May 15, 2017
Board Conference Room, Suite 515
ASRC Building
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Swati Adarkar, Gale Castillo, Sho Dozono, Maude Hines, Thomas Imeson, Margaret Kirkpatrick, Irving Levin (by phone), Rick Miller, Stephanie Shao, Lindsay Stewart, Peter Stott (by phone), Christine Vernier, Chair Nickerson and President Wiewel (ex-officio)

**Board Members Not Present:** Erica Bestpitch

1. **Call to Order/Roll/ Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Nickerson called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Roll was taken, a quorum was present, and the meeting proceeded.

2. **Presidential Appointment**

Chair Nickerson announced that Dr. Rahmat Shoureshi is the finalist candidate being brought to the Board for approval as the ninth President of Portland State University. Hiring the President of the University is the most important matter undertaken by the Board.

Chair Nickerson reviewed the process leading to this recommendation. In July 2016, President Wiewel announced his intention to step down after nine years of service. In August 2017, the Board convened and authorized the establishment of a Search Advisory Committee, hiring of a search consultant, and commissioning of a compensation study. The Search Committee was formed and included 21 members: five trustees, one Vice President, one Dean, one Alumni Board member, two Oregon university presidents (Oregon Health Sciences University and University of Oregon), one PSU Foundation board member, five faculty members (including nominations from AAUP and PSUFA), one staff member (nominated by SEIU), one graduate student and two undergraduate students. The Search Committee held numerous forums seeking input from the community, including two faculty/staff forums, two student forums, and one community forum.

In February 2017, the search consultant provided 55 full applications for the Search Committee to consider. The Committee selected ten for airport interviews. From those ten, the Committee recommend four finalists for campus visits. Three of the four candidates (one withdrew) came to visit PSU over two days each in mid-March. During those two-day visits, each candidate met with campus and community members, including administrators, deans, faculty leadership, SEIU, student government and student organizations, PSU Foundation Board members, and had numerous other individual meetings with key institutional and community leaders.
The Board met with each of the three finalists in executive session and held a fourth executive session for further discussion. Based on those discussions, conversations with Dr. Shoureshi ensued. Informed by the national compensation study commissioned last August and in comparison with our in-state colleagues, a competitive compensation agreement with Dr. Shoureshi is before the Board for consideration and approval. Nickerson noted that Dr. Shoureshi has agreed to accept compensation that does not include significant incentives that were available to him elsewhere.

Chair Nickerson extended his gratitude to President Wiewel for his care and forethought and for allowing the Board a year to find and appoint a replacement. Nickerson thanked Trustee Gale Castillo and Dean Stephen Percy for leading the search process. Nickerson thanked Clair Callaway in the President’s Office for managing the details and for showing the true character of PSU and Board Secretary and General Counsel David Reese for overseeing and implementing the Board’s actions. Nickerson thanked the search consultant Deborah Hodson for her professionalism and assistance with an open process. He also thanked Provost Sona Andrews, Vice President Kevin Reynolds and Faculty Senate Presiding Officer Brad Hansen for their counsel, and all others who took the time and made the effort to provide input for consideration.

Finally, Chair Nickerson thanked Dr. Shoureshi for putting his current position at risk, for his numerous trips from New York to Portland, and for his openness to the new experiences and culture of Portland State University.

Trustee Castillo thanked the Chair for his summary of events and thanked all members of the Search Committee. The Committee was “open” and “frank.” Castillo is pleased with the outstanding leader chosen to be the next President of Portland State University.

President Wiewel congratulated the Board on its selection and pledged his full support. Trustee Kirkpatrick complimented Chair Nickerson on the implementation and completion of the Presidential Search Process. Trustee Dozono thanked the candidate for choosing Portland State University.

ACTION: Trustee Castillo moved that the Board approve the Resolution Appointing the President of Portland State University. Trustee Stott seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Shoureshi was invited to address the Board. He expressed his gratitude at the honor of being selected to serve as the ninth President of Portland State University. He expressed his support for PSU’s commitment to access, diversity and inclusiveness. He discussed the important task before him of finding and developing the resources to make PSU financially strong and stable and therefore able to attract quality faculty, create meaningful career opportunities for staff, and provide a diverse community of students with the economical means to a quality education. “Together, we will make PSU bigger, stronger and smarter as an engine for driving the advancement of Portland, Oregon and beyond.”

3. **Adjourn**

Chair Nickerson adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM.