

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Curt Doman
Maria Garciaz
Steve Miller
Alex Rose

Bassam Salem
Randy Shumway
Jamie Sorenson

EXCUSED

Katie Eccles (Chair)
David Parkin (Vice-Chair)
Kathi Garff

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Rachel Aho	Chief of Staff, Vice President for Student Services
Cathy Anderson	Special Advisor to President
Sierra Canela	Director, Student Governance and Leadership
Bob Carter	Executive Vice President, Health Sciences
Kim Councill	Director, School of Music
Troy D'Ambrosio	Chief of Staff and Vice President, Innovation, President's Office
Jerome Davies	Chief Philanthropy Officer
Chase Hagood	Sr. Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs
Gina Hawley	Chief Operating Officer, University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics
Jeff Herring	Chief Human Resources Officer
Steve Hess	Chief Information Officer
Lori Kaczka	Senior Director, Facilities
Teresa Kehl	Deputy Chief of Staff, President's Office
Heather King	Associate Director, PR and Communications
Paul Kohn	Sr. Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment and Student Success
Jeff Labrum	Chief Operating Officer
Dan Lundergan	CEO, University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics
Laura Marks	Chief of Staff to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Lori McDonald	Vice President, Student Affairs
Allie Menzdorf	President-elect, Staff Council
Emily Mercado	Associate Professor, School of Music
Mitzi Montoya	Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs
Melody Murdock	Director, Strategic Communications
Chris Nelson	Chief University Relations Officer & Secretary to the University
Manish Parashar	Chief AI Officer
Dave Patel	Administrative Director, VP Government Relations
Rob Patton	Executive Communications Manager, PR and Communications
Jason Perry	Vice President, Government Relations
Richard Preiss	President, Academic Senate
Taylor Randall	President
Jenn Reed	Associate Vice President, Auxiliary Services

Laura Snow	Interim Chief of Staff to the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
Andrea Thomas	Chief Experience Officer
Michelle Thompson	Manager, Office of Student Experience
Natalie Tippetts	Associate Director, VP Government Relations
Reese Vedder	Associate Director, Naming Recognition & Compliance, U Advancement
Tony Wagner	Chief Financial Officer
Danny Wall	Administrative Director, Real Estate
Rebecca Walsh	Director, PR/Communications
Elizabeth Kronk Warner	Dean, S.J. Quinney College of Law
Marie Wintriss	President, University of Utah Staff Council
Heidi Woodbury	Vice President, Institutional Advancement

OTHERS

David Anderson	Chairman and CEO, University of Utah Growth Capital Partners Foundation
Erin Carlisle	Clinical Nurse
Ian Decker	Nutrition Care Patient Services
Laura Dunlap	Critical Care RN
Geoffrey Landward	Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education
Carlos Martinez	Software Design Engineer, Huntsman Cancer Institute
D. Newlin	Field Organizer, Utah Health Workers United
Steven Rideout	Critical Care RN
Jessica Stauffer	Health Care Assistant
Caleb Wilcox	Critical Care RN

CALL TO ORDER

Information: 1.01 – Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:03 a.m. in the Cleone Peterson Eccles Alumni House, Sorenson Legacy Foundation Boardroom. Trustee Bassam Salem welcomed Trustees and others in attendance. He excused Chair Katie Eccles, Vice Chair David Parkin, and Trustee Kathi Garff, who were unable to attend. He also welcomed Steve Miller and Kathi Garff as new trustees.

GENERAL CONSENT

Action (Consent): 2.01 – Minutes of the August 5th Meetings of the Board of Trustees

Action (Consent): 2.02 – Faculty and Staff Matters (Appendix I)

Action (Consent): 2.03 – Sponsored Projects Report (Appendix II)

Action (Consent): 2.04 – University Leases (Appendix III)

Action (Consent): 2.05 – Report of Investments Portfolio – for the Month of June (Appendix IV)

Action (Consent): 2.06 – Revise Policy – Policy 6-309 Academic Staff, Educational Trainees, Postdoctoral Fellows, and Medical Housestaff (Appendix V)

Action (Consent): 2.07 – New Policy – Policy 3-055 University of Utah Investment Policies and Procedures for the Endowment Pool (Appendix VI)

Action (Consent): 2.08 – Emphasis Discontinuation – Environmental Geoscience (Appendix VII)

