



Stockton University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

AGENDA

The meeting will open to the public at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. Immediately following action on the resolution to meet in closed session, members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting.

The Board will reconvene for the Virtual Open Public Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Notice of Public Meeting: As required by the Open Public Meetings Act, on June 10, 2025, a notice of this Meeting and Public Hearing, the dates, times, and locations of Stockton University Board of Trustees Public Meetings were: (a) posted on the University's website, (b) sent to the Press of Atlantic City and the Daily Journal, and (c) filed with the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, Galloway Township Clerk's Office, and Atlantic County Clerk's Office.

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call, Trustee Valentin, Board Chair**
- 2) Action Item: Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2025**
- 3) Action Item: Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2025**
- 4) Action Item: Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of June 26, 2025**
- 5) Action Item: Resolution to Meet in Closed Session**

The Board will approve a resolution to meet in closed session to review and discuss personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; public safety matters, and other items exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act.

- 6) Call to Order and Roll Call to reconvene Open Public Meeting: Board Chair**
- 7) Chair Report: Trustee Nelida Valentin**
- 8) President's Report: President Bertolino**
- 9) Committee Reports**
 - a. Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report: Trustee Gonsalves, Chair**
 - b. Student Success Committee Report: Trustee Hanselmann, Chair**

c. Finance and Professional Services Committee Report: **Trustee Lowry, Chair**

Action Item: Resolutions: Consent Agenda

- [Proposed FY26 Operating & Capital Budget and Adoption](#)
- [FY26-FY28 Bid Waiver Contracts](#)
- [FY26 Increase in Bid Waiver Contract](#)

d. Audit Committee Report: **Trustee Ciccone, Chair**

e. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report: **Trustee Lozano, Chair**

f. Advancement Committee Report: **Trustee Days, Chair**

g. Investment Committee Report: **Trustee Keates, Chair**

12) University Policy Review: President Bertolino

Information Items: [Review of Policies \(First Reading\)](#)

- [I-9.5 University Seal, Colors, and Mascot](#)

Actions Item: Resolution: [Approval of Action for University Policies](#)
(Second Reading)

- [II-70 Emeritum Status](#)

13) Action Item: Resolution: President Bertolino

- [Personnel Actions](#)

14) New Business

15) Comments from the Board of Trustees/Public

Members of the public should limit their comments to three minutes and are not permitted to cede their time to another member of the public.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, in the Campus Center Event Room, Galloway Campus.

Adjournment

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

OPEN PUBLIC MINUTES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Trustees Present *On Zoom	Trustee Nelida Valentin, Chair (Absent) Trustee Jose Lozano, Vice Chair Trustee Michelle Keates, Secretary Trustee Raymond Ciccone* Trustee Collins Days, Sr. Trustee Mady Deininger* Trustee Sonia Gonsalves Trustee Kristi Hanselmann (Absent) Trustee Amy Kennedy Trustee Timothy Lowry Trustee Stephanie Lutz (Absent) Trustee Mary Maples Trustee Mukesh Roy Trustee Fotios Tjoumakaris Trustee Juan Diego Chaparro Villarreal, Student Trustee Trustee Melanie Chin, Student Trustee Dr. Joe Bertolino, President, and Ex Officio
Call to Order	Vice Chair Lozano called the meeting to order at 11:45 p.m.
Approval of Open Public Regular Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2025	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Maples, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2025, Board of Trustees Open Public Meeting.
Resolution to Meet In Closed Session	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Lutz, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 12:33 p.m.
Reconvene the Open Public Meeting	Vice-Chair Lozano reconvened the Open Public Meeting at 3:30 p.m.
Special Recognition	Vice-Chair Lozano, accompanied by President Bertolino, began the meeting by presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing Student Trustee Juan Chaparro for the completion of his term. Juan expressed his gratitude to those who made his time as not only a Student Trustee but as a Stockton student a rewarding and life-changing experience.
Chair's Remarks	Vice-Chair Lozano thanked everyone for their attendance at the final Board meeting of the academic year and continued his remarks by once again applauding Juan Chaparro for his passion for service and acknowledged incoming Student Trustee Melanie Chin. Vice-Chair Lozano expressed his appreciation to his fellow Trustees, President Bertolino, and the University Senior Leadership for their work and dedication during a challenging academic year. He shared his excitement in Stockton being chosen as a FIFA training site for Brazil's CR Flamengo team, and the upcoming Employee Recognition Ceremony and OSPREY Awards scheduled for the following day. He concluded by mentioning the Special Meeting of the

