

**CAMDEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**  
**June 15, 2020**

A virtual meeting of the Camden Board of Directors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey was held on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. via Webex. Dr. Dougherty presided as Chair.

Present and constituting a quorum were Dietrich, Dougherty, Hundley, McCue, and Stewart.

No board members were absent.

Attending for the university administration were Haddon, Roesener, and Sepanic.

Also present were Rabinowitz, faculty representative to the Board of Directors, and Adepoju, undergraduate representative to the Board of Directors.

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

Mr. Michael Sepanic, associate chancellor for external relations, acted as Secretary of the Rutgers–Camden Board of Directors. He announced that pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 and Public Law 2020, Chapter 11 (Open Public Meetings Act), public notice of this meeting was filed on May 29, 2020 with the Office of the Secretary of 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; and the Robeson Library, Camden. In addition, notice of this meeting was posted on the Rutgers–Camden Board of Directors website.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

Mr. Sepanic asked the board members if they had read the meeting agenda and supporting documents and if anyone had a possible conflict of interest to disclose. No conflicts were reported.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll was taken during the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2019 and DECEMBER 16, 2019**  
**MEETINGS**

Dr. Dougherty called attention to the minutes of the September 13, 2019 and December 16, 2019 meetings that were distributed to the Board and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Receiving no objections, Dr. Dougherty called for a motion which was seconded and asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

Due to Ms. Loree Jones' departure from Rutgers University, Dr. Dougherty presented Mr. Sepanic for the position of secretary for the remainder of Ms. Jones' term from June 2020 to September 2020. Dr. Dougherty called for a motion, which was made and seconded, and asked if there was any

discussion. Hearing none, Dr. Dougherty called for a vote, and Mr. Sepanic was unanimously elected as secretary.

Due to the completion of Dr. Dougherty's terms on the Rutgers–Camden Board of Directors and Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors, Dr. Dougherty presented Mr. Sandy Stewart for membership on the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors for a term ending in June 2021. Dr. Dougherty called for a motion, which was made and seconded, and asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Dr. Dougherty called for a vote, and Mr. Stewart was unanimously appointed.

### **CHANCELLOR'S UPDATE**

Chancellor Haddon provided the Board with an update on important happenings since the last Board meeting on December 16, 2019, including recent student and alumni achievements, response to the COVID-19 pandemic, planning for the fall semester, response to the recent police killings of Black Americans, introduction of Dr. Monica Adya, dean of the School of Business–Camden, and some parting words, as Chancellor Haddon prepared to step down as chancellor and return to the faculty, effective July 1, 2020.

Rutgers University–Camden students and alumni continue to garner prestigious accomplishments. Ms. Patience Williams, MFA, was awarded a Fulbright scholarship and will begin teaching English in the Netherlands in January 2021. Three other Rutgers University–Camden graduates were named as Fulbright alternates. Chancellor Haddon said “this is a significant showing for the campus and underscores the strength of academic programs and the support given to students.” In addition, 2006 Law School alumna Fabiana Pierre-Louis was nominated by Governor Murphy for a seat on the Supreme Court of New Jersey. If confirmed, Ms. Pierre-Louis will be the first Black woman to sit on the court.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges for Rutgers University. The switch to remote learning went reasonably well at Rutgers University–Camden, and Chancellor Haddon thanked Ms. Emily Corse, director of instructional design and technology, and her team for their leadership in assisting faculty and staff in the transition. Ninety percent of Rutgers University–Camden's workforce transitioned to working remotely. Although not present on campus, Chancellor Haddon described the virtual workforce as “fulsome and substantial.” Reduced state financial support and student refunds have resulted in a loss of \$5 million to Rutgers University–Camden. Due to frugal planning and lean operations, layoffs have been avoided so far. Commencements were held virtually. Numerous videos were submitted for inclusion in the virtual commencements. Well-wishers included alumni, Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Donald Norcross, New Jersey Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli, and musician Questlove. Although the date is fluid by necessity, in-person commencements are planned for December 2020.

Rutgers University–Camden also responded to the COVID-19 pandemic with research expertise and service. The Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Policy released a study examining how the 25 largest school districts in New Jersey will fare if state funding is reduced due to budgetary issues brought on by the pandemic. Dr. Sarah Allred, faculty director of the Walter Rand Institute for Public Policy, was invited by Senate President Steven Sweeney to discuss her daily COVID-19 tracker with the senate president and Senators Prue and Sarlo. The Chemistry and Biology Departments are conducting cutting-edge research on fighting the virus with testing and vaccination. The School of Nursing–Camden responded rapidly in a variety of way. They rapidly developed telehealth clinics to provide health services, graduated nursing students early, received funding to prepare military veterans to serve in the fight against COVID-19, and, Dr. Kevin Emmons, clinical associate professor of nursing, served as the chief nursing officer for a COVID-19 field hospital in Atlantic City.

Planning for the fall semester is ongoing and fluid. Health and safety are priorities for all universities throughout the state and country. Rutgers University–Camden is working with the University at-large on processes and policies for bringing faculty, staff, and students back to campus. Committees are

working to envision teaching in the fall, with the possibility of some face-to-face instruction. Committees are also imagining new ways to maintain the sense of community that students enjoy and expect at Rutgers University–Camden. A limited amount of on-campus housing will be offered to students who need it most. While not necessarily increasing, enrollment at Rutgers University–Camden is remaining steady, in part due to transfer students who want to commute to campus.