Action (Consent): 2.09 – Emphasis Suspension – Mining Engineering BS (Appendix VIII)

Action (Consent): 2.10 – Emphasis Suspension – Music History and Literature (Appendix IX)

Action (Consent): 2.11 – New Certificate – Health and Medical Writing (Appendix X)

Action (Consent): 2.12 – New Emphasis – Civil Engineering BS (Appendix XI)

Action (Consent): 2.13 – Discontinuation Minor – Global Citizenship (Appendix XII)

Action (Consent): 2.14 – New Minor – Business Artificial Intelligence (Appendix XIII)

Action (Consent): 2.15 – Suspension Minor – Peace and Conflict Studies (Appendix XIV)

Action (Consent): 2.16 – Unit Change – Medical Humanities Minor Transfer to Philosophy (Appendix XV)

Action (Consent): 2.17 – University’s Advancement Corporate Resolution (Appendix XVI)

Action (Consent): 2.18 – Naming – Katie and Ned Stringham Family Neuromodulation Suites in the Kem and Carolyn Fagrner Mental Health Crisis Care Center (Appendix XVII)

Action (Consent): 2.19 – Naming – Facilities in the James LeVoy Sorenson Center for Medial Innovation (Appendix XVIII)

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar by Maria Garciaz, second by Curt Doman. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garciaz, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Jamie Sorenson

Background materials are included in the Appendices (as noted above) and are on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

ACTION AGENDA

Action: 3.01 – New Degree – BA/BS Legal Studies

Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Dean of S.J. Quinney College of Law presented item 3.01.

Dean Kronk Warner presented the rationale for this new degree:

First, people in a wide range of careers encounter legal issues on a regular basis. By gaining an understanding of basic legal principles, the functional areas of law, and their application in an interdisciplinary context, students will have a competitive advantage in the marketplace regardless of whatever career students elect. For example, human resource professionals routinely encounter issues regarding employment, labor and contract law. Business executives often deal with matters involving corporate law, risk management and regulatory compliance. Employees in

creative industries encounter intellectual property issues. Health care workers often involve regulatory and privacy issues and government employees may be responsible for complying with administrative regulations or constitutional limitations. These and other professionals may not be required to practice in a court of law, but having familiarity with the law will help them understand the legal requirements imposed on them, recognize potential legal issues and prepare them to work with legal professionals when the need arises. In general, the knowledge and skills learned in the degree will be valuable to any student who obtains a job that involves writing, problem solving, research and critical thinking. The unique combination of courses offered in this degree are not found in any other major, either at the University of Utah or any other USHE institution.

Second, students with an in-depth understanding of the law will become better informed citizens and future leaders who will be able to utilize critical thinking skills in applying various legal concepts in their interaction with real-world societal issues, locally, nationally and globally. No other single major will offer such a broad based and comprehensive understanding of the law and combine that understanding with other disciplines.

Third, the degree will advance the University's goal of becoming a top public university in terms of societal impact by producing more graduates who enter society with a good understanding of the role of law in modern society and who are equipped with the skills necessary to be impactful in their communities.

Additional clarifying questions were raised and addressed prior to the motion to approve the new BA/BS Legal Studies degree.

A copy of the supporting materials is included as Appendix XIX with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

Motion to approve item 3.01 by Jamie Sorenson, second by Alex Rose. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Jamie Sorenson

Action: 3.02 – New Degree – Bachelor Music Education

Kim Councill, Director, School of Music, and Emily Mercado, Associate Professor, School of Music, presented item 3.02.

The Bachelor of Music Education degree program aligns with the approved mission, roles, and goals as follows:

- The BME degree program fosters educational excellence, ensuring that graduates are prepared to teach music and impart knowledge in Utah K–12 schools.
- The BME fosters community engagement through K–12 fieldwork and school/university partnerships, providing unique teaching and learning opportunities for preservice music educators and beneficial experiences for K–12 schools.