	Board scheduled for June 26, 2025, which will center around tuition and fees for the upcoming academic year.
President's Report	<p>President Bertolino began his report by thanking the student ambassadors who assisted with the Board meetings throughout the academic year and acknowledged Dr. Terricita Sass and Heather Watkins for their work in organizing the Board meetings throughout the year. He recognized and thanked the Trustees for their dedication and service and the leadership of outgoing Student Trustee, Juan Chaparro.</p> <p>President Bertolino shared that earlier in the day, the Trustees honored President Emeritus, Dr. Harvey Kesselman, on his upcoming retirement. He continued by sharing highlights from the Spring Town Hall by reaffirming Stockton's commitment to academic freedom, inclusive excellence, and access to a quality education. He celebrated the return of the Foundation Scholarship Gala to the Galloway Campus and University Advancement for surpassing their annual fundraising goal by \$700,000.</p> <p>He recognized student athletes, Jordan Niti (Stockton's all-time hits leader in Baseball), Narina Tramp (NJAC's Pitcher of the year in Softball), McKenna George (NJAC Co-Rookie of the Year in Softball) and Jack Vandergrift (Rookie of the Year in the Coastal Lacrosse Conference) for their recent achievements. President Bertolino congratulated the Speech and Hearing Clinic for acquiring a \$50,000 annual grant for the next five years to establish New Jersey's only Speak Out Therapy and Research Center for individuals with Parkinson's Disease. Stockton's University Relations and Marketing team received 9 awards at the 40th Annual Educational Advertising Awards for their work on multiple campaigns, including the "Choose Stockton" recruitment campaign and the "Undercover Osprey" video. Accolades were also given to Don Hudson and the rest of the facilities and operations team as the Park View Residential Complex at the Atlantic City Campus was named a top project by NJBIZ magazine.</p> <p>President Bertolino spoke briefly about the Campuswide Climate Survey that was administered earlier in the semester. The results will be shared with the campus community in the coming months. He represented Stockton at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities "On The Hill" conference in Washington DC, where he was the only New Jersey College President in attendance. During the conference, he met with Senators Cory Booker and Andy Kim, along with Congressman Jeff Van Drew. In the coming weeks, he will attend the NJ Assembly Budget Committee Hearing to continue advocating for state financial support of Higher Education institutions.</p> <p>He applauded Provost Palladino and Dr. Ashlee Roberts for their leadership in the Strategic Planning process, which has shown participation from more than 1000 people (faculty, staff, students, and alumni) through surveys and community forums. This participation has assisted in identifying five key themes for the Strategic Plan.</p>

	<p>Additional feedback sessions are forthcoming. The President concluded his remarks by speaking about the upcoming commencement ceremonies, announcing the name of the keynote speaker for the undergraduate ceremonies, Stockton Alumnus Dwight McBee, Chief Patient Experience Officer at RWJ Barnabas Health.</p>
<p>Academic Affairs & Planning Committee Report</p>	<p>Vice Chair Lozano called upon Committee Chair Trustee Gonsalves to provide the Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report.</p> <p>Trustee Gonsalves began by sharing some of what Provost Palladino discussed regarding Federal policy updates that may affect grant funding and accreditation for Higher Education Institutions. He is working with the Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, the Faculty Union, and General Counsel to monitor these changes and respond accordingly if needed. The Provost continued to speak about Academic Affairs' focus on improving campus culture and student academic success and provided an update on three Dean Searches that are underway.</p> <p>Information was provided about the "Walls and Halls" project. A new initiative to display faculty, staff, student, and alumni art across campus to build pride and camaraderie. New articulation agreements were signed with local community colleges to continue to enhance transfer pathways. A working group has been formed to take a look at the Student orientation process through the Academic Affairs lens to better engage incoming. The Academic Affairs division is also working on a Summer Bridge program, a pilot program to support new undergraduates.</p> <p>Trustee Gonsalves turned the report over to Provost Palladino, who acknowledged the faculty who received tenure and promotion. He asked them to stand and be recognized.</p> <p>Trustee Gonsalves closed out her report by mentioning the grant received from the Parkinson's Voice Project for the Speech and Hearing Clinic and the Faculty presentation by Dr. Lauren Seyler. She presented her research on methane seeps and iron bogs along with student Jasper Herbert, who shared his lab experience.</p>
<p>Student Success Committee Report</p>	<p>Committee Vice Chair Trustee Roy began the Student Success report by summarizing the four divisional priorities that Interim Vice President Dr. William Latham outlined in the meeting, along with various tools and strategies that Dr. Latham gleaned from his recent attendance at the First Year Experience Annual conference in New Orleans.</p> <p>One of the things that was highlighted was the addition of 203 new members within fraternity and sorority life during the Spring Semester.</p> <p>Dr. Ana Edmonson highlighted the progression of Osprey Navigate, which included 3700 student check-ins since January. Dr. Steve Radwanski spoke briefly about the proposed 12-year maintenance and furniture plan for University Housing. Ms. Candace Mitchell shared a bit about her recent attendance at the First Year Experience</p>

