

**ROWAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WEBEX RETREAT**

October 22, 2020

**BOARD MEMBERS IN
ATTENDANCE**

1st Open Session

Brenda Bacon
Samantha Bollendorf, non-voting student trustee
Chad Bruner, Chair
Michael Carbone
Jean Edelman
Thomas Gallia
George Loesch
Martin McKernan
Kyle Perez, voting student trustee
Robert Poznek, Vice Chair
Linda Rohrer
Larry Salva, Secretary
Virginia Smith
Ali Houshmand, ex officio

2nd Open Session

Brenda Bacon
Samantha Bollendorf, non-voting student trustee
Chad Bruner, Chair
Michael Carbone
Barbara Chamberlain
Jean Edelman
Thomas Gallia
George Loesch
Martin McKernan
Kyle Perez, voting student trustee
Robert Poznek, Vice Chair
Larry Salva, Secretary
Virginia Smith
Ali Houshmand, ex officio

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT
IN ATTENDANCE**

1st Open Session

Isabelita Marcelo Abele
Barbara Chamberlain
Frank Giordano
Fred Graziano

2nd Open Session

Isabelita Marcelo Abele
Frank Giordano
Fred Graziano
Linda Rohrer

**UNIVERSITY
REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT**

1st & 2nd Open Session

Joseph Campbell, V.P. Facilities & Operations
Joe Cardona, V.P. University Relations
Joanne Connor, Chief of Staff/Board Liaison
Tabbatha Dobbins, V.P. Research/Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Terri Drye, V.P. Human Resources
Jeff Hand, Sr. V.P. Student Affairs
Mira Lalovic-Hand, Sr. V.P. Information Resources & Chief Information Officer
Tony Lowman, Provost & Sr. V.P. Academic Affairs
Joseph Scully, Sr. V.P. Finance & CFO
Monika Williams Shealey, Sr. V.P. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Horacio Sosa, V.P. Strategic Ventures & Initiatives
RJ Tallarida, V.P. University Relations
Steven Weinstein, V.P. Government Affairs & External Partnerships
Melissa Wheatcroft, General Counsel
Lee Ann Barbin, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees

OTHERS

Members of the Rowan faculty, staff, students, and members of the general public.

CALL TO ORDER

A retreat of the Rowan University Board of Trustees was held on October 22, 2020 via WebEx. Chair Bruner welcomed everyone to the meeting, called the Public Session of the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m., and requested that panelists mute all devices.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

Dr. Connor read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded for the Board of Trustees to move into Closed Session. A vote was taken 12-0 in favor. The first public portion of the meeting closed at 9:04 a.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 10:06 a.m. Chair Bruner stated that Closed Session had concluded and no formal action was taken. Topics discussed included personnel actions, an update on real estate and the litigation report. Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded for the Board to return to public session. A vote was taken 12-0 in favor to return to public session.

ACTION ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

Chair Bruner stated that items #2020.10.01 through #2020.10.06 are being considered individually. He stated that if any Board members need to recuse themselves for any of the individually considered resolutions that they do so when asked before each vote.

VOTE TALLEY

The specific votes for individually considered resolutions were:

- Resolution #2020.10.01: 11-0 in favor (Mr. McKernan recused himself)
- Resolution #2020.10.02: 10-0 in favor (Dr. Gallia and Mr. McKernan recused themselves)
- Resolution #2020.10.03: 12-0 in favor
- Resolution #2020.10.04: 12-0 in favor
- Resolution #2020.10.05: 11-0 in favor (Mr. Perez recused himself)
- Resolution #2020.10.06: 12-0 in favor

RESOLUTION #2020.10.01

**AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR LEGAL SERVICES
RELATING TO EVALUATION OF TRANSACTION**

- WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act, N.J.S.A.18A:64M-1 et seq. (“Restructuring Act”), permits Rowan University (“Rowan”), a public research university, to enter into agreements for the procurement of services without public advertising pursuant to applicable state law as outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56, and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Resolution 2014.02.02 approved by the Board of Trustees at its February 19, 2014 meeting, the Board approved exceptions including an exception for professional consulting services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(15), and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has identified a need for specialized legal services in connection with proposed transactions relating to the effective and efficient delivery of online programs to advance its strategic pillars of access, quality, and affordability, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has undertaken initial investigations in the area of online programming and has concluded that the acquisition of an established and reputable online delivery entity may increase its capacity in the area of online education delivery and online services to students, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has concluded that legal services relating to the expansion of its online offerings are necessary in the area of due diligence of an existing entity as well as the structuring of any proposed transaction, and
- WHEREAS,** Loeb & Loeb, LLP has assisted higher education clients in their pursuit of acquisition opportunities, and
- WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer has confirmed that there are sufficient budgeted funds available to pay the expense authorized herein associated within the FY21 budget
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer is authorized to enter into a contract for legal services relating to Loeb & Loeb in an amount not to exceed \$100,000

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution authorizes a contract without competitive bidding for legal services in the area of transaction evaluation.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.01. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. Mr. McKernan recused himself. A vote was taken 11-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.01 was approved.