In this way, the BME contributes to the quality of life of Utah children by providing them with inclusive artistic experiences and by providing undergraduate students from all parts of the state with “interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships to address complex challenges and social problems” (USHE Policy Role, R312). As one of only two R1 research universities in the state, the University of Utah BME prepares graduates to work with marginalized and diverse populations using a variety of pedagogical approaches while drawing upon a breadth of musical traditions. In contrast to the previous degree program (Bachelor of Music with an

emphasis in Music Education), the new BME opens up more space for innovative music pedagogies that may reach more K–12 students, engaging them in healthy social groups and encouraging school attendance. Through local, state, and regional conference participation, BME students are encouraged to continue lifelong learning as they adapt to teaching positions in their communities. The BME degree is interdisciplinary as it intersects with psychology, sociology, wellness, technology, and arts education more broadly. The BME aligns with the approved mission, roles, and goals as graduates are prepared to teach in Utah’s K–12 schools, contributing to the long-term success and viability of the institution.

Additional clarifying questions were raised and addressed prior to the motion to approve the new bachelor degree of Music Education.

A copy of the presentation is included as Appendix XX with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

Motion to approve item 3.02 by Jamie Sorenson, second by Alex Rose. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Jamie Sorenson

Action: 3.03 – Naming – Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Interprofessional Experiential Learning Center in the Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine

Heidi Woodbury, VP University of Utah Advancement presented item 3.03.

Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Interprofessional Experiential Learning Center: In recognition of a \$5,000,000 gift from the Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Foundation, the University of Utah would like to name the Interprofessional Experiential Learning Center in the Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine the "Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Interprofessional Experiential Learning Center" in their honor. A fully executed gift agreement is in place, and the contribution is paid in full.

Motion to approve item 3.03 by Curt Doman, second by Maria Garcia. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Randy Shumway, Jamie Sorenson

Action: 3.04 – Naming – Doxy.me Home Health Studio in the James LeVoy Sorenson Center for Medical Innovation

Heidi Woodbury, VP University of Utah Advancement presented item presented item 3.04.

Doxy.me Home Health Studio: In recognition of a \$1,000,000 gift from doxy.me, the University of Utah would like to name a studio in the James LeVoy Sorenson Center for Medical Innovation in their honor. A fully executed gift agreement is in place.

Motion to approve item 3.04 by Jamie Sorenson, second by Alex Rose. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Randy Shumway, Jamie Sorenson

Action: 3.05 – AI Investment

Manish Parashar, Chief AI Officer; Dave Patel, Administrative Director, VP Government Relations; and Jason Perry, VP Government Relations, presented item 3.05.

The University of Utah is looking to join forces with two powerhouse tech firms to further its vision of harnessing artificial intelligence in ways that accelerate research capabilities. The agreement with chipmaker NVIDIA and Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) will amplify the university's capacity for understanding cancer, enabling medical breakthroughs, and driving innovation and scientific discovery across disciplines. The structure paves a path for substantial advances in computing storage and infrastructure required for Utah-based projects in AI and innovation. The partnership, which includes a \$50 million investment of funds from both public and philanthropic sources, is projected to increase the U's computing capacity several times over. Additional clarifying questions were raised and addressed prior to the motion to approve the programming and planning efforts for this project.

Additional clarifying questions were raised and addressed prior to the motion to approve the proposed AI Investment.

A copy of the presentation is included as Appendix XXI with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

Motion to approve item 3.05 by Randy Shumway second by Curt Doman. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Randy Shumway, Jamie Sorenson

UNIVERSITY FOCUS

University Focus : 4.01 – Student Engagement

Vice President Lori McDonald and Chief Experience Officer Andrea Thomas shared with Trustees the activities associated with Move-in Week and Weeks of Welcome. Both sets of events welcomed students back to campus after summer break. Eighty-two percent of on-campus residents participated in at least one event during the first two weeks.

Faternity and Sorority recruitment has seen its largest recruitment class in the U's history. Sororities have experienced a 27 percent increase in new members. Fraternity recruitment is still underway but they have a 39 percent increase in registrants.

The Launch Lounge expanded its presence in its second year with a large tent, games and food and information for students and parents as they embarked on campus during Move-in week.

During Weeks of Welcome –

- Over 6,000 people participated in the Get Involved Fair this year
- Over 260 student groups tabled at the event
- Block-U Photo
- Crimson Night
 - Nearly 5,800 students attended
 - DJ Ricky Barrera performed

- First Friday Night Hype event of the year
- Plazapalooza
 - Nearly 7,000 attended vs. 5,500 last year
 - 14 food trucks and food vendors vs 9 last year
 - Food vouchers provided to 3,317 students vs 1,972 last year
 - Tents and tables staffed by 37 campus partners vs 22 last year

Also reviewed were several engagement tools students are able to access in order to stay engaged during the upcoming academic year.

