

MINUTES
Board of Trustees
Bowling Green State University
February 20, 2026

Notice having been given in accordance with the Board of Trustees Bylaws, the following members met the McMaster Room, 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union at the Bowling Green campus on February 20, 2026: Amy Shore, Chair; Judy Budi, Willa Ebersole, Phil Greenberg, Paul Hooker, Russ Martin, Magnolia McMillan, Mark Remeis, Mizell Stewart III, Howard Traul II, and Kathryn Ware.

Also present: Dr. Rodney Rogers, President, members of the President’s Cabinet, constituent representatives, members of the media, and a number of observers.

Ms. Shore called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Ms. Zawodny called the roll and announced that a quorum was present (seven trustees).

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Rodney Rogers provided the Board with updates on recent success in national rankings related to the University’s academic programs and highlighted signature events focused on civics, leadership, and alumni engagement. He concluded his report sharing additional details on the activities of athletics, University Advancement, and student life.

MINUTES

No. 14-2026 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Traul seconded that the minutes of December 4 and 5, 2025 be approved as written.

All signed in affirmative. Motion carried.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Mr. Martin, Chair of the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee, reported that the Committee had three items for Board consideration.

Approval of Curricular Approval Process

No. 15-2026 Mr. Martin moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

WHEREAS, the 136th General Assembly enacted House Bill 96, which established new requirements for institutional governance at public universities in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Section 3345.457 of the Ohio Revised Code requires the Board of Trustees of each state institution of higher education to adopt a curricular approval process for the establishment and modification of academic programs, curricula, and courses, general education requirements, and degree programs; and

WHEREAS, the statute mandates that such a process must grant the faculty senate or other comparable representative body the opportunity to provide advisory feedback while retaining the Board’s ultimate and overriding authority; and

WHEREAS, Bowling Green State University has developed a Curricular Approval Policy that complies with these new state requirements while remaining consistent with its consultative and shared governance processes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees hereby adopts the Curricular Approval Policy as its curricular approval process as required by Section 3345.457 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President or delegate is authorized and directed to implement and enforce this policy, including its incorporation into the University's policy register and appropriate operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution and the adopted policy be submitted to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education by March 31, 2026.

Ms. Zawodny conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting "yes" – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Martin, Mr. Remeis, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with seven affirmative votes.

Approval of Accelerated Bachelor of Applied Studies in General Business

No. 16-2026 Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Remeis seconded that:

WHEREAS, the Ohio Revised Code §3345.89 directs public universities to offer accelerated bachelor's degree pathways, while addressing the educational and workforce needs of adult and non-traditional learners in Ohio;

WHEREAS, the proposed Accelerated Bachelor of Applied Studies in General Business is an innovative, streamlined baccalaureate degree that provides students with a comprehensive foundation across core business disciplines, including accounting, economics, finance, management, marketing, information systems, and entrepreneurship;

WHEREAS, unlike the traditional Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, this program does not include concentrations or minors; instead, it emphasizes applied learning, flexibility, and efficiency, enabling students to complete a high-quality business degree in 90 credit hours;

WHEREAS, the program is designed for non-traditional learners—particularly adults who are at least seven years post-high school graduation or age 25 and older—many of whom are balancing employment, family responsibilities, and prior college experience;

WHEREAS, by maximizing transfer credit, incorporating prior learning assessment, and offering flexible delivery modalities, the degree reduces time-to-degree and overall cost while maintaining academic rigor and clearly defined learning outcomes;

WHEREAS, this proposal responds to emerging accreditation guidance and statewide workforce priorities by creating a degree pathway aligned with employer demand for broadly trained business professionals prepared for supervisory, small business, and applied leadership roles;

WHEREAS, the program supports key goals of the *Forward* strategic plan by (1) reducing barriers to completion and supporting timely, career-focused outcomes; (2) strengthening partnerships with community colleges and regional employers, contributing to workforce development in key sectors such as healthcare, logistics, insurance, manufacturing, and entrepreneurship; and (3) utilizing existing courses and infrastructure and remaining cost-effective and operationally sustainable;

WHEREAS, this degree is expected to enhance recruitment and retention by appealing to a large and growing population of adult learners seeking affordable, flexible, and workforce-aligned bachelor's degrees;

WHEREAS, national and state data demonstrate strong demand for accelerated business pathways, and the program positions BGSU to compete effectively in this space while expanding its public impact;

WHEREAS, importantly, the degree complements existing business programs without displacing current students or eliminating academic options; and

WHEREAS, the proposal has successfully completed all required stages of internal review.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the Accelerated Bachelor of Applied Studies in General Business.