	<p>conference in New Orleans, and Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management, Darren Bush, spoke about the 39.7% increase in enrollment deposits for the coming academic year.</p> <p>Trustee Roy ended his report by asking Dr. Ian Bouie, Director of Academic Achievement, to formally recognize the latest recipients of the Board of Trustees Fellowship for Distinguished Students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Leonel – <i>“Women of Color and Leadership in Media”</i>, advisor Toby Rosenthal • Jackson O’Brien – <i>“Jose Limon Dance Company Summer Intensive”</i>, advisor Professor Rain Ross • Guivenchiali Saint. Jean – <i>“The Black Excellence of Atlantic City”</i>, advisor Professor Donnetrice Allison
Finance and Professional Services Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Lowry initiated his report by providing a brief overview of the items discussed in the Finance and Professional Services Committee, including in detail the four resolutions to be presented to the Board for approval.</p> <p>Trustee Lowry presented the following resolutions by Consent Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the FY25 budget into FY26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The FY25 budget will remain in place until the FY26 state budget is finalized and the University’s FY26 Budget is presented to and approved by the Board at its July 2025 meeting. • FY26-FY28 Bid Waiver Contracts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AtlantiCare Physicians Group PA (3-year waiver, \$1,834,250) - Baker Tilly Advisory Group Parent, LP dba Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP (3-year waiver, \$226,800) - ProQuest LP dba ProQuest LLC (3-year waiver, \$185,000) - EBSCO Industries Inc. (3-year waiver, \$570,000) - Center for the Helping Professions (1-year waiver, \$196,000) - NJ State Colleges and Universities (NJSCU) Risk Management Program c/o The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) (1-year waiver, \$1,000,000) - Montrose Environmental Solutions, Inc. (3-year waiver, \$217,700) - Ex Libris (USA) Inc. (3-year waiver, \$300,000) • FY26 Increase in Bid Waiver Contract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PageUp People Inc. (FY26, additional amount requested \$54,065) • Academic Terms Fees Effective for FY26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are a total of seven changes as compared to last year’s fees, including renaming some of the fees, removing outdated ones, and adding a \$100 Nursing Education Resource Fee. <p>The board approved the resolutions upon a motion made by Trustee Deininger and seconded by Trustee Days. There was</p>

	<p>one abstention by Trustee Maples for the FY26-FY28 Bid Waiver Contract resolution.</p> <p>Trustee Lowry concluded his report by sharing that the committee was provided with a FY25 finance update on operational and capital spending through April 30, 2025. He noted that 94% of the operating revenue forecast was realized, and 90% of the operating expense forecast was realized. Capital expenditures to date totaled \$2.6M. He stated that the budget forecast through April 30th reflects significant improvement because of stronger summer tuition and housing revenue and recognition of savings from vacancies and non-salary expenses. The \$9.7M budget shortfall reported in March has been revised to a \$1.3M budget shortfall.</p> <p>During the meeting, Senior Vice President for Administration & Finance and CFO, Jennifer Potter, provided an update on the development of the FY26 budget, noting that it is well underway, and lastly, Fitch affirmed the University's "A" rating and stable outlook in their March 14th ratings action.</p>
Audit Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Ciccone reported that the Audit Committee met with the external and internal auditors on April 30, 2025.</p> <p>Baker Tilly, Stockton's outsourced internal audit function, reviewed their current internal audit activities, including reviews of Supplemental Payments and Sponsored Research. Additionally, they shared the status of internal audit follow-up for the recently completed Office of Global Engagement and Financial Systems Access Controls audits.</p> <p>Grant Thornton presented their 2025 annual audit plan. They reviewed the audit timeline and scope, significant audit risk areas and other areas of focus, required audit communications, and auditor independence. Additionally, two new GASB pronouncements were reviewed – GASB 101, Compensated Absences and GASB 102, Certain Risk Disclosures. Both are effective for Stockton's fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.</p> <p>Additionally, Regina Rosenello, the University's Risk Manager, shared an Enterprise Risk Management update on 3 of the University's top risks – Student Success, Government Relations, and Campus Morale.</p>
Buildings and Grounds Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Lozano opened his committee report by sharing that some of the Trustees had the opportunity to Tour Housing I earlier in the day. He noted the need for renovation and that future investment options for improvements would be presented to the board at a later date.</p> <p>During the committee meeting, Don Hudson provided brief details on the over 20 Summer projects that are underway. The Summer projects fall under either deferred maintenance or general improvements for new and developing parts of the campus. The Library renovation project continues to go well and remains on schedule. A committee consisting of faculty, staff, and students will soon be assembled to engage in design and furniture decisions for</p>