RESOLUTION #2020.10.02

**AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR LEGAL SERVICES
RELATING TO MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT**

- WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act, N.J.S.A.18A:64M-1 et seq. (“Restructuring Act”), permits Rowan University (“Rowan”), a public research university, to enter into agreements for the procurement of services without public advertising pursuant to applicable state law as outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56, and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Resolution 2014.02.02 approved by the Board of Trustees at its February 19, 2014 meeting, the Board approved exceptions including an exception for professional consulting services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(15), and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has identified a need for specialized legal services in connection with a proposed Medicaid transaction intended to increase access to Behavioral Health Care in the southern New Jersey region, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has an established Affiliation Agreement with Inspira Health Network and wishes to expand that Agreement to enhance the parties’ collaboration in the area of Behavioral Health Care delivery, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has concluded that legal services relating to the expansion of the above-referenced Agreement, particularly in the area of federal payor reimbursement, is essential to any successful expansion of the Agreement and to the aforementioned increased access to care,
- WHEREAS,** Brown & Peisch, PLLC, of Washington, D.C., has assisted health care entities and public entities in the evaluation of similar transactions as well as in the development of transactional documents relating to these transactions, and
- WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer has confirmed that there are sufficient budgeted funds available to pay the expense authorized herein associated within the FY21 budget
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer is authorized to enter into a contract for legal services relating to increased access to Behavioral Health care with Brown & Peisch in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution authorizes a contract without competitive bidding for legal services in the area of Medicaid reimbursement relating to increasing access to Behavioral Health Care in the southern New Jersey region.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.02. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. Dr. Gallia and Mr. McKernan recused themselves. A vote was taken 10-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.02 was approved.

RESOLUTION #2020.10.03

**APPROVAL OF AMENDED UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC CALENDAR
FOR SPRING 2021 TO FACILITATE COVID-19 PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT**

- WHEREAS,** as part of its normal academic planning process, Rowan University develops a University Academic Calendar for future years, and
- WHEREAS,** the University Academic Calendar specifies the dates for the beginning and duration of the standard full term each semester, and
- WHEREAS,** the University Academic Calendar specifies the dates for holidays and breaks when classes are not in session, and
- WHEREAS,** the University is committed to the health and safety of the University community and to compliance with government directives, public health guidance and higher education best practice, and
- WHEREAS,** the University has determined that beginning the Spring 2021 semester one week later than currently scheduled on January 19, 2021, will provide for a gradual return to the campus and thereby facilitate ongoing COVID-19 pandemic management, and
- WHEREAS,** the University has determined that maintaining classes in session during the week of Spring Break will further facilitate ongoing COVID-19 pandemic management and will preserve the duration of the term through May 7, 2021, as currently scheduled,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees accepts and approves the AMENDED University Academic Calendar and Guidelines for Spring 2021, reflecting that the standard full term will begin on January 25, 2021; that classes will remain in session during the week of March 15 to March 20, 2021; and that the term will conclude May 7, 2021.

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution approves the AMENDED University Academic Calendar for Spring 2021 to facilitate COVID-19 pandemic management.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.03. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. There being none, a vote was taken 12-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.03 was approved.

RESOLUTION #2020.10.04

**AMENDMENT OF AUTHORIZATION OF A CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR
TENT RENTAL AND ERECTION SERVICES
WITH MASSO'S EVENT RENTALS**

- WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act, N.J.S.A.18A:64M-1 et seq. (“Restructuring Act”), permits Rowan University, a public research university, to enter into agreements for the procurement of services without public advertising pursuant to applicable state law as outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56, and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Resolution 2014.02.02 approved by the Board of Trustees at its February 19, 2014 meeting, the Board approved exceptions including an exception for the purchase or rental of equipment when its procurement without advertising is necessary to assure standardization of equipment and interchangeability of parts, as well as an exception for materials and supplies which are not available from more than one potential bidder pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)(27) and (3), and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to its enabling statute, Rowan’s Board of Trustees is also authorized to engage in procurements without competitive bidding where such procurements are made necessary pursuant to a declaration of emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 64-57, and such declarations of emergency were made by the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, and the President of Rowan University in response to the global health pandemic, and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the above-referenced declarations of a public health emergency and the continuing public health emergency related to COVID-19, Rowan recognized and attempted to address its needs for increased outdoor spaces for various student related activities, including but not limited to, academic, social, dining, and specialized higher education activities by developing a plan for the implementation of tents for gathering outdoors, and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Resolution 2020.09.12, the Board of Trustees authorized Rowan University to enter into a contract without competitive bidding with Masso’s Event Rentals to install additional tent accessories and equipment to permit tent expansion as well as to install additional tents, and
- WHEREAS,** Masso’s Event Rentals has initiated this effort and Rowan has identified additional needs relating to existing tents requiring additional labor by Masso’s Event Rentals, and
- WHEREAS,** the original contract was authorized in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, and Masso’s Event Rentals has initiated this effort and Rowan has identified additional needs relating to existing tents requiring additional labor by Masso’s Event Rentals, and
- WHEREAS,** this additional equipment, labor, and facilities is not expected to exceed \$200,000, and
- WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer anticipates that there will be sufficient budgeted funds available to pay the expense authorized herein associated with the rental and installation of tents and related equipment within the pending FY21 budget, and anticipates that Rowan will seek reimbursement of those funds through both state and federal COVID-19 related reimbursement programs

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer is authorized to enter into a contract with Masso’s Event Rentals, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for FY21.

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution amends the Resolution authorizing a contract without competitive bidding for the rental and installation of tents and related equipment and appliances with Masso’s Event Rentals to meet the needs of the university for outdoor space caused by the impacts of the global health pandemic for FY21 with a possible renewal for FY22 and FY23 and approves any installations made resulting from the emergency declaration.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.04. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. There being none, a vote was taken 12-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.04 was approved.

RESOLUTION #2020.10.05

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROWAN UNIVERSITY AND GLASSBORO ASSOCIATES, L.P.

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act (“Restructuring Act”), Rowan University is permitted to own, lease, dispose of, use and operate real property as is necessary or desirable for university purposes, N.J.S.A. 18A:64M-9(q), and
- WHEREAS,** in March 2020, via Executive Order #103, the Governor of the State of New Jersey declared both a Public Health State of Emergency and State of Emergency throughout the State due to public health hazard created by Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID 19”), and
- WHEREAS,** in March 2020, the United States Government enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that among other provisions, provides specific funding sources for educational institutions impacted by COVID 19, and
- WHEREAS,** in August 2020, via Executive Order #175, the Governor of the State of New Jersey authorized institutions of higher education to resume in person instruction not previously permitted by Executive Order #155, and
- WHEREAS,** in order to operate and maintain the University according to best practice health and safety protocols due to COVID 19, the need for additional storage was identified, and
- WHEREAS,** space for the above was found at 70 Sewell Street-Unit A, Glassboro, New Jersey, and,

- WHEREAS,** under the State of Emergency declared by the Governor, the University entered into a short-term lease for 10,000 square feet of interior storage for COVID 19 related supplies and materials with Glassboro Associates, L.P. for the term of August 17, 2020-October 31, 2020, and
- WHEREAS,** given the prolonged period in which it is envisioned that COVID 19 will impact University operations, Rowan has determined that the need exists for additional storage space for an extended period of time, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan has initiated negotiations with Glassboro Associates, L.P., for an amendment to the existing lease to increase to a total of 23,390 square feet of interior space at a rate of \$7.20 per square foot annually, for a monthly amount of \$14,034, totaling \$168,408 per year, for a three-year term to start November 1, 2020, and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees wishes to delegate the authority to negotiate the lease acceptable to the President and to the Vice President of Facilities and Senior Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, and
- WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient budgeted funds available to pay the expense authorized herein
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Senior Vice President of Finance to execute the amendment to the lease with Glassboro Associates, L.P for 23,390 square feet of storage space at 70 Sewell Street in Glassboro, New Jersey.

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution approves the amendment of a lease between Rowan University and Glassboro Associates, L.P. for 23,390 square feet of space to accommodate COVID 19 related storage needs of the University.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.05. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. Mr. Perez recused himself. A vote was taken 11-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.05 was approved.