All signed in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Approval of Special Education (BSED) Program Change

No. 17-2026 Mr. Martin moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that:

WHEREAS, the revised Bachelor of Science in Education in Special Education BSED introduces a more flexible and student-centered program design by creating two distinct pathways: a teacher licensure specialization leading to Intervention Specialist licensure and a community organization specialization for students pursuing careers outside of K–12 teaching;

WHEREAS, this redesign ensures that students can complete the degree even if they are unable or choose not to pursue licensure, while still benefiting from the strong applied foundation of special education coursework;

WHEREAS, the revisions also reduce overall credit hours and co-requisite requirements, and improve transfer friendliness—shortening time to degree and improving affordability;

WHEREAS, in addition, the proposal enables 100% online delivery, significantly expanding access for students who are unable to attend traditional on-campus classes due to geographic, professional, or personal constraints;

WHEREAS, these updates reflect current recommendations from the Council for Exceptional Children, state review standards, and external accreditation expectations, while responding to persistent workforce needs in special education and disability-focused community services;

WHEREAS, the revised program aligns with the *Forward* strategic plan by (1) improving long-term sustainability by increasing visibility, reducing barriers to completion, and aligning program outcomes with workforce and societal needs; (2) expanding access through online delivery to non-traditional students and those unable to relocate or attend in-person classes; and reducing credit hours, increasing curricular flexibility, and decreasing time and cost to degree;

WHEREAS, the revisions are expected to improve recruitment and retention by increasing program visibility through clearer naming, expanded pathways, and enhanced flexibility;

WHEREAS, the addition of a community organization specialization provides an alternative completion route for students who may otherwise leave the major, while the redesigned mild/moderate coursework sequence creates opportunities for students across education programs to engage with special education content;

WHEREAS, collectively, these changes support student persistence, reduce time to completion, and strengthen career readiness across both licensure and non-licensure pathways; and

WHEREAS, the proposal has successfully completed all required stages of internal review and does not require additional resources for implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the Special Education (BSED) Program Change.

All signed in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Mr. Martin reported that the Committee heard an Academic Affairs Update from Provost Ravi Krovi; a Research Update from Dr. Laura Regassa, Vice President for Research; an Enrollment Management Update from Vice President Cecilia Castellano; and a student Engagement and Success Update from Dr. Glenn Davis, Vice President for Student Engagement and Success.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Ebersole, Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee, reported that the committee had four action items for consideration.

Approval of Participation in the Local Administration Competency Certification Program of Capital Facilities Projects

No. 18-2026 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Traul seconded that:

WHEREAS, the 126th Ohio General Assembly enacted HB 16 establishing a Local Administration Competency Certification Program (the “Program”) for the benefit of certain state-assisted institutions of higher education, including state universities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3345.51 of the Ohio Revised Code (“R.C.”), the Program authorizes such institutions to administer state-funded construction, reconstruction, improvement, renovation, enlargement, or alteration of a public improvement under its jurisdiction without the supervision, control, or approval of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.C. 123.17 the Ohio State Architect’s Office (the “SAO Program”) may award local administration competency certifications to institutions of higher education and such certifications are required for participation in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the University to administer its own capital facilities projects in accordance with the requirements of both R.C. 3345.51 and R.C. 123.17 (the Program and the SAO Program hereinafter may be collectively or individually referred to as the “Local Administration Program”); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the University has adequate controls and sufficient personnel with the knowledge, skills, training, and professional certifications to satisfactorily participate in and manage the Local Administration Program in accordance with the requirements of the law;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that among other authorities, the President or the Vice President for Finance and Administration is hereby delegated the authority to provide written notice to the Ohio Board of Regents, pursuant to R.C. 3345.51 (A)(2), to convey the Board’s request to administer one or more specific capital facilities projects (as the President or Vice President for Finance and Administration may deem appropriate) within sixty days after the effective date of the section of an Act initially making an appropriation for the relevant project; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 3345.51(A)(3), the University hereby states its intention to comply with R.C. 153.13 and the guidelines established pursuant to R.C. 153.16 and all laws that govern the selection of consultants, preparation and approval of contract documents, receipt of bids, and award of contracts with respect to each project subject to the requirements of the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(6), and to the extent permitted by the Ohio State Constitution, the University agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State and the Ohio Department of Administrative Services for any claim of injury, loss, or damage that results from the University’s administration of a capital facilities project subject to the requirements of the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(5), the University represents to the Ohio State Architect’s Office that the University will conduct biennial audits of the University’s administration of capital facilities projects in accordance with R.C. 3345.51(C), for such period of time as the University may be participating in the Local Administration Program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to the requirement set forth in R.C. 123.17 (D)(2), the Board hereby provides its assurance to the Ohio State Architect’s Office that the University will select new employees to participate in the Local Administration Program as necessary to compensate for employee turnover; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes and directs the President or the Vice President for Finance and Administration to take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the University’s certification for and successful participation in the Local Administration Program.