	<p>the new space. Ongoing evaluation of off-campus properties is being conducted, the results of which will be shared in more detail at a later date.</p> <p>Trustee Lozano concluded his report by noting that a discussion commenced in regard to next year's investment into Capital Projects. The FY26 capital project proposal is currently at \$6.2M, but the institution has committed to not exceeding \$5M to be more fiscally prudent and responsible as the institution navigates challenging financial times.</p>
Advancement Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Days began his report by sharing that University Advancement has exceeded their fiscal year goals with new gift commitments totaling more than \$4.7M with additional gifts in progress. Several gift signings and announcements are planned over the next several weeks.</p> <p>He congratulated the team involved with the Scholarship Gala and its return to campus for the first time in 20 years. The Stockton Spring 2025 media campaign is gaining momentum; the ads are beautiful and helping people discover Stockton. There have been planes flying Stockton banners from Wildwood to Sandy Hook, and the new "Lake Fred" Instagram Account has already gained 500 followers in two short months.</p> <p>During the committee meeting, the Government Relations Team provided an update on their ongoing work to secure adequate state funding for the next fiscal year, amid cuts to Higher Education funding. Trustee Days acknowledged the work that President Bertolino has been doing. The President has had over 100 meetings with legislators to advocate for funding equity and to champion public Higher Education.</p> <p>Trustee Days concluded his report by thanking Laura Leonel, who was recognized earlier in the board meeting as a Board of Trustees Distinguished Student Fellow. Laura shared with the Advancement committee her experience participating in the First Gen leadership conference.</p>
Investment Committee Report	<p>Committee Chair Trustee Keates reported that the Investment Committee met on April 29, 2025, with our Investment Advisors to review investment performance through March 31, 2025.</p> <p>The University's total portfolio balance as of March 31st was \$123,282,939. For the nine months ending March 31st, the University had a gain on investments of \$4,397,794. Wells Fargo's return for the nine months was 4.07% and Windmark's return was 3.57%.</p> <p>Trustee Keates concluded her report by sharing that both Advisors reported that investment objectives and asset allocations were within the guidelines outlined in the University's Investment Policy Statement. Additionally, during April, there was a loss on investments of \$24,232, bringing the University's total portfolio balance to \$123,263,199. The risk of recession has surfaced due to moderating economic activity but mostly related to the prospective impact tariffs</p>

	will have on prices, inflation, and export growth. This is a fluid situation that is being closely watched.
University Policies	<p>President Bertolino presented the following policies for a second reading and approval by the Board of Trustees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-55 Campus Conduct Code • I-57 Campus Hearing Boards • II-73 Terminal Degree <p>Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Roy the board approved the resolutions.</p>
Personnel Actions Resolution	<p>President Bertolino presented the Board with the following resolution for approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel Actions Resolution <p>Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Roy and seconded by Trustee Gonsalves the Board approved the resolution.</p>
New Business:	
Board Comments and Comments from the Public	<p>Student Representatives of Stockton's Smokefree Ambassadors group provided a short presentation advocating for a clearer and more enforceable smoking policy at the institution. During their presentation, they highlighted student-led efforts funded by the Truth Initiative and NJ Quits. Emphasized the rise in vape and nicotine pouches and called for a more collaborative policy revision and enforcement to reduce academic disruptions and promote wellness. They also shared a short video featuring student testimonials supporting a smoke-free campus.</p> <p>Faculty Senate President & Associate Professor of Biology Mike Law congratulated his fellow faculty and staff on their promotions and tenure.</p> <p>Sophomore student Guivenchiali Saint Jean inquired about Stockton's role in addressing the Food insecurity issues in Atlantic City, as the University has a campus in the city. President Bertolino acknowledged the issue and shared that the University is working with local officials to advocate for solutions. Trustee Lozano added that Stockton Alum Cookie Till has also been actively involved in addressing the food insecurity issues in that area.</p> <p>Incoming Student Trustee, Melanie Chin, expressed heartfelt appreciation for outgoing Student Trustee, Juan Chaparro's service and leadership as Student Trustee, highlighting his dedication and impact on the Stockton community.</p>
Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting	The next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. This meeting will be virtual.
Adjournment	Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on July 16, 2025

