

## MINUTES

### SPECIAL TELEPHONE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

University of Connecticut Board of Trustees  
October 26, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE TRUSTEES: Philip Rubin, Mark Boxer, Sandy Cloud, Jr., and Marilda Gandara  
ADDITIONAL TRUSTEES: Board Chair Daniel Toscano and Andrea Dennis-LaVigne  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rich Vogel, Tim Shannon, and Konstantine Drakonakis  
UNIVERSITY SENATE REP: Edward Weingart  
UNIVERSITY STAFF: Abhijit Banerjee, Nicole Barkley, Joanna Desjardin, Radenka Maric,  
David Nobel, Rachel Rubin, Dan Schwartz, Jeffrey Shoulson, and Ki Chon

Call to order at 1:00 p.m.

Committee Vice-Chair Rubin convened the meeting at 1:02 p.m. by telephone. He introduced the new University Senate Representative Professor Edward Weingart, who replaced Professor Janet Pritchard.

#### 1. Public Participation (limited to agenda items)

There were no members of the public who wished to speak on the agenda items.

#### ACTION ITEM:

#### 2. Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Committee of June 29, 2021.

On a motion by Trustee Boxer, seconded by Trustee Cloud, the minutes from the June 29, 2021, Special Meeting were approved.

#### PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

#### 3. Opening Remarks – Dr. Philip Rubin

Vice Chair Rubin welcomed all attendees and noted the purpose of this meeting was to review and consider the breadth of research, entrepreneurship, and innovation at the University. The Committee will be provided with an update and a report from different areas promoting research and innovation.

#### 4. Research, Grants & Entrepreneurship – Dr. Radenka Maric, Vice President for Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Dr. Maric provided an update on grants and their impact on UConn along with a comprehensive comparison to other universities. This presentation focused on the breadth, depth and readiness of UConn and our research as well as the economic impact. She also updated the Committee on the NSF meeting and outlined ways to improve the landscape of grant funding to attract outstanding faculty and researchers.

5. Entrepreneurship & Innovation Updates - David Noble, Director of The Werth Institute & Associate Professor In-Residence for the School of Business

Mr. Noble provided a detailed overview of the history, successes, and current programs. He noted that the Werth Institute was established almost four years ago and four signature programs have been created during that time.

6. Biomedical Engineering Research Accomplishments - Dr. Ki Chon, Department Head & Chair for Biomedical Engineering, School of Engineering

Dr. Chon provided the Committee with an overview of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, which included data and current research highlights of a few faculty members in order to highlight the impacts of UConn technology.

7. Closing Remarks

Dr. Rubin thanked everyone for their informative presentations, which illustrated the increased research activity at UConn. He indicated that a comprehensive and coherent plan needs to be established that ties in all interdisciplinary studies while at the same time engaging faculty and students to become more involved.

Dr. Rubin noted that another meeting will be scheduled in the near future to continue the discussion of research activities and interdisciplinary connections.

8. Executive Session (as needed)

There was no Executive Session held.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Trustee Boxer, seconded by Mr. Drakonakis, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business, the Committee meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole E. Barkley  
Secretary to the Committee