University of the District of Columbia
Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, March 13, 2013
5:00 p.m.

Attendance

Trustees Present:
Elaine Crider, Chair
Christopher Bell
Joseph Askew
LuAnn Bennett
Alejandra Castillo
Kendrick Curry
James Dyke
Reginald Felton
Errol Schwartz
Jerome Shelton
Mary Thompson
George Vradenburg

Trustees Absent:
Stephen Porter
Rachel Petty, Ex-officio
Ollo Jean Bosco Pooda
Gabriela Lemus

Staff Participants:
Craig Parker, General Counsel
Erik Thompson, Senior Capital Projects Manager
Beverly Franklin, Executive Secretary

Call to Order and Roll Call
Chair Crider called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. With the exception of Trustees Shelton and Thompson, the Trustees were on conference call for this meeting. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

Executive Appointment
Chair Crider discussed the appointment of Dr. Lyons as Interim President. She read a portion of the resolution into the official record.

Motion:
Resolution No. 2013-05: Appointment of Dr. James Lyons as Interim President

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of the Board of Trustees under the D.C. Official Code §38-1202.06(10) and in accord with the University’s bylaws found at Title 8 District of Columbia Municipal Regulations §200 and following the Board has the responsibility for appointment of an Interim President of the University when the office of the President is vacant; and

WHEREAS, the Board has completed a search process for an Interim President and has selected Dr. James Lyons to be Interim President of the University subject to the terms of an Employment Agreement to be executed by Dr. Lyons and to be executed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by the Chair, Dr. Elaine Crider; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lyons’ educational background includes bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Connecticut and his university leadership experience includes the presidencies of the California State University, Dominguez Hills; Jackson State University in Mississippi; Bowie State University in Maryland; and most recently interim president at Dillard University in New Orleans; and
WHEREAS, Dr. Lyons’ national reputation for outstanding leadership in higher education includes Board service for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the Mississippi Association of Colleges, the American Council on Education and as Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Trustees appoints Dr. James Lyons as Interim President of the University of the District of Columbia, for a term beginning March 20, 2013 and ending March 19, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Dr. Lyons’ appointment is subject to extension as mutually agreed by the parties and is otherwise governed by the terms of an Employment Agreement hereby approved by the Board and which the Board Chair Dr. Elaine Crider is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees unanimously approved the resolution by a roll call vote. Trustee Askew, who was not on the conference call at the time of the vote, asked that his vote of support be included.

There was a brief discussion regarding the President’s residence, minor repairs and an appraisal. Mr. Thompson confirmed that the minor repairs and the appraisal were done.

Chair Crider reported Dr. Lyons had identified rental housing in the downtown area. He will be at the university on March 20.

Chair Crider mentioned that at the Performance hearing she expressed the Board’s appreciation for Dr. Petty’s work during the interim period. Trustee Vradenburg recommended the Board send a note to Dr. Petty.

Chair Crider reported Dr. Lyons has had a discussion with Michael Rogers.

Trustee Shelton reminded the Board that they were in the public session. Any discussion related to personnel matters should take place in the executive session.

General Schwartz asked about the letter for Dr. Biden. Chair Crider said she would contact Dr. Epps regarding the letter.

Chair Crider mentioned she requested the Trustees consider a change in the Board meeting dates. Based on the responses received, several Trustees indicated Tuesday would be a better day for meetings. She asked the Trustees who had not responded to notify Ms. Franklin regarding their preference for a meeting day.

Chair Crider reported the election [of officers] will be held at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

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Secretary’s Signature

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Date