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – OPEN SESSION
ATLANTIC CITY CAMPUS
MAY 17, 2025

BOT Members Present	Nelida Valentin (<i>Chair</i>), Jose Lozano (<i>Vice Chair</i>), Michelle Keates (<i>Secretary</i>) Reverend Collins Days, Sr., Madeleine Deininger, Sonia Gonsalves, Amy Kennedy, Timothy Lowry, Mary Maples, Fotios Tjoumakaris , and President Joe Bertolino (<i>President, Ex-Officio</i>)
Absent	Ray Ciccone, Kristi Hanselmann, Stephanie Lutz, and Mukesh Roy
Additional Guests	Vashae Dixon (EAB), Michael Palladino, Ashlee Roberts, Terricita Sass, and Heather Watkins
Item I.	Call to Order Chair Valentin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
Item II.	Resolution to Meet in Closed Session Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Tjoumakaris, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 9:35 a.m.
Item III	Reconvene Open Session Chair Valentin reconvened the open session at 3:50 p.m.
Item IV	Adjournment Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Maples and seconded by Trustee Lowry, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
MICHELLE KEATES
Board Secretary

HEATHER WATKINS
Deputy Chief of Staff & Board Liaison

Approved by the Board of Trustees on July 16, 2025.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – OPEN SESSION
VIA ZOOM
JUNE 26, 2025

BOT Members Present	Nelida Valentin (<i>Chair</i>), Michelle Keates (<i>Secretary</i>), Ray Ciccone, Reverend Collins Days, Sr., Madeleine Deininger, Sonia Gonsalves, Stephanie Lutz, Mary Maples, Dr. Mukesh Roy, Fotios Tjoumakaris, Melanie Chin, and President Joe Bertolino (<i>President, Ex-Officio</i>)
Absent	Jose Lozano, Kristi Hanselmann, Amy Kennedy, and Timothy Lowry
Item I.	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>Chair Valentin called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.</p>
Item II.	<p>Resolution to Meet in Closed Session</p> <p>Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Roy and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board voted to meet in closed session at 9:08 a.m.</p>
Item III	<p>Reconvene Open Session</p> <p>Chair Valentin reconvened the open session at 12:30 p.m.</p>
Item IV	<p>Chair Report</p> <p>Chair Valentin opened the meeting by thanking the audience online for participating in the day’s meeting. She expressed appreciation to the Trustees for their engagement over the course of the academic year, including commencement and the full-day board retreat that took place on May 17th. She spoke briefly about the value of the May retreat that allowed Trustees to reflect on strategic priorities and Board performance beyond the usual committee work. She then called Trustee Gonsalves from the retreat.</p> <p>Trustee Gonsalves spoke about how informative the Strategic Planning session was, led by Provost Palladino and Dr. Ashlee Roberts. She noted the importance of the Board’s self-assessment that they participated in, which revealed areas for improvement and will guide future actions. She ended her reflection by praising the retreat for fostering a spirit of collaboration and community among the Trustees.</p> <p>Chair Valentin mentioned Stockton’s role as the base camp for the CR Flamengo Soccer team from Rio de Janeiro during the FIFA World Cup preparations. Referring to the team as “Honorary Ospreys.” She concluded her report by asking President Bertolino for any additional remarks.</p> <p>President Bertolino thanked the Board for its continued support, expressing strong momentum and a positive trajectory for the University. He remarked that we had a successful conclusion of the academic year, awarding over 2200 degrees across three commencement ceremonies. He commended the inclusion of the “Golden Ospreys” (Class of 1975 alumni) in the ceremonies and extended gratitude to the entire Stockton team for their dedication and hard work. President Bertolino closed with a light-hearted reference about signing to the graduates during the undergraduate ceremonies – a</p>

unique and memorable event.

