

**Minutes of the Formal Session
of the
Oakland University Board of Trustees
August 13, 2026**

Present: Chair Trina Scott; Colleen Ochoa Peters, Stefen F. Welch, Melanie Brown, Nate Engle, Shelley Davis Boyd, and Brian Calley.

Also Present: President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz; Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Joshua D. Merchant; Provost Amy Thompson; Chief Marketing and Communications Officer Chris Pilsner, Vice President General Counsel Boyd Farnam, Vice President Human Resources Joi Cunningham, and Vice President Finance and Administration Stephen W. Mackey.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. Call to Order

Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. via zoom.

C. Roll Call

Dr. Joshua D. Merchant, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, conducted a roll call and all the Board members were present with the exception of Vice Chair David Kramer.

D. Consent Agenda for Consideration/Action

Consent Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accepts the August 13, 2026 Consent Agenda.

Trustee Brown seconded by Trustee Ochoa Peters, moved approval of the Consent Agenda and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Formal Session of Jun 26, 2026

University Personnel Actions

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel actions below.

I. Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine Promotions

Pursuant to the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine's Criteria for Appointment and Promotion, evaluations of candidates seeking promotion and/or tenure are completed by May 1st. The following recommendations are made by the President, and standard review processes were followed.

A. Promotion (with Tenure)

1. Assistant Professor eligible for granting of tenure with promotion to the rank of Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2026.

Brummett, Abram L.	Foundational Med Studies	Promote
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B. Promotion (standard appointments)

1. Associate Professor eligible for promotion to Professor, effective July 1, 2026.

Mehta, Nishaki K.	Internal Medicine	Promote
Zillgitt, Andrew J.	Neurology	Promote
Huang, James Z.	Pathology	Promote
Khandhar, Paras	Pediatrics	Promote

2. Assistant Professor eligible for promotion to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2026.

Joseph, Steven M.	Emergency Medicine	Promote
Cavinatto, Leonardo M.	Orthopaedic Surgery	Promote
Hinckel, Betina B.	Orthopaedic Surgery	Promote
Jabbar, Kausar J.	Pathology	Promote
Weir, Susan K.	Physical Medicine	Promote

II. Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine Standard Appointments, effective June 15, 2026.

The following standard appointments in the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine are for three years, commencing on June 15, 2026, and are renewable. These standard appointments are without salary support from Oakland University and are not tenured positions. Appointees must maintain an active affiliation with Corewell Health or Oakland University, meet all applicable School of Medicine Participation requirements, and maintain the continued support of their Department Chairs, who are responsible for assessing their performance. Appointees' standard appointments may also be terminated at any time, upon the recommendation of their Department Chair, or for reasons that are at the exclusive discretion of the Dean of the School of Medicine:

Moiin, Ali	Professor	Internal Medicine
Pradhan, Sangita	Instructor	Internal Medicine

Standard Appointments – Change in Rank – Instructor to Assistant Professor

Effective July 1, 2026

Davis, Heidi L.	Assistant Professor	Anesthesiology
Kado, Julie A.	Assistant Professor	Anesthesiology
Skrzynski, Justin	Assistant Professor	Internal Medicine
Waheed, Rasha	Assistant Professor	Neurology
Jacobson, Mark	Assistant Professor	Orthopaedic Surgery
Campbell, Stephanie L.	Assistant Professor	Pediatrics
Pai, Roshan B.	Assistant Professor	Radiology

III. Faculty Reappointments

The faculty agreement requires that certain reviews for possible reemployment and promotion be completed by August 15, 2026. The following recommendations are made by the President. Standard review processes were followed.

A. Reappointments (with Tenure)

1. Assistant Professors eligible for granting of tenure with promotion to the rank of associate professor, effective August 15, 2026.

