 31% increase from this time last year. The initial student CARES Act funds have been exhausted, and the Bud Mansfield Emergency Fund continues to be used to assist students with unexpected needs. Mr. Pierce acknowledged Interim Financial Aid Director, Katelynn Coon and the Financial Aid team, for developing a virtual Financial Aid presentation to educate students, families and counselors on the aid process. The presentation has been distributed to more than 79K prospects and counselors nationally and across the state of Michigan.

In Marketing and Communication (MarComm), the majority of focus has centered on the annual Banished Words list, Presidential holiday video, campus viewbook, and webpage design. The Banished Words list proved to be successful, generating media attention all across the U.S. and numerous countries worldwide. The English Department faculty Professors Chad Barbour, Mary McMyne, and Julie Barbour served as the committee: reviewing and finalizing the

word list. The 2020 Banished Word list potentially reached over 1 Billion compared to 302M in 2019 and had a social reach of 40.9M in 2020 compared to 8.8M in 2019. Social Media followers continue to grow, with the Banished Words list and Throwback Thursday posts receiving the highest hits. MarComm continues to work on new signage, campus publications, the style guide and enforcing brand standards. MarComm is currently working on and redesigning the 50<sup>th</sup> year of Unicorn Hunters materials, and a special press release. The Presidential Holiday video was the most-viewed video in years and ranks among the most-watched in campus history. Lastly, MarComm is putting final touches on the overhauling of its work order process.

Mr. Lukenda asked how the year over year applications compared to other institutions.

Mr. Pierce stated that National trends show a decrease in applications by -7%. Current LSSU data indicates applications are trending 7% higher. Most Michigan institutions are following the National trend with lagging enrollment. Mr. Pierce anticipates updated data at the start of February, in addition to resuming campus tours and weekend activities.

Mr. Pierce referenced his Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

Mr. Lukenda and Mr. Bailey commended the Admissions office, faculty and staff for their efforts towards the positive enrollment indicators.

## **XI. Human Resources Report**

Ms. Beach presented to the Board, informational items as it related to Human Resources, Safety and Risk, and Title IX.

- From November 1 – December 31, no new cases were reported to the Title IX office.
- To date, all ESP and AP employees who were laid off over winter break have been recalled.
- Senior Public Safety Officer, Kevin Chamberlain will retire from LSSU effective January 31, 2021. Ms. Beach thanked Mr. Chamberlain for his thirty-two (32) years of service to LSSU.
- Ms. Beach recognized the Public Safety office, facilities staff, and food services staff for their role as front line assistance to the COVID-19 isolation house (Brown Hall) and keeping everyone safe.
- The Annual Campus Risk Insurance Assessment took place in December 2020. Eleven findings were reported, with eight noted as important three noted as advisory. The Safety and Risk specialist will work with departments across campus to address the findings.

- The Title IX office has hired a new student intern to assist with a large-scale project to implement a campus climate survey. This survey will allow for the Title IX office to gain a better understanding of the campus community's views and understanding of sexual misconduct and safety on campus. The Title IX office will virtually host Dr. Keith Edwards, a nationally recognized speaker with experience working on important issues like sexual violence prevention, and social justice issues. Dr. Edwards will also meet with the Title IX team for a process consultation. The Title IX case management will be migrating to a new system over the course of the spring semester.

Mr. Beach referenced her Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

ESP Vice President, Ms. Moening provided the Board with an update from the ESP Union. Ms. Moening recognized Dr. Moerke in being awarded grant funding and congratulated faculty members for their recently approved promotions. ESP and Administration negotiations have taken place via Zoom over the past few months, with hopes to meet in person in the near future.

Ms. Williams stepped away from the Zoom video at 10:55 a.m.

Ms. Moening thanked both ESP members and the Administration for their time and effort towards negotiations. The ESP Union were pleased to see the mechanic position filled, and to have another skilled employee on campus. Ms. Moening stated that the Administration eliminated one Student Life position and two Academic Assistant positions. She stated the decision to eliminate those positions was disappointing, and reported that moral has been low due to layoffs, and COVID-19. Some members are concerned about the status of campus, student services, and job security. Over winter break, some employees were called back early to prepare campus for sporting events and the spring semester. Ms. Moening thanked Jerry Killips and staff for their work in preparing for students return to campus. Ms. Moening stated that members are looking for more of an investment to campus, not just financially but also in actions of kindness and empathy.

## **XII. Fundraising Report**

Mr. Coates presented to the Board, a dashboard of Major Gifts generated by the LSSU Foundation, stating that a surge in major gifts took place towards the end of 2020, contributing to 50% of the total major gifts dashboard. There was a wide

variety in major gifts through the four main sources: corporate, individuals, Foundations, and trusts/estates.

Mr. Coates stated that the CFRE campaign is \$141K away from the goal, and continues to be the top priority capital campaign for the LSSU Foundation. Mr. Coates recognized Foundation Board members for their leadership and donations totaling \$465K in gifts. Planning for donor recognition is underway in appreciation for those who made major gifts.

LSSU Foundation Annual Fundraising mailers were sent out in early December, along with emails, and social media postings.

LSSU Alumni Relations are in early discussions for planning a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of LSSU Nursing.

Mr. Coates referenced his Board report for additional information regarding Strategic Plan updates.

**XIII. Other Business**

No other business.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Mr. Pingatore moved for adjournment at 11:02 a.m.; supported by Mr. Lukenda. The motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

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Thomas C. Bailey  
Chair

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Rodney S. Hanley  
President

Minutes prepared by Ms. Lauren Pierce Secretary.  
A draft of these minutes was completed on February 5, 2021.