Ms. Zawodny conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Martin, Mr. Remeis, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with seven affirmative votes.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Residence Hall Room Rates

No. 19-2026 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Budi seconded that:

WHEREAS, boards of trustees at public colleges and universities in Ohio are responsible for establishing the fees to be charged for room rates and related ancillary services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees hereby approves an average room rate increase of 2.5 percent as shown on Schedule 2 to be effective for the fall semester of Fiscal Year 2027 unless Ohio law indicates a lesser allowable increase in which case BGSU’s proposed room rates will only increase to the extent permitted by Ohio law.

Ms. Zawodny conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Martin, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with six affirmative votes. Mr. Remeis abstained.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Meal Plan Rates

No. 20-2026 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Remeis seconded that:

WHEREAS, boards of trustees at public colleges and universities in Ohio are responsible for establishing the fees to be charged for meal plans;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees hereby approves a meal plan rate increase of 3.0 percent for the Bronze Meal Plan and increases for all other plans as shown on Schedule 1 to be effective for the fall semester of Fiscal Year 2027 unless Ohio law indicates a lesser allowable increase in which case BGSU’s proposed meal plan rates will only increase to the extent permitted by Ohio law.

Ms. Zawodny conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Martin, Mr. Remeis, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with seven affirmative votes.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Academic Course Fee Revisions

No. 21-2026 Ms. Ebersole moved and Mr. Traul seconded that:

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the University’s Academic Programs provide students with a worthwhile educational experience; and

WHEREAS, several special fee requests are specifically intended to support newly created academic programs; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the impact inflation has had on the cost of providing these enhanced instructional experiences and ensure that certain programmatic needs continue to be adequately funded;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves the special fees as listed on Schedule A effective for the fall semester of Fiscal Year 2027 (or as otherwise noted) to the extent permitted by Ohio law.

Ms. Zawodny conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting “yes” – Ms. Budi, Ms. Ebersole, Mr. Martin, Mr. Remeis, Ms. Shore, and Mr. Traul. The motion was approved with six affirmative votes. Mr. Greenberg abstained.

Ms. Ebersole reported that Mr. Casey Wyman gave presentations on the following informational items: Comparative Senate Bill 6 Financial Ratios for Year Ended June 30, 2025; List of Tentative Capital Project Board Action Items for

FY2026-2027; Status of Capital Projects Status Report – Over \$1,000,000; and the E&G Expenditure Report through December 31, 2025.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Development Committee Chair, Ms. Budi, stated that the only action item before the committee was the approval of minutes from the previous meeting. Discussion items included a University Advancement Report from Vice President Tina Hennessey, a Foundation Board report, and comprehensive campaign planning.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Governance Committee Chair, Mr. Stewart, stated that the only action item before the committee was the approval of minutes from the previous meeting. Discussion items included National Trustee candidates and selection process and Governor-appointed trustee candidates and timelines.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Shore provided a few brief announcements and noted that the next meeting will be held on May 1, 2026, on the Bowling Green campus.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:05 p.m., Ms. Budi moved and Ms. Ebersole seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.