A copy of the presentation is included as Appendix XXII with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Report: 5.01 – Current Events

Trustee Salem noted the following:

- September 29 – Board of Trustees Social

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report: 6.01 – Honors and Awards, Distinguished Visitors, Current Research, and Items of Interest

President Randall referred Trustees to the written report which was included in the meeting materials and called attention to the following:

U WELCOMES HISTORIC INCOMING CLASS

- For the sixth consecutive year, the U enrolled a record number of new students with an incoming class in excess of 6,400 first-year students, along with more than 1,300 newly transferred students.
- The first-year enrollment among Utah residents climbed 8% (up from 68% in 2024), while the university continues to attract more non-Utah students, which last year included students from all 50 states and 80 countries around the world.
- Overall, the U's total enrollment rose to record levels, eclipsing 37,000 students for the first time in school history. Official enrollment data is scheduled for release in October.

U SIMPLIFIES MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- The Office of Enrollment Management is creating a more transparent process for potential students that could result in more students receiving merit scholarships.
- The new structure will recognize the hard work and achievements of students with a 3.5 GPA or higher.
- The changes will take effect during the 2026-2027 academic year—that is, for first-time, first-year students beginning in the Fall 2026 Semester or Summer 2026 Semester.

A POTENTIAL WAY TO RELIEVE ARTHRITIC KNEES WITHOUT DRUGS OR SURGERY

- Nearly a quarter of people over the age of 40 experience painful osteoarthritis, making it a leading cause of disability in adults.
- There is currently no way of reversing this damage: the only option is to manage pain with medication,

and eventually, joint replacement.

- Researchers from the University of Utah, New York University and Stanford University are now demonstrating the potential for another option: gait retraining.
- The new study led by Scott Uhlrich of Utah's John and Marcia Price College of Engineering shows gait retraining could significantly ease pain and slow cartilage damage.

The agenda was adjusted, and item 11.01 from the Information Agenda was presented after item 6.01.

Information: 11.01 – Utah System of Higher Education Report

Commissioner Geoffrey Landward began with an overview of the 2025 Program Report, highlighting the key achievements and milestones reached over the past year. The report emphasized the progress made in various programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing the university's academic and research capabilities.

Report: 6.02 – Current Events

President Randall noted the following:

- October 15th – Ivory University House Open House (3rd and 4th buildings)
- October 16th – University's 175 Celebration
- October 22nd – USHE Trustee Summit

After item 6.02, the agenda resumed with senior vice presidents reports from item 6.01

Provost Montoya noted the following:

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS LAUNCHES STUDENT EXPERIENCE PROJECT

- What it is:
 - This fall, we are launching the Student Experience Project (SEP), a five-part effort to strengthen how we support students through services, communications, student-facing technology and data platforms, scholarship administration and engagement opportunities.
- Why we're doing it
 - Students who can't easily find what they need or who don't know where to begin are more likely to miss opportunities, disengage or struggle to complete their degrees.
 - Our Impact 2030 goals—an 80% graduation rate and a 90% job placement rate at the time of graduation—are designed to change that. Achieving those goals will require us to reduce fragmentation and create an integrated, equitable and easily navigable experience for every student.
 - That's the purpose of the SEP. Our aim is simple: every student should be able to access the resources and opportunities they need to succeed, whenever they need them.
- Three of the five components are underway:
 - Student Support Services Model Redesign - To make student support more seamless, we are establishing a new guided services team dedicated to helping students quickly find the right resources and resolve most questions. In addition, we are integrating academic advising and

career coaching, so the two functions work together, connecting what happens in the classroom with career pathways and helping students plan with clarity. Overall, this redesign ensures students get the right help from the right person at the right time.

