

**Minutes of the Board of Regents  
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

**Meeting No. 210  
May 15, 2020**

The Board of Regents (Board), Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), virtually met on May 15, 2020, using the USU Google Meet online platform due to the COVID-19 Pandemic that prevented an onsite meeting. A Google Meet address was provided to the Regents, enabling a two-way forum for discussion among the Board members. The meeting was simultaneously broadcasted via a YouTube link made available to the public for real-time observation. A permanent link to the complete open session meeting video can be found at <https://digitalcollections.lrc.usuhs.edu/digital/collection/p15459coll3/id/53816/rec/1>

The meeting date and agenda items were published in the *Federal Register* and each Regent was duly notified prior to the meeting. The Board Executive Secretary, Jeffrey Longacre, M.D., and the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Ms. Sarah Marshall, were both present during the entire meeting. The meeting was called to order by the DFO at 8:17 a.m.

Members and advisors listed below were in attendance:

**Board Members**

Honorable Jonathan Woodson, M.D., Chair  
Ronald R. Blanck, D.O., Member  
Honorable Sheila P. Burke, M.P.A., Member (via telephone)  
Michael M.E. Johns, M.D., Member  
Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., Member  
Leo Rouse, D.D.S., Member  
Honorable Gail Wilensky, Ph.D., Member  
Terry Rauch, Ph.D., Representing ASD(HA) (Secretary of Defense designee)  
Richard W. Thomas, M.D., D.D.S., President, USU  
Lt Gen Dorothy A. Hogg, USAF, NC, Surgeon General of the U.S. Air Force  
VADM Jerome Adams, USPHS, Surgeon General of the United States  
RADM Bruce Gillingham, MC, USN, Surgeon General of the U.S. Navy  
MG Telita Crosland, MC, USA, Representing the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army

**Advisors to the Board**

General Thomas R. Morgan, USMC (Ret), Military Advisor  
Thomas Travis, M.D., M.P.H., Senior Vice President, Campus South, USU  
William Roberts, M.D., M.B.A., Senior Vice President, Campus West, USU  
Arthur L. Kellermann, M.D., M.P.H., Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine (SOM), USU  
Carol Romano, Ph.D., R.N., Dean, Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing (GSN), USU  
Thomas R. Schneid, D.M.D., M.S., Executive Dean, Postgraduate Dental College (PDC), USU  
Lula Pelayo, Ph.D., R.N., Acting Dean, College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS), USU  
CAPT Danielle Wooten, MSC, USN, Interim Director, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), USU  
Mark Peterson, J.D., Legal Advisor to the Board, USU

## OPENING COMMENTS

The meeting was called to order by the DFO and initial comments were made by the Board Chair, Dr. Woodson.

## MATTERS OF GENERAL CONSENT

Chair Woodson presented matters of general consent:

- Declaration of Board Actions since the February meeting
  - March electronic vote
    - Endorsement of Naming Auditorium C2 in honor of Robert Joy, COL, MC, USA
    - Endorsement of three faculty members (Okech, Remick and Singer)
    - Endorsement of student Board of Regents awards
      - Omni Cassidy, Graduate Education
      - Chandler Bennett, ENS, MC, USN School of Medicine
    - Endorsement of accelerated graduation on 1 April 2020 for listed SOM and GSN students
  - April electronic votes
    - Endorsement of accelerated GSN student conferrals on 1 May 2020
    - Endorsement of SOM and GSN conferrals on 16 May 2020

## BOARD ACTIONS

### February Board minutes

Chair Woodson presented the February Board minutes per the meeting materials

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice vote:** Concurred with the minutes as drafted.

### Degree Conferral – SOM Graduate Education

Dean Kellermann presented for endorsement (Tab 11) 33 degrees of Master of Health Policy Management and Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 4 degrees of Master of Health Professions Education, one Master of Science, and 12 PhD candidates. Three additional medical students have met the criteria for the MD degree.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice vote:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dean Kellermann and recommended that the USU President confer the degrees as stated upon these candidates.

### Degree Conferral – PDC

Dean Schneid presented for Board endorsement candidates for the degree of Master of Science in Oral Biology based on successful completion of degree requirements (Tab 12). Dean Schneid noted removal of one student from the submitted list, who remains in good standing, and is expected to now graduate in the fall.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice vote:** Concurred with the recommendation as presented by Dean Schneid and recommended that the USU President confer the degree as stated upon the candidates.

