MINUTES – OPEN SESSION

Cornell University Board of Trustees
Committee on University Relations

May 22, 2020

Via Zoom

Recording of Open Session:
https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/Committee+on+University+Relations+Meeting/1_4634qwi3

Committee Members: Martin Scheinman (Chair), Matthew Biben (Vice Chair), JT Baker, Peter Call, Ezra Cornell, Robert Harrison, Melissa Hines, Jeramy Kruser, Bruce Lewenstein, Barbara Novick, Martha Pollack, Bruce Raynor, Jaewon Sim, Ronald Walsh, Mark Weingarten, Craig Yunker

Faculty/Staff/Students/Other: Kristen Adams, Beth Anderson, Richard Aubrecht, Kathryn Boor, David Breazzano, Abigail Cohn, Jason Cole, Alexander Colvin, Katherine Cornell, Cynthia Cuffie, Rachel Dunifon, Ken Goldman, Lorette Gross, Delia Herrin, Katrina James, Kraig Kayser, Barbara Knuth, Michael Kotlikoff, Charlie Kruzensky, Joel Malina, Katherine McComas, Mary Meduski, Dianne Miller, Doug Mitarotonda, Manisha Munasinghe, Dennis Nardi, Zoe Nelson, Carolyn Neuman, Mary Opperman, Daniel Pollay, Susan Riley, Beckie Robertson, Stephen Robinson, Susan Schnabel, Aryan Shayegani, Jacob Snell, Gary Stewart, Paul Streeter, Mark Veich, Lorin Warnick

Welcome
Chairman Martin Scheinman welcomed the committee members and read the New York state open meeting declaration.

January 2020 Minutes
The committee approved the January 30, 2020, minutes.

Updates and Announcements
Chairman Scheinman reminded committee members that written reports and key messages are posted on the Committee on University Relations webpage on the Trustee’s secure website.

Albany Report: NYS Response to COVID-19 and Budget Implications
Charlie Kruzensky, from Cornell’s Albany office, described New York state’s response to COVID-19, the implications for higher education, and the state’s reopen plans for higher education. Charlie noted President Martha Pollack’s service on Governor Andrew Cuomo’s New York Forward Re-Opening Advisory Board and Provost Michael Kotlikoff’s service as co-chair of a group of colleges and universities developing the Restart Plan for Higher Education, which provides guidance for the state to prepare for the return of faculty, staff and residential students to campuses across the state. Zoe Nelson, also from Cornell’s Albany office, discussed the state’s enacted budget and its plans to adjust the budget in response to COVID-19, forecasting potential cuts to state operating funds.

Closed Meeting Declaration
Chairman Scheinman read the New York state closed meeting rules.