

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**  
**July 30, 2025**

A special virtual meeting of the Board of Governors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, was held on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Ms. Amy Towers, Chair of the Board, presided.

Present and constituting a quorum were Angelson, Copeland, Crosta, Dougherty, Lal, Manigan, Mansue, Piazza, Taffet, Towers, and Zubair.

Absent were Helmy and Schwartz.

Also attending was Pierce, senate representative to the Board of Governors.

Attending for the University administration were Ballentine, Branch, Castner, Calcado, Fernández, Gower, Hopely, Melillo, Norin, Pastva, Pfeiffer, Strom, and Tate.

Attending as a guest was Ms. Keli Zinn.

**ANNOUNCEMENT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 231, PUBLIC LAW 1975**  
**(OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT)**

Ms. Towers called on Ms. Kimberlee Pastva, Secretary of the University, who announced that pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act) public notice of the meeting was filed on July 28, 2025 with the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey and three newspapers, the Cherry Hill *Courier-Post*, the New Brunswick *Home News Tribune*, and the Newark *Star-Ledger*. Public notice of the meeting was posted in the following University Libraries: The Alexander Library, New Brunswick; the Dana Library, Newark; the Robeson Library, Camden; and the Smith Library, Rutgers Health. Pursuant to Public Law 2020, Chapter 11, public notice of the meeting was posted on the Rutgers Website, under Governing Boards.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

Secretary Pastva asked the members of the Board if they had read the meeting agenda and supporting documents and if anyone had a possible conflict of interest to disclose. Board members indicated that no conflicts existed.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Compensation Approval for the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. Ms. Towers stated that the Board was meeting to approve the compensation for the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. She turned the floor over to President Tate, who discussed the qualifications of Ms. Keli Zinn. President Tate stated that Ms. Zinn is an award-winning athletic administrator who has served as Executive Deputy Director of Athletics and Chief Operating Officer at Louisiana State University and as Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Athletics Director at West Virginia University, where she also served as Interim Athletic Director. President Tate highlighted some of Ms. Zinn’s accomplishments and areas of expertise, noting that her programs have won championships and that she has overseen improvements in the academic performance of student-athletes. He stated that Ms. Zinn is one of the finest athletic administrators in the country.

Ms. Towers then asked Dr. Dougherty to present the following proposed resolution:

**WHEREAS**, University President William F. Tate IV has appointed Keli Zinn to the position of Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Zinn currently serves as the Executive Deputy Athletics Director/Chief Operating Officer at Louisiana State University, where she is responsible for the overall operational strategy and management for all external and internal units, including leadership of 21 varsity sport programs with direct oversight of football and gymnastics; identification, recruitment, and retention of coaches; negotiation of external partnerships to generate new revenue and Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) opportunities; and oversight of marketing strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to joining Louisiana State University, Ms. Zinn demonstrated exceptional leadership and administrative expertise throughout her twelve-year tenure at West Virginia University, serving in progressively senior roles including Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Athletics Director, and Interim Director of Athletics, with responsibilities that included oversight of critical internal operations such as business and financial management, human resources, capital planning, and compliance; serving as a key liaison to university leadership and external stakeholders; and oversight of a \$40 million renovation of the football operations center; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Zinn has been offered a 5-year contract, with a base salary of \$1,350,000 in Contract Year 1, with \$50,000 annual increases for each year she receives a positive evaluation; \$150,000 retention bonus payable every two years of the contract term (i.e., upon completion of the second and fourth contract year); and performance bonuses upon achievements of enumerated benchmarks in football, basketball, championship-level play, academics, and revenue generation; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 27, 2025, the Governors Executive Committee reviewed the proposed compensation and contract terms for the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick and recommended its approval by the Board of Governors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Governors Executive Committee, that the Board of Governors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, approves the compensation and contract terms for the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick and enthusiastically welcomes Keli Zinn to the Rutgers Community and the Scarlet Knights.

***The motion was seconded, and there being no discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Proposed Resolution Approving Compensation for the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Rutgers University–New Brunswick.***

Ms. Towers introduced Ms. Zinn, who was brought into the meeting. Ms. Zinn expressed her appreciation for the opportunity and stated that she will focus on ensuring that Rutgers Athletics will be something that the University community will celebrate.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None reported.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony Stoeckert", written in a cursive style.

Anthony Stoeckert  
Writing Associate