RESOLUTION #2020.10.06

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET FOR
FEASIBILITY STUDY, INITIAL SITE PLANNING, AND OTHER EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES RELATED
TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY ON THE WEST CAMPUS**

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act (“Restructuring Act”), the Board of Trustees of Rowan University has been empowered to direct and control expenditures and supervise the construction and demolition of buildings and projects, N.J.S.A 18A:64M-9(f) and (r), and
- WHEREAS,** current trends and future projections in higher education demonstrate the need for flexible-use multipurpose spaces, shared facilities, and advanced technologies that bridge school and the workplace, and
- WHEREAS,** Rowan University has concluded that there is a demand for such flexible space for academic purposes as well as to support the economy in the southern region of New Jersey, and
- WHEREAS,** the University has concluded that the West Campus may be appropriate for the location of a flexible use space, including a proposed 250,000 square foot flexible-use multipurpose facility (“Project”), and
- WHEREAS,** the University has need to conduct initial exploratory activities, including conducting the feasibility study, preliminary site planning studies and planning for the feasibility and development of the Project, and
- WHEREAS,** the University has determined that the Total Project Budget to adequately perform the exploratory activities associated with the development of the Project is \$300,000, and
- WHEREAS,** the Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds available to pay for the costs to facilitate the work identified above, and
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees that the budget for the exploratory activities associated with creating a flexible-use multipurpose space on the West Campus is established in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees that procurement relating to the above-referenced project shall be consummated in accordance with applicable law.

SUMMARY STATEMENT/RATIONALE

This resolution establishes a Total Project Budget for planning and feasibility and other exploratory activities related to creating a flexible-use multipurpose space on West Campus in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to approve Resolution #2020.10.06. Chair Bruner opened the floor to questions and recusals from the Board. There being none, a vote was taken 12-0 in favor and Resolution #2020.10.06 was approved.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE UPDATE

Mr. Scott Woodside, Director of the Wellness Center, provided an update on the Wellness Center and the University's pandemic response. Mr. Woodside opened his briefing discussing the University's partnership with the County in administering COVID-19 tests to students as well as local residents. During the month of September, they recorded an increase in positive COVID-19 cases among students, primarily in the off-campus population. Mr. Woodside referenced a spreadsheet, which his team has been utilizing to compile the data provided by Jefferson and Inspira regarding their emergency room visits, ICU admissions/capacity and available ventilators. In addition, another metric being monitored is the overall number of cases in the three local counties in which Rowan University has a physical presence: Gloucester, Camden, and Burlington. Since August, the trend line in all three of these counties has been increasing. While the data is accurate, Mr. Woodside explained that there is often a several week delay from when the data is gathered at the State-level to when it is processed and released to the public. Fortunately, the Rowan team has been able to compile and track their local data in real-time and have recorded a sharp decline in area cases with only nine confirmed cases over the past 10 days. Regarding isolation and quarantine, there are four students currently being housed in Triad, which is down from a peak of 45 in mid-September and well below the soft capacity threshold of 128.

ATHLETICS UPDATE

Dr. Kevin Koett, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, discussed the current state of athletics. There were no competitions during the Fall 2020 semester and Dr. Koett praised the University for not succumbing to external pressures but instead relying on the data in prioritizing health and safety. Currently, there is a voluntary workout program being offered to Rowan student-athletes, in which approximately 80% are participating. These workouts are more individually focused and skill driven as opposed to team level practices. This focus has provided Rowan staff the opportunity to engage more directly with student-athletes, helping to ensure their overall health and wellbeing. Dr. Koett acknowledged the athletics staff for assisting with the University's efforts to combat the pandemic through contact tracing and assisting with communications. Regarding Spring 2021 competitions, Rowan University is currently exploring options with the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) such as an abbreviated football schedule, amongst other things. Dr. Koett provided an update on the program review recommendations, which are over 75% completed at this time. This report focuses on job responsibilities, reporting structures, and enhanced checks and balances with regards to budget matters.

SUMMIT COMMITTEES UPDATE

President Houshmand provided an update on the Summit Committees. For the past eight years, the senior administration and deans get together for a two-day retreat in August to plan the opening of the upcoming academic year as well as planning for the years ahead. This year they discussed the formation of various sub-committees to address the new challenges being presented by the pandemic. The first new committee is focused on the academics of the future and is led by Dr. Tony Lowman, and the Academic & Student Affairs Cluster.

Dr. Lowman remarked that the Academics of the Future Committee is picking up where the Education and Workforce of the Future task force left off. The committee is tasking each college at the University with developing one industry relevant certificate to be submitted for approval by December 2020 and be operating as of Fall 2021. Another initiative being pursued is a partnership between Rowan and Udacity, an online content provider that provides workforce skills training. Dr. Lowman continued discussing the Program Revitalization Committee, which is a sub-committee of Academics of the Future. This sub-committee will be reviewing every academic program, course, degree, certificate and departmental operation in terms of efficiency to ensure they are meeting today's needs. Also, they will be evaluating the faculty of the future, which includes existing faculty as well as what type of faculty the University will be hiring moving forward.

