

KSURSF BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2020

Attendees: President Pam Whitten, Chair; Provost Kat Schwaig, CEO; VP for Research Phaedra Corso, COO; Interim Chief Business Officer Brenda Stopher, Treasurer; Dean Ian Ferguson, Assistant CEO; Chief Legal Affairs Office Nwakaego Nkumeh, Legal Affairs; Associate Professor Scott Nowak, Member; Professor Paola Spoletini, Member; Maria Thacker-Goethe, Member; Kenneth (K.C.) Martin, Member; Graduate Research Assistant Ashley McDonald, Member; Jonathan Coker, non-voting Secretary.

Guests: Research Scientist Christopher Cornelison

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Pamela Whitten, at 2:00 PM.

Guest Research Presentation: White nose syndrome in bats by Chris Cornelison.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting: The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2019 meeting, motioned by Kat Schwaig and seconded by Ron Matson, all approved.

Report of the Chairperson: The chair informed the Board that KSU experienced 30% enrollment growth in its freshman class for FY2020. Last year, we hosted NCUR Conference, largest attendance in conference history and first time hosted by a university in the state of Georgia. The Graduate College has exciting new graduate programs forthcoming that will help expand research. We have created a new front entrance to the university, where previously no front entrance existed. Celebrating MLK this week, kicked off with a MLK luncheon with guest speaker from Lockheed Martin. January 21, 2020, KSU hosted a 6 Ways luncheon of how MLK has inspired each individual. University Development received its largest gift in history of \$10 million, for the Honors College, which will support honors programs to come together in new exciting colleague way, cross disciple, new and old turf.

Report of the Chief Executive Officer: Dean searches: College of Science and Math, Coles College of Business, WellStar College of Health and Human Services. We are currently in the process of filling 43 NEW faculty member positions, with 12 hired and 8 have started. The gift to the Honors College was structured to benefit Honors College and all colleges through a honors matching fund. New graduate programs being reviewed by board: Master of Science and Cyber Security, online program; BS and Major in Applied Health due to only 19% of students who enroll into nursing are accepted and will allow those not accepted to stay on campus. MA in Art and Design; and Analytics & Data Science Institute has transferred from The Graduate College to College of Computing and Software Engineering under Dean Jon Preston, that will allow the Ph D program to 5 additional students.

Report of the Chief Operating Officer: Highlight and introduce guest presenter, Chris Cornelison, beginning as Professor of Science beginning March 1, 2020 and will work 50% capacity with Office of Research as Director of Intellectual Property. Office of Research is currently hiring and training staff, to decentralize research functions down into the colleges. External grant funding is currently a million dollars higher than this time last year, we currently have submitted 120 proposals and been awarded 71 externally funded awards. Institutional Revenue Board has received 309 research proposals. Undergraduate Research is sponsoring 100 students to travel to Bozeman, Montana and present their research at NCUR this year. New Assistant Vice President of Research, Bill Diong, Electrical Engineer with IP experience, who is developing a culture for postdoc with development plan and mentoring. Office of Research is creating a new office of IP Development that will focus on KSU's intellectual property. Evelina Sterling from Humanities, who serves as the Director of Research Development to assist faculty with their research idea, to paper, to proposal, to funding. She hosted a Summer Fellows Programs that brought in 23 faculty with no teaching requirement and with the end expectation of

submitting an external funded proposal. This year, she will be scaling back the program to 10 fellows. Office of Research is multiple research events related to the research themes through Speed Networking, one held yesterday, January 21, 2020 at Marietta, for faculty to meet and discuss research. Working jointly with CETL to create and host Faculty Learning Communities, who have been assigned the task to create university definitions for each research theme. Grants management system from Smart Grant to CAYUSE, a functional grant software system.

Report of the Treasurer: Nothing to report. New CFO starts February 17, 2020; comes from Oregon State University with grant and research experience.

Report of the Executive Committee: Consists President, Provost, VP for Research, CFO and secretary as non-voting member. Goal of this committee will be to focus on the operations and finance related items within KSURSF. Currently are reviewing the open accounts that have had no activity and working on closing or transferring that accounts to the faculty member or department that conducted that research. The end goal will be to have an accurate count of open projects and dollars awarded/expensed.

Unfinished business: Nothing to report.

New business:

- Board Vision – shift from governing body to strategic planning body. We have invited external members and currently reevaluating board members, Ron Matson as Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Chief Executive Officer. Is it enough to have two signers on the KSURSF Board and not require the Assistant Treasurer to not sit on the board? Legal advises to update the bylaws to reflect. Create smaller committee that works to edit the bylaws.
- Phaedra create two subcommittees: Bylaws and Strategic Planning.
 - Bylaws: Volunteer committee to edit bylaws and decrease the governing body members and to increase the external members.
 - Strategic Planning: What do we want this board to do? What does KSU need to be doing better externally? How to get engaged with the correct stakeholders in Georgia? How do we go after external funders to support research centers and institutes? Committee will bring ideas to the Board to assist the VP for Research think strategically. Martha questioned the culture at KSU as a research university or a teaching university? Martha has volunteered to be on a strategic planning committee to assist with culture and brand recognition and awareness. Scott would like consistent messaging to the community. Martha states faculty connection is key. Kenneth has not used KSU for any state architecture projects, he would like KSU to send Lockheed the four research themes and five architecture faculty that would make it easy for Lockheed to reach out to. Barrier to entry is finding faculty in the niche that supports research. Who are the best researchers selling their research outside of KSU? Scott volunteered Chris Cornelison. Martha can you brainstorm with other universities, Mercer, who is trying to break down the same barrier(s), they are opening 4 research innovation centers across Georgia. Martha wants to get VPRs together to discuss best practices. Ian states that Georgia Tech has a large number of facilities for use in engineering but the barrier for KSU is capital.
- Next meeting will be scheduled for the end of second quarter.
- Martha launching a career center and would like to post the open 43 faculty positions.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 PM.