Chancellor Haddon clearly stated Rutgers University–Camden’s commitment to standing in solidarity with the community against inequity. Chancellor Haddon quoted former President Barack Obama’s use of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s assertion that “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” Chancellor Haddon said “we are moving in the right direction but need to do a lot more to address issues of justice, equity, and civil rights that should be available to all.” Dr. Nyeema Watson, associate chancellor for civic engagement, was cited as a prominent national voice with respect to how cities and universities work together to build a better place. Since the killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, among others, media attention has focused on police reform, specifically on Camden’s experience with creation of a county-wide police force in 2012. Dr. Watson has participated in a host of media interviews about community transformation and support. In addition to its strong commitment to civic engagement, Rutgers University–Camden has also increased access for underrepresented students and worked diligently to support them through robust student success initiatives. Although progress has been made, Chancellor Haddon said Rutgers University–Camden needs to do more, particularly with respect to promoting diversity in the faculty and staff.

Chancellor Haddon introduced Dr. Monica Adya to the board as the recently hired dean of the School of Business–Camden. Dr. Adya hails from Marquette University, where she led the management department. Her areas of expertise include women and IT, digital innovation and technology strategy, as well as disaster recovery and planning. Dr. Adya said Rutgers University–Camden’s commitment to civic engagement and delivering on its mission of providing access to education were two factors that drew her to this position. From the specific viewpoint of the School of Business–Camden, Dean Adya sees opportunity to grow Rutgers University–Camden as a hub for entrepreneurship and innovation in the city and region. She noted that she has three priorities: to develop initiatives at the intersection of healthcare and business by leveraging Rutgers University–Camden’s strength in healthcare and location within a healthcare/pharma corridor; to increase entrepreneurship and innovation with respect to technology and analytics, particularly at the undergraduate level, with potentially significant impact on the city and region; and, to grow engaged civic learning opportunities for students, faculty, and the community to come together to support mutual learning and transformation. Dr. Adya concluded her remarks by thanking the board for their support of Rutgers University–Camden.

As Chancellor Haddon prepared to step down as chancellor and returning to the faculty effective July 1, she said it has been an honor to work with the board and thanked the members for their insight, support, and guidance. She expressed great optimism in the leadership of Rutgers University’s incoming president Dr. Jonathan Holloway. She said “he appreciates the value of Rutgers University–Camden and brings enthusiasm and a sense of purpose to all of Rutgers University.” She also noted that she is leaving Rutgers University–Camden “in good hands” and has been working on a transition plan with Dr. Margaret Marsh, University Professor of History, who will serve as interim chancellor of Rutgers University–Camden effective July 1.

### **UPDATE ON THE JOINT HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors CEO Dana Redd provided an update on several aspects of the Joint Health Sciences Center.

Close-out of the construction phase of the Joint Health Sciences Center (JHSC) continues. The construction punch list is nearing completion, and the final change order for Torcon is being

reviewed and reconciled. Once the final change order is issued and approved, the Joint Board will begin closure of the EDA grant.

Since Governor Murphy has allowed resumption of non-essential construction, the request for proposals for fit-out of the café space on the building's first floor was re-advertised after the Joint Board's meeting on May 12, 2020. Bids are due on July 1, 2020. The Joint Board hopes to award a contract at their next meeting on July 14, 2020.

Seventy-two pieces of artwork created by local artists have been acquired for the Joint Health Sciences Center. Much of the artwork has been received, and the Joint Board is in the process of installing it in the building. The goal is to have all artwork installed by the end of the summer. Ms. Redd indicated selection of artwork was a collaborative process between the building's partners of Rutgers University–Camden, Rowan University, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, and Camden County College. She thanked Ms. Nancy Maguire, associate director of exhibitions at Rutgers–Camden Center for the Arts, for her expertise.

The Joint Health Sciences Condominium Association is up and running, governed by an executive board comprised of representatives from Rowan University, Rutgers University–Camden, and Camden County College. The Executive Board works with the Joint Board, which is responsible for the management of the Joint Health Sciences Center. With respect to loosening of restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Joint Board is currently working with the Executive Board, Grant Facilities, and the Joint Board's legal counsel, to develop and refine a re-occupancy plan for the Joint Health Sciences Center.

Ms. Redd thanked Dr. Dougherty for serving on the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors and welcomed Mr. Sandy Stewart to the role who will serve along with Mr. Frank Hundley. As the former mayor of Camden and current CEO of the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors, Ms. Redd thanked Rutgers University–Camden for being a major player among many partners in helping to facilitate transformation in Camden. She said that she looks forward to further progress in building out the “eds and meds” corridor.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Dougherty directed the Board's attention to old business. There was no old business.

### **TRIBUTE TO CHANCELLOR HADDON**

As this was Chancellor Haddon's last meeting as chancellor, the board expressed gratitude for her leadership, passion, and support and commended the phenomenal job she did in advancing Rutgers University–Camden.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Dougherty directed the Board's attention to new business. There was no further new business.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Dougherty asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by,  
Michele L. Robinson  
Rutgers University–Camden Chancellor's Office