Item V.

Committee Report: Finance and Professional Services

Committee Vice-Chair Fotios Tjournakaris initiated his report by providing a brief overview of the items discussed in the Finance and Professional Services Committee meeting, including in detail the five resolutions to be presented to the Board for approval.

Trustee Tjournakaris presented the following resolutions by consent agenda:

- Academic Term Tuition and Fees Effective for FY26 and 2026 Winter and Summer Session Tuition and Fees
 - 3% average increase for the 2025-2026 academic year and winter/summer sessions. \$488 annual increase for in-state full-time undergraduates. These numbers are contingent upon receiving a minimum of \$40.78M in state appropriations.
- FY26 Housing Rents
 - Increases range from 1% to 5% depending on the housing type, with an average increase of 2.9% or \$165 per semester.
- FY26 Meal Plan Rates
 - 8.6% average increase.
- FY26 Tuition Rate For Fully Online Master's Degrees, Graduate Educational Endorsements, and Graduate Certificate Programs
 - 3% increase for fully online master's, endorsements, and certificate programs. New rate of \$758 per credit hour.
- FY26 Bid Waiver Contract
 - AGB Search, LLC (1-year bid waiver, \$135,000)

The board unanimously approved the resolutions upon a motion made by Trustee Deininger and seconded by Trustee Gonsalves.

Item VI

Trustee Tjournakaris concluded his report by sharing an overview of the FY25 operational and capital spend through May 31, 2025. 97% of the operating revenue forecast was realized. 97% of the operating expense forecast was also realized. Capital expenditures to date totaled \$4.5M. The forecasted operating and capital surplus is \$119K – reflecting notable improvement from our original budget deficit of \$20M. The University is

Item VII

forecasting a cash balance at year-end of \$19.6M – well above the goal of \$10-15M. On behalf of the Board, Trustee Tjournakaris thanked the University community for the positive financial results which were largely attributed to the community's efforts to reduce costs. The Board acknowledges and is grateful for the sacrifices.

Item VIII

University Policy Review: President Bertolino

President Bertolino presented Policy II-70 Emeritum Status for a first reading. No action was taken.

Comments from the Board of Trustees/Public:

No public comments were submitted or raised during the meeting.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by Trustee Gonsalves and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 3:30 PM, the meeting will be held virtually.

Respectfully Submitted,
MICHELLE KEATES
Board Secretary

HEATHER WATKINS
Deputy Chief of Staff & Board Liaison

Approved by the Board of Trustees on July 16, 2025.

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

MEET IN CLOSED SESSION

- WHEREAS,** the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 1975, Ch. 231) permits public bodies to exclude the public from discussion of any matter as described in subsection 7(b) of the Act, provided that the public body adopts a resolution at a public meeting indicating its intent to hold a closed session;and
- WHEREAS,** subsection 7(b) of the Act permits a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses, among other things, personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; and public safety matters, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees shall meet in closed session to discuss personnel matters, terms and conditions of collective bargaining, real estate matters, pending or anticipated litigation, public safety matters, including recommendations of the President contained in the Personnel Resolution, and other matters permitted under subsection 7(b) of the Act; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the discussion of matters discussed in closed session may, or may not, be disclosed to the public during that portion of the meeting which convenes at 3:30 p.m.

July 16, 2025

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED FY26 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET AND ADOPTION

WHEREAS, Stockton University has prepared a proposed FY26 Operating & Capital Budget for consideration by the Board of Trustees for adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Professional Services Committee of the Board of Trustees has met to discuss the proposed FY26 Operating & Capital Budget and has recommended that the proposed budget, with any modifications, be presented to the Board for its consideration; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed FY26 Operating & Capital Budget is accepted by the Stockton University Board of Trustees and is hereby adopted.

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

FY26-FY28 BID WAIVER CONTRACTS

- WHEREAS,** the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees of Stockton University finds the following purchases, contracts and agreements have met the criteria for award without public bid under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into contracts with the vendors indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendors & Categories

FY and Amount

Professional Services

AKRF, Inc. (526010)

FY26-FY28: \$258,600

This bid waiver provides consulting services for the development of a comprehensive Watershed Improvement Plan for the Galloway Campus as required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The plan will outline steps to improve water quality and reduce flooding on campus. The plan will include three phases: mapping stormwater infrastructure, evaluating potential improvement projects, and selecting and implementing projects. Timely completion is crucial to protect campus infrastructure, fulfill environmental responsibilities, and support long-term sustainability. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[01]).

