

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College held a meeting on Monday, August 10, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held via remote conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Ron Lumbra, Vice Chair Cynthia Barnhart, Secretary Curt McCormack, President Suresh Garimella, Frank Cioffi, Carolyn Dwyer, and Don McCree

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shap Smith

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT: Berke Tinaz

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Foundation Representative President & CEO Shane Jacobson, Staff Council Representative Stephen Lunna and Graduate Student Senate Representative Avery Rasmussen

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Faculty Representative Thomas Chittenden and Student Government Association Representative Lana Al-Namee

PERSONS ALSO PARTICIPATING: Provost and Senior Vice President Patricia Prelock, Vice President for Legal Affairs & General Counsel and Chief of Staff to the President Sharon Reich Paulsen and Vice President for Finance & Treasurer Richard Cate

Chair Ron Lumbra called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. He announced there is an additional item for the committee's consideration today that will be introduced when other action items are presented.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Lumbra entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 15 and June 29, 2020 meetings. The motion was made, seconded and it was voted to approve both sets of minutes as presented.

President's remarks

President Garimella reported that students are beginning to arrive on campus and are following the protocols outlined in the University's Safe and Healthy Return to Campus Plan. He stated the plan is aligned with and meets the state's requirements for higher education, and in many cases the plan exceeds the requirements set forth by the Governor. Earlier today, the president issued a response to a letter received from Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger addressing the Mayor's concerns. President Garimella reiterated that the University has a comprehensive strategy that is the result of months of research and planning in collaboration with the Governor, public health officials, and the Vermont Department of Health, as well as conversations between his office and the Mayor's office.

The University's plan reflects the state's commitment to maintaining a safe community through data driven travel restrictions and quarantine measures. Students are required to take a pre-test prior to arrival on campus and follow on-going testing procedures upon arrival. The Vermont Commissioner of Health Mark Levine has expressed confidence in the University's approach.

While students who reside in the city are not under the direct supervision of the University while they are off campus, the University is committed to enforcing COVID-19 regulations and protocols for all UVM students. Staff have been working in neighborhoods to educate students on their community impacts and responsibilities. This includes communication and outreach efforts targeted to off-campus students outlining expectations and highlighting the use of sanctions if students do not abide by the Green and Gold Promise and Student Code of Conduct.

Action Items

President Garimella outlined details of UVM's testing program which he noted he shared in an opinion piece he wrote for Inside Higher Education regarding the importance of COVID-19 testing to a successful fall reopening on college campuses. He reported that UVM's program is one of the most comprehensive in the country. To help ensure that students do not bring Coronavirus infections with them to Burlington, as previously mentioned the University will be testing all students before they arrive on campus. Students will also be tested upon arrival, again on day 7, and weekly tests are planned through September after which data will be analyzed and the frequency for periodic testing for the remainder of the semester determined.

The pre-arrival testing is being administered by Vault Medical Services P.A., which will analyze the samples and provide the results to the individual students and to UVM.

Clinical Research Sequencing Platform, LLC (CRSP), a wholly owned subsidiary of The Broad Institute, whom is affiliated with Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will assist the University with on-going COVID-19 testing services once students are on campus. The results will be made available to the University and the individuals tested.

In addition to students, all faculty and staff working on campus can also access the testing free of charge.

President Garimella concluded his comments by acknowledging that the pre-arrival testing is a dynamic process and has not been without challenges. He has spoken to the Chief Executive Officer of Vault Medical Services who has ensured problems will be corrected.

The following resolutions for pre-arrival and on-going COVID-19 testing services were presented for approval:

Resolution approving contract with Vault Medical Services, P.A.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Vault Medical Services, P.A. for COVID-19 testing services from July 30, 2020 through July 30, 2021 for an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000.

Resolution approving contract with Clinical Research Sequencing Platform, LLC

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Clinical Research Sequencing Platform LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of The Broad Institute, Inc. for COVID-19 testing services from July 29, 2020 through January 31, 2021 for an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.

An opportunity for discussion was offered. In follow up to questions regarding any limitation on the number of tests the University can have administered through the Clinical Research Sequencing Platform, the administration responded that the contract is two phased. The first phase covers 50,000 tests and the second phase allows for 50,000-70,000 additional tests. It was noted the number could be increased if necessary.

Trustees expressed unanimous support for the comprehensive testing program and commended the administration on their efforts. Trustee Curt McCormack stressed the importance for all students, including those living off campus, to wear face masks and follow required social distancing protocols to prevent the spread of the virus. President Garimella reemphasized the extensive plans in place to hold students and all campus constituents accountable, including an on-line conduct incident report form that anyone, including members of the Burlington community, are able to submit.