#### **Degree Conferral – CAHS**

Dean Pelayo presented 89 candidates for Board endorsement upon completion of associate or bachelor degree requirements, as noted in Tab 13. There are two additional students added to the submitted class list.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice vote:** Concurred with the recommendation of degree conferral upon completion of degree requirements, as presented by Dean Pelayo for conferral by the USU President.

#### **Faculty Appointments and Promotions – SOM**

Dean Kellermann presented the recommendations made by the SOM Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure (CAPT) at the 12 March 2020 meeting or appropriate search committees (Tab 14).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dean Kellermann and recommended that the USU President implement the actions for faculty appointment or promotion.

#### **Faculty Appointments and Promotions – PDC**

Dean Schneid presented the recommendations made by the PDC Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure at meetings on 6 January and 6 March 2020 (Tab 15).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dean Schneid and recommended that the USU President implement the actions for the faculty appointment or promotion.

#### **Faculty Recognition – GSN**

Dean Romano presented the nomination of Dr. Linda Wanzer to receive the appointment of emeritus professor (Tab 16).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dean Romano and recommended that the USU President implement the action for the award approval.

#### **USU PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Thomas' report to the Board is found at Tab 17. No actions were requested of the Board.

Chair Woodson asked about the potential for opening the campus, and what effect current events will have on research, most notably for the graduate students and completion of their degrees. President Thomas noted that although activities have slowed considerably, the campus has not closed and the current plan is to safely optimize the return to campus.

#### **ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS' REPORT**

On behalf of the ASD(HA), Dr. Terry Rauch (Acting DASD HRPO) presented the report to the Board (Tab 18). Dr. Rauch noted the significant role that USU has contributed in COVID-19 translational, clinical and basic science research.

#### **SCHOOL OF MEDICINE REPORT**

Dean Kellermann presented his summary Board report highlights (Tab 19). No actions were requested of the Board.

#### **SCHOOL OF NURSING REPORT**

Dean Romano provided a summary of Board report highlights (Tab 20). No actions were requested from the Board. Regent Burke asked about simulation being utilized as a substitute to decreased clinical exposure during COVID. Dean Romano noted there have not been concerns with clinical exposure.

#### **POSTGRADUATE DENTAL COLLEGE REPORT**

Dean Schneid provided a highlight summary of his Board report (Tab 21). No actions were requested from the Board. Regent Rouse noted that he has been quite impressed with Dean Schneid and his dental school deans in dealing with the challenges of COVID-19.

#### **COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH REPORT**

Dean Pelayo provided a highlight summary of her Board report (Tab 22). Dean Pelayo recommended to the Board a proposal for a new program awarding academic credit, the Ophthalmic Technician.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board

**Vote by voice voted:** Concurred with the recommendations as presented by Dean Pelayo and recommended that the USU President implement the proposal.

#### **ACCREDITATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Mr. Henske provided a highlight summary of his Board report (Tab 23). No actions were requested of the Board.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Mr. Tinling provided a highlight summary of his Board report (Tab 24). No actions were requested by Mr. Tinling of the Board. Regent Blanck asked Dr. Rauch to elaborate on what actions are being taken by the ASD(HA) in regard to budget cuts. Dr. Rauch answered that with the budget efficiency drills, HA is but one voice at the table, and HA is not even a lead in the discussion on areas such as research. Chair Woodson noted that the issue of budget cuts for the university is an important issue that the Board needs to address and it will take it as an action item.

**UNIVERSITY BRIGADE COMMANDER REPORT**

CAPT Hussey provided a highlight summary of his Board report (Tab 25). No actions were requested of the Board. As CAPT Hussey prepares to PCS, Chair Woodson and President Thomas noted CAPT Hussey’s outstanding performance as Brigade Commander.

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Neither Chair Woodson nor any other Regents had closing remarks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Woodson and the Board DFO adjourned the open portion of the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

**SUBMITTED:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey L. Longacre, M.D.  
Executive Secretary, Board of Regents

**APPROVED:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan Woodson, M.D.  
Chair, Board of Regents

Prepared by: Jeffrey Longacre, MD, Executive Secretary, [jeffrey.longacre@usuhs.edu](mailto:jeffrey.longacre@usuhs.edu)