President Houshmand then introduced the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, being managed by the Facilities and Operations Cluster, which is led by Mr. Joseph Scully, Senior Vice President for Finance/CFO. Mr. Scully provided a brief overview of the committee's goals, which includes evaluating existing facilities as well as future physical and virtual infrastructure needs. The overall goal is to develop creative ideas and strategies to meet the needs of the university of the future by reviewing infrastructure investments, proposals to decommission and modernizing and replacing existing facilities to enhance the on-campus and virtual experience.

Dr. Monika Williams Shealey, Senior Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), provided an overview of the DEI Committee, which she is managing along with Mr. RJ Tallarida, Vice President for University Advancement. Dr. Shealey provided some context: the DEI Division was initially launched in 2019, the division members toured all three Rowan campuses speaking with students, faculty, and staff as well as commissioned an equity audit of students, faculty, staff, and Glassboro residents. The data was categorized into the following three areas: the need to create an inclusive and equitable campus community; recruiting and retaining diverse students; promoting and supporting inclusive scholarships, professional development, and teaching. These elements align with the current goals and efforts of the University. The committee is reviewing historical data for trends on how the University has been admitting students from diverse backgrounds. This information, along with various other aspects of student life, are being examined to determine why there is a disparity in graduation rates

between minority and white students at the University. They will also be launching the Center for Neurodiversity and Accessibility Services in Spring 2021. A task force, including the presidents of Rowan College of South Jersey (RCSJ) and Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC), has been formed to create a seamless transition for students from high school to postsecondary outcomes, ensuring they have opportunities to engage in meaningful work experiences and placements. Lastly, they are exploring how to generate external revenue through industry partnerships and philanthropic efforts to support all Rowan students, particularly those who have been historically marginalized.

President Houshmand then introduced Ms. Melissa Wheatcroft, General Counsel, who is leading the University's Compliance Cluster. This committee has been charged with evaluating the University's overall efficiencies and how they relate to Rowan's financial position. While these efficiencies are being evaluated, the University must retain the highest level of operational success as well as satisfying the needs of the students.

President Houshmand provided a brief recap of the various committee initiatives while expressing his gratitude for the efforts of all parties involved. The proactive, holistic approach being taken by Rowan University is unlike any other in higher education. This, along with strong, competent leadership in the cabinet, will contribute to Rowan University being able to successfully navigate the currently tumultuous waters of higher education and have it poised to be a driving force at the forefront of where higher education is heading.

FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

President Houshmand introduced Dr. Horacio Sosa, Vice President for Strategic Ventures & Initiatives. Dr. Sosa provided an update on the efforts being taken to expand the current course offerings with specific regards to the Rowan Veterinary School and the collaborative effort with Udacity. Dr. Sosa explained that Rowan will be pursuing a non-traditional route for the veterinary school. It will focus on ensuring students are prepared to immediately engage in their respective field of study once completing their courses. For the past year they have been conducting feasibility studies, gathering information, and compiling their research to determine expected class size, anticipated cost to students, and the various education delivery options. Dr. Sosa also discussed the partnership with Udacity. The partnership will help expand the Rowan portfolio regarding the new competencies and skills students will be offered through the Udacity platform. Dr. Sosa also believes this partnership will help mitigate costs overall to Rowan students.

President Houshmand then asked Dr. Jeff Hand, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs, to provide an enrollment trend update. Dr. Hand discussed recruitment, how students are reevaluating their overall life path and how higher education fits into these plans. Due to this student

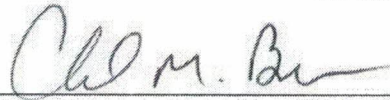
uncertainty, universities are implementing novel recruitment attempts to attract new students. With regards to Rowan, marketing efforts have expanded and there was recorded growth in undergraduate Global enrollment while maintaining a relative steady state across the board, especially in comparison with other area Universities. Dr. Hand attributes this to the University being able to pivot, adjusting to the new landscape of higher education.

Dr. Mira Lalovic-Hand offered some insight regarding the University's Information Resources & Technology (IRT) efforts during the pandemic. She stated that preparation had already begun for a more virtual education delivery model due to digitalization and increasingly accessible technologies, but that the pandemic forced the implementation of this system earlier than anticipated. Fortunately, the IRT Department is typically operating with systems that are still several years from full implementation and this allowed the University to quickly adapt to the virtual education model.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Bruner entertained a motion that was seconded to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Lee Ann Barbin, Recording Secretary
for the Board of Trustees



Chair, Board of Trustees



Secretary, Board of Trustees