A meeting of the Camden Board of Directors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 9 a.m. in the Executive Meeting Room of the Rutgers–Camden Campus Center, Camden, New Jersey. Mr. Robert Mortensen, Chair, presided.

Present and constituting a quorum were DePetris, Fong, Mortensen, Rears, Redd, and Rivers.

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

Also present was Shankman, faculty representative to the Board of Directors.

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

Mr. Mortensen called on Ms. Loree Jones, Secretary of the Rutgers–Camden Board of Directors, who announced that pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 (Open Public Meetings Act), public notice of this meeting was filed on April 14, 2015 with the Office of the Secretary of State of New Jersey and four newspapers, the Cherry Hill Courier-Post, the New Brunswick Home News Tribune, the Newark Star-Ledger, and the Philadelphia Inquirer (Cherry Hill). 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 Camden Board of Directors website.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Ms. Jones 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2015 MEETING

Mr. Mortensen called attention to the minutes of the February 19, 2015 meeting that were posted on the portal and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Receiving no objections, Mr. Mortensen called for a motion which was seconded and asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, the minutes were approved unanimously.

CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

Chancellor Haddon provided the board with an update on important happenings since the last board meeting on February 19, 2015.

Earth Day (April 22, 2015) will be observed at Rutgers–Camden with a group planting by faculty, staff, and students.

The Rutgers University Board of Governors approved merger of the law schools at Camden and Newark; ABA approval is pending. The merger allows students to take advantage of the distinctive strengths of each school and provides the advantage of a wider job market encompassing both New York
and the Delaware Valley. Immersive classrooms provide opportunities for classroom discussion and interaction.

The search for an associate chancellor for enrollment management has concluded successfully with the hiring of Dr. Craig Westman. Dr. Westman takes a student-centered approach, and his strengths include systems design and utilization of data.

Enrollment Management continues its ongoing efforts to recruit and retain students. Seven hundred students are expected to attend the next Admitted Students Day on April 25, 2015.

Adding to the accomplishments of Rutgers–Camden alumni, Mr. Gregory Pardlo (CCAS'99) has won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry for his collection Digest. He will participate in the Summer Writers’ Conference at Rutgers–Camden in late June.

Chancellor Haddon called upon Ms. Loree Jones and Mr. Robert Roesener, Senior Associate General Counsel, Rutgers University, to provide an update on the process for identifying non-voting student representatives (undergraduate and graduate) to the Camden Board of Directors. Ms. Jones and Mr. Roesener proposed that the president of the Student Government Association will serve as the non-voting undergraduate representative and the elected leader of the schools’ graduate student bodies will serve as the non-voting graduate representative in rotation (Business, Law, Arts and Sciences, and Nursing, when a governing body is created). Board members requested that if their schedules preclude participation, presidents should have the option of delegating the responsibility to vice-presidents; however, designated representatives must serve on a consistent basis. Board members requested that student representatives be invited to the next meeting.

Chancellor Haddon concluded her update by answering questions from board members.

UPDATE FROM THE ROWAN UNIVERSITY/RUTGERS–CAMDEN BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mr. Mortensen thanked Chancellor Haddon for her remarks and called upon Mr. Kris Kolluri, CEO of the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors, to provide an update on developmental work for the Joint Health Sciences Building. Mr. Kolluri asked that the minutes note that Mayor Redd, a member of both the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors and the Rutgers University–Camden Board of Directors, has recused herself from discussions and voting on property acquisition. The Rutgers University Board of Governors has given the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors authority to apply to the State of New Jersey for funding for the Joint Health Sciences Building, and filing the application was expected within two weeks. The design stage has been started, and property acquisition in Camden is about to begin. Mr. Kolluri also discussed the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors’ funding of a medical/legal partnership between the School of Law-Camden, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, and the Schools of Social Work and Nursing at Rutgers University–Camden. He indicated this kind of project fits the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors’ mission. It also anticipates future student- and community-focused collaborations which prepare students for the interdisciplinary workplace of the twenty-first century and deliver services where the needs are. Mr. Kolluri concluded his presentation by answering questions from the board members and by thanking them for their congratulations on the accomplishments of the Rowan University/Rutgers–Camden Board of Governors in its inaugural year.

UPDATE ON THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY–CAMDEN PHYSICAL PLANT

Mr. Mortensen thanked Mr. Kolluri for his remarks and called upon Chancellor Haddon to provide an update on the Rutgers University–Camden physical plant. The Board of Governors will vote
on Rutgers–Camden’s master physical plan on June 18. The Nursing and Science Building is now in design and moving forward to groundbreaking later this spring. The building will be located at Broadway and Federal. Mayor Redd indicated the City has identified funding and awarded a contract for demolition of the existing property on the site. Construction bids are out currently, and the building is anticipated to open at the end of 2016. The extensive historical renovation of the Writers House at 305 Cooper Street is moving forward. The building, which will house the English Department, will open in fall 2015. Conversion of 312 Cooper Street to the Alumni House is in process but not to the point of construction yet. Fundraising is underway. Although the building will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, building an elevator is cost prohibitive. An elevator could be added subsequently. The Alumni House will be the first in the Rutgers system. The School of Business is in critical need of a new facility, and a partner is being sought. Other desired future projects include a shared athletic field for men’s lacrosse and women’s field hockey (sports not currently offered at Rutgers–Camden), a parking deck to address the critical shortage of parking on and around campus, and continued refurbishment of academic buildings to meet the technological needs of students in the twenty-first century.

Chancellor Haddon concluded her update on the physical plant by answering questions from the board members.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mortensen thanked Chancellor Haddon for her update on the physical plant and directed the board’s attention to old business.

Mr. Roesener announced that he expected to soon sign a memorandum of understanding with the Camden County Improvement Authority (CCIA) regarding Campbell’s Field. The MOU allows for the restructuring of debt, transferring the title to the CCIA, and preserving Rutgers University’s rights to use the stadium as it is used currently for baseball.

As a point of information, Chancellor Haddon indicated Rutgers–Camden would confer honorary doctorate degrees at commencement exercises on May 21, 2015 to legal scholar and activist Bryan Stevenson and to musician and philanthropist Jon Bon Jovi. Chancellor Haddon encouraged Camden Board of Directors members to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Mortensen directed the board’s attention to new business.

Cognizant of the importance of public safety to the student experience at Rutgers–Camden, Mayor Redd detailed gains in public safety achieved by the Camden County Police Department Metro Division over the two years since its inception. She thanked Rutgers–Camden’s continued support and ongoing interest in the city.

After some discussion, Mr. Mortensen set June 17, 2015 as a tentative date for the next Camden Board of Directors meeting. If the student representatives are available, the board would like them to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mortensen asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, he called for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.