Personnel Recruitment and Advertising

Suasion Communications Group LLC (526011)

FY26-FY28: \$460,000

Suasion Communications Group will oversee portions of Stockton's Google AdWords, Facebook, and Instagram advertising campaigns, and will coordinate advertising with local TV networks under the guidance of the Office of University Relations and Marketing (URM). Google AdWords is an online advertising service that enables advertisers to display brief advertising copy to web users, based in part on cookies and keywords, predefined by the advertisers. Suasion will help develop strategies for keywords and messaging, monitor results daily, and adjust as needed for optimal results. Suasion will also provide monthly reports showing expenditures, results, and recommendations. This bid waiver will provide Admissions, General Studies, Graduate Studies, and URM access to utilize Google AdWords for various advertising campaigns. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[20]).

July 16, 2025

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

FY26 INCREASE IN BID WAIVER CONTRACT

- WHEREAS,** the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees of Stockton University has previously approved waiver of public bidding for the below named vendor; and
- WHEREAS,** the contract with the below named vendor must be increased to accomplish the purposes of the bid waiver as specified below; and
- WHEREAS,** the increase in the contract with the below named vendor requires the approval of the Board of Trustees; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into a contract with the vendor indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendor & Category

Original Materials & Supplies

Niche.com, Inc. (524012)

Additional Amount Requested FY26:	\$148,500
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY24-FY25:	<u>270,000</u>
New Recommended Contract Total FY24-FY26:	<u>\$418,500</u>

This bid waiver increase will allow the Division of Enrollment Management to utilize the services of Niche for a third year. Niche provides Enrollment Management with a list of prospective students who are interested in Stockton University, identified through its proprietary algorithms using student-provided data and online engagement. Niche showcases a personalized Stockton University page featuring a virtual tour, photos, admissions information, events, rankings, scholarships, student reviews, and campus life ratings. The Niche Market Intelligence platform also delivers data-driven insights to refine enrollment strategies and improve outreach. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)(03)).

July 16, 2025

BOT OPEN SESSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

17



FROM: Terricita Sass, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff

DATE: July 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Revise/Delete University Policy

I am requesting a revision of the following policy as recommended by policy administrators:

- I-9.5 University Seal, Colors, and Mascot

I recommend that the Board of Trustees conduct a First Reading of the policy at the July 16, 2025, meeting, followed by approval of the recommendation for a Second Reading and a vote on the policies at the September 10, 2025, meeting of the Board.

<p>Policy I-9.5: University Seal, Colors, and Mascot Summary of Key Changes</p>

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- Clarified the symbolism of the official University colors;
- Streamlined the introductory language for clarity and brevity.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY



POLICY

University Seal, Colors, and Mascot

Policy Administrator: Office of the President

Authority: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-6a

Effective Date: December 10, 2003; February 16, 2011; February 18, 2015; May 5, 2021; TBD

Index Cross-References:

Policy File Number: I-9.5

Approved By: Board of Trustees

- I. The Board of Trustees is authorized by state law to adopt and use a corporate seal.
- II. On February 18, 2015, the Board of Trustees authorized the adoption of the current Stockton University Corporate Seal.
- III. The Corporate Seal containing the University's official colors and mascot is attached to this Policy.

Review History:

	Date
Policy Administrator	05/02/2025
Divisional Executive	05/02/2025
General Counsel	06/11/2025
Senior Leadership	06/30/2025
President	07/02/2025
Board of Trustees	

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY SEAL, COLORS, and MASCOT



LOGO:

The original logo of Stockton State College as approved by the first Board of Trustees. The ribbon highlights the year in which the college was established.



RAMPANT LION:

The Rampant Lion represents courage and strength.



BOOK AND CANDLE:

The Book and Candle is a symbol of the enlightenment to be gained through lifelong learning.



TREE:

The Tree represents the Pinelands locale of Stockton's campus.



MASCOT:

Stockton's official mascot is the Osprey. The Osprey is native to our region and was saved from extinction through the efforts of Stockton faculty.