- Student Information Systems and Technology Governance Committee - Currently, our student-facing technologies and data systems are managed across multiple units with limited coordination. This decentralized approach has resulted in duplicative platforms, inconsistent data practices and inefficient use of institutional resources. To address these issues, the university is establishing a tiered governance structure focused on systems and platforms that rely on individual student-level data. This model improves collaboration, resource utilization and alignment with institutional goals for student outcomes, data stewardship and operational efficiency.
- Student Communication Governing Committee - Effective, timely and coordinated communication is essential for ensuring student success at the U. Currently, student-facing communications are decentralized and often uncoordinated, leading to fragmented messages that can overwhelm, confuse or disengage students. These communication gaps directly impact our ability to support student retention, progression, completion and well-being. This committee will lead efforts to building a more unified, streamlined and efficient strategic communication system that enhances student success.
- The other two components are in earlier stages:
 - Scholarship Administration Improvements - Pilot projects have been completed, and recommendations for streamlining the scholarships process have been circulated for campuswide feedback. A committee will be formed to guide next steps.
 - Student Engagement Coordination - This component is intentionally on hold until the service delivery redesign is further developed, to ensure engagement strategies are aligned with the new support model.

Executive Vice President Carter noted the following:

LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jeff Pettey, MD, MBA, was appointed chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and CEO of the John A. Moran Eye Center, effective September 1. Pettey, a faculty member since 2011, succeeds Randall J. Olson, MD, who led the department and Moran Eye Center for 46 years.

FORBES NAMES U OF U HEALTH AMONG 2025 AMERICA'S BEST-IN-STATE EMPLOYERS

- Forbes recognized U of U Health as one of America's Best-in-State Employers in 2025 for fostering an environment where employees can thrive. Top employers were selected from a vast sample of more than 160,000 employees working for companies with at least 500 US-based workers.

HUNTSMAN MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE LAUNCHES YOUTH CRISIS CARE PROGRAM

- Huntsman Mental Health Institute opened the Youth Crisis Center, a specialized 24/7 crisis stabilization program designed exclusively for children and adolescents ages 5-17 experiencing mental health emergencies.

HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMICS

- As part of an ongoing partnership with Salt Lake City School District, the School of Dentistry and the Liberty Dental Clinic screened 745 elementary students between September 2024 and March 2025 at the Liberty Dental Clinic. Nearly 300 students were identified for follow-up care due to moderate to severe dental needs, and 388 had no dental coverage.

A copy of the presentation is included as Appendix XXIII with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

ASUU UPDATE

Report: 7.01 – ASUU Report

Trustee Alex Rose shared an update on ASUU's current plans and activities.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XXIV with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

ACADEMIC SENATE

Report: 8.01 – Academic Senate Report

Dr. Richard Preiss, president of the Academic Senate, referred Trustees to the Senate's written report.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XXV with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

STAFF COUNCIL

Report: 9.01 – Staff Council Report

Allie Mezendorf, President-elect, Staff Council, shared updates and referred Trustees to the Staff Council's written report.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XXVI with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

ALUMNI REPORT

Report: 10.01 – Alumni Relations Report

Trustee Jamie Sorenson referred Trustees to the Alumni written report and shared an update of the Office of Alumni Relations.

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XXVII with the official minutes of this meeting and is on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

INFORMATION AGENDA

Information: 11.02 – Graduate Council Review – Department of Biochemistry

Information: 11.03 – Graduate Council Review – School of Biological Sciences

Information: 11.04 – Graduate Council Review – Kahlert School of Computing

Information: 11.05 – Graduate Council Review – Department of History

Information: 11.06 – Naming – The Dr. Wallace L. Akerley, III Presidential Endowed Chair for Lunch Cancer Research in the Huntsman Cancer Institute

A copy of the report is included as Appendix XXVIII – XXXIII with the official minutes of this meeting on file in the office of the Secretary to the University.

CLOSED MEETING

Trustee Salem asked for a motion to close the Board of Trustees meeting for the purpose of discussing matters appropriate for Executive Session under Utah's Open and Public Meeting Act 52-4-205 (1).

The following has been approved by the Office of General Counsel:

1. To discuss character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.
2. Strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

Motion to move into closed session by Randy Shumway, second by Alex Rose. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Randy Shumway, Jamie Sorenson

ADJOURN

Resolution: Trustee Salem recommended a motion to adjourn the open meeting of the Board of Trustees.

At 10:59 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on November 11, 2025.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Curt Doman, second by Randy Shumway. Final Resolution: Motion Approved. Aye: Curt Doman, Maria Garcia, Steve Miller, Alex Rose, Bassam Salem, Randy Shumway, Jamie Sorenson

Signed by: Christopher Nelson

Date approved: 18 November 2025