In follow up to budget questions related to COVID-19 testing, Vice President Cate reported that funding provided by the state is being used to cover the \$5.9M testing costs. There will be additional costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic including technology in classrooms for remote instruction, installation of plexiglass and signage, and the purchase of masks, hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies. In September, the board will discuss the full budget planning assumptions for FY 2021. He reported that there is a budget challenge and that all units have been asked to reduce costs to achieve a \$26M savings.

Vice President Cate was invited to introduce the remaining contracts. He began by introducing a resolution approving a contract with Ellucian, Incorporated. Vice President Cate reported that UVM has used the Banner Student Information System since 1995. Over the years, UVM added AppXtender as the document imaging system integrated with Banner; UVM also added Banner Luminis for our student portal and added Degree Works capability.

Product upgrades and maintenance on this suite of software costs approximately \$347,000 annually. Ellucian currently projects 7% per year increases for a year-by-year renewal. A five-year agreement would limit the annual increase to 3-4% per year, saving the University over \$180,000 over five years.

Enterprise Technology Services is requesting approval of a five-year contract starting July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025, with the option of two one-year renewals, for a total amount not to exceed \$2,850,000.

The following resolution was presented for approval:

Resolution approving contract with Ellucian, Incorporated

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successors or designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Ellucian, Incorporated for the Banner Student Information System beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025, with two one-year renewal options, for an amount not to exceed \$2,850,000.

Vice President Cate next introduced a contract renewal with Integration Partners Corporation. The University entered into a five-year contract with Integration Partners Corporation in July 2015 for maintenance and support services for Avaya CS1000 PBX. The system supports 6,000 telephone lines and programmed voice mailboxes across campus.

Due to the constraints with COVID-19 and to maintain uninterrupted phone service on campus, the administration opted to move forward with a one-year renewal. The vendor offered a 0% price increase for the additional year beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

The following resolution was presented for approval:

Resolution approving contract renewal with Integration Partners Corporation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a one-year renewal contract with Integration Partners Corporation for Avaya maintenance and support services beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Vice President Cate then introduced a resolution for a contract for employee medical benefits and pharmacy services. UVM Human Resources released an RFP in April 2020 to a number of medical health benefit and pharmacy service providers in an effort to maximize cost savings. This contract would begin January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025.

The RFP committee is in the final evaluation process of selecting a vendor to provide these services to UVM employees. Once a final decision has been made, Human Resources is requesting the Vice President of Finance and Administration be authorized to negotiate the final terms and conditions by executing a contract by September for employee open enrollment which begins November 1, 2020.

The following resolution was presented for approval:

Resolution approving contract for employee medical benefits and pharmacy services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute a contract for medical benefits and pharmacy administrative services for employees, with a soon to be

selected vendor, for a five-year contract starting January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$13,500,000.

Vice President Cate concluded by presenting a resolution seeking authorization to negotiate and execute an amendment to the UVM/Burlington Ten Year Capital Plan Agreement to allow parties to work together to attempt to reach agreement upon the basic and enhanced design for the University Place improvements from August 15, 2020 to December 31, 2020 and the deadline for the City to make a payment to UVM for construction if an agreement is not reached, to January 31, 2021.

As part of the agreement, the parties agreed to jointly advance improvements to University Place that would improve safety and accessibility for students, employees, visitors, and residents. Throughout this concept development the schedule for the work has been delayed by COVID-19 and an adjustment to the dates is necessary.

The following resolution was presented for approval:

Resolution approving extension of deadlines in the UVM/Burlington Ten Year Capital Plan Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute an amendment to the UVM/Burlington Ten Year Capital Plan Agreement extending the deadline for the parties to work together to attempt to reach agreement upon the Basic and Enhanced Design for University Place improvements to December 31, 2020 and the deadline for the City to make a payment to UVM for construction if an agreement is not reached, to January 31, 2021.

Chair Lumbra noted the committee will vote on all resolutions as a consent agenda and offered an opportunity for final comments. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and all resolutions were unanimously approved as presented.

Chair Lumbra concluded by expressing his deep gratitude to President Garimella and members of the administration for all their great work and efforts to ensure a safe fall opening. He extended appreciation for keeping trustees, and campus and community members, updated throughout the entire pandemic recognizing the challenges of doing so given the ever changing nature of circumstances and available data.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Lumbra, Chair