UNIVERSITY COLORS:

Stockton University's official colors are black and white, reflecting the institution's original identity. Over time, blue and yellow have been adopted as prominent complementary colors in the University's visual expression.

- **Black** symbolizes discipline, power, sophistication, and confidence.
- **White** represents new beginnings, completeness, and efficiency.
- **Blue** conveys trust, reliability, confidence, and perseverance, and has become a defining element in Stockton's brand presence.
- **Yellow** signifies enthusiasm, creativity, illumination, and fun.

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF ACTION FOR UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the policies of Stockton University; and
- WHEREAS,** the policies of the University continue to be reviewed by appropriate offices and individuals, with updates and revisions proposed as needed; and
- WHEREAS,** the proposed development of policies of the University have been further reviewed utilizing input from interested parties; and
- WHEREAS,** the review of policies resulted in a recommendation to adopt the following updated policy on Second Reading:
- II-70 Emeritum Status
- The Board of Trustees previously completed a First Reading of this policy; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees approves the adoption of this policy as recommended on Second Reading.

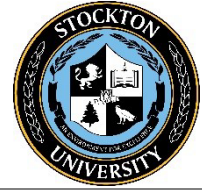
July 16, 2025

<p>Policy II-70: Emeritum Status Summary of Key Changes</p>

The Procedure has been updated as follows:

- Update vernacular and style;
- Revised to include gender neutral language;
- Add timing to coincide with tenure and promotion calendar for Board approval
- Adds specific language to include Library Faculty in Section 1
- Added Sections to include emeritum status for Deans, Provosts, and Presidents

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY



POLICY

Emeritum Status

Policy Administrator: Provost

Authority:

Effective Date: May 8, 2013; TBD

Index Cross-References: Procedure 2001: Emeritum Status and Privileges

Policy File Number: II-70

Approved By: Board of Trustees

I. TERMINOLOGY

This procedure uses the gender-neutral terms emeritum (singular) and emerita (plural) in place of the previously gendered terms emeritus/a (singular) and emeriti/ae (plural). Those named as emeritum faculty may specify the form of emeritum they wish to use (emeritus, emerita, emerit).

II. EMERITUM STATUS FOR FACULTY

This status is conveyed through a personnel resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the President and Provost to selected retiring faculty who are in good standing with the University at the time of retirement.

Minimum service for emeritum consideration is: 5 years post-tenure for all faculty who earn tenure, or any faculty member at the rank of full professor, 11 years for non-tenure track positions, and 22 semesters of service for adjunct faculty.

- A. Program/Library faculty nominate the retiring faculty to the Dean who makes a recommendation to the Provost.
- B. The Provost will then make a subsequent recommendation to the President. If in agreement, the President makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.
- C. Upon the recommendation of the President, emeritum status is awarded by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the calendar to award tenure and promotion.
- D. Faculty awarded emeritum status will have Emeritus/a/um added to the end of the rank or title earned at the time of their retirement.

III. EMERITUM STATUS FOR DEANS, PROVOSTS, AND PRESIDENTS

Dean, Provosts, and Presidents who have been awarded tenure in an academic Program are eligible for emeritum status at the time of retirement upon the recommendation of their home academic Program to the Provost, President, and/or the Board of Trustees.

- A. Emeritum status for a Dean is conveyed by the action of the Board of Trustees to a recommended retiring Dean with at least 7 years of service as Dean, who is in good standing with the University at the time of retirement.
- B. Emeritum status for a Provost is conveyed by the action of the Board of Trustees to the recommended retiring Provost with at least 7 years of service as Provost, who is in good standing with the University at the time of retirement.
- C. Emeritum status for a President is conveyed by the action of the Board of Trustees to the recommended retiring President with at least 7 years of service as President, who is in good standing with the University at the time of retirement.
- D. The titles for those granted emeritum status will be Dean Emeritus/a/um, Provost Emeritus/a/um or President Emeritus/Emerita/Emeritum depending on the Board action.

Review History:

	Date
Policy Administrator	01/14/2025
Faculty Senate	11/15/2024
AA Council	01/14/2025
AA Leadership	03/31/2025
Divisional Executive	04/10/2025
General Counsel	04/16/2025
Senior Leadership	04/24/2025
President	04/24/2025
Board of Trustees	

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

July 16, 2025

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts and approves the following recommendations concerning personnel actions, subject to and contingent on the appropriation of funds by the State of New Jersey and receipt by the University