Bianchette, Thomas	Chemistry	Reemploy & Promote
Boni, Rebecca	Nursing	Reemploy & Promote
Caushaj, Eralda	Decision and Information Science	Do Not Reemploy
Delorme-Axford, Elizabeth	Biological Sciences	Reemploy & Promote
Kaur, Amanpreet	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Reemploy & Promote
Kinney, Zacharias	Chemistry	Reemploy & Promote
Monroe, Ryan	Mechanical Engineering	Reemploy & Promote
Rusakov, Alexander	Chemistry	Do Not Reemploy
Scoles, Emily	Interdisciplinary Health Sciences	Reemploy & Promote
Sullivan, Annie	English, Creative Writing and Film	Reemploy & Promote
Yang, Ankun	Mechanical Engineering	Reemploy & Promote
Yoon, Yongsoon	Mechanical Engineering	Reemploy & Promote

2. Assistant Professors considered for optional granting of tenure with promotion to the rank of associate professor, effective August 15, 2026.

Malik, Ali	Industrial and Systems Engineering	Reemploy & Promote
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3. Associate Professor eligible for granting of tenure, effective August 15, 2026.

Chuang, Szufang	Organizational Leadership	Reemploy & Promote
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B. Reappointments (Probationary)

1. Assistant Professors eligible for reemployment to second, two-year probationary terms as Assistant Professor, effective August 15, 2027 through August 14, 2029.

Akter, Mst	Computer Science and Engineering	Reemploy
Alrawashdeh, Ghaida	Teaching and Learning	Reemploy
Barrak, Amine	Computer Science and Engineering	Reemploy
Chan, Tracey	Nursing	Reemploy
Escobar, Keren	Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice	Reemploy
Felsman, Peter	Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice	Reemploy
Gao, Hongyu	Decision and Information Science	Reemploy
Kasine, Yvonne	Nursing	Reemploy
Morrow, David	Nursing	Reemploy
Qiang, Yao	Computer Science and Engineering	Reemploy
Rodriguez Quiroz, Oscar	Theatre	Reemploy
Ross, Amanda	Music	Reemploy
Sanders, Nicholas	Writing and Rhetoric	Reemploy
Sloan, Katie	Human Development and Child Study	Reemploy
Toulabi, Mohammad	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Reemploy
Widmar, Jacob	Theatre	Reemploy
Yeddula, Sai	Computer Science and Engineering	Reemploy
Zhao, Kaiqi	Computer Science and Engineering	Reemploy

2. Assistant Professors eligible for reemployment to final, two-year probationary terms as Assistant Professor, effective August 15, 2027 through August 14, 2029.

Bae, Junhyun	Decision and Information Science	Reemploy
Espitia, Nicolaus	Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice	Reemploy
Fausone, David	Human Movement Science	Reemploy
Figueiredo, Vandre	Biological Sciences	Reemploy
Gerini Romagnoli, Marco	Mechanical Engineering	Reemploy
Gurwin, Daniel	Theatre	Reemploy
Jones, Melissa	Human Movement Science	Reemploy
Kiefer, Laura	Chemistry	Reemploy
Klena, Pamela	Music	Reemploy
Kothari, Pratik	Accounting and Finance	Reemploy
Rodriguez-Franco, Oscar	Public and Environmental Wellness	Reemploy
Sandhu, Ramandeep	Decision and Information Science	Reemploy
Saylor, Giselle	Mathematics and Statistics	Reemploy
Wagner, Nicole	Biological Sciences	Reemploy
Wiacek, Alycen	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Reemploy

3. Special Instructors eligible for reemployment to second, two-year probationary terms as Special Instructor, effective August 15, 2027 through August 14, 2029.

Calderon, Tiffany-Janelle	Nursing	Reemploy
Davila, Michelle	Interdisciplinary Health Sciences	Reemploy
Dzierzawski, Brenda	Nursing	Reemploy
Novak, Amanda	Nursing	Reemploy
Siewert, Jessica	Interdisciplinary Health Sciences	Reemploy

4. Special Instructors eligible for reemployment to final, two-year probationary terms as Spec Instructor, effective August 15, 2027 through August 14, 2029.

McCulloch, John	Accounting and Finance	Reemploy
Van Hees, Edmond	Chemistry	Reemploy
Wyatt, Randall	Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice	Reemploy

C. Reappointments (with Job Security)

1. Special Instructors eligible for reemployment with job security, effective August 15, 2026.

Bowers, Katherine	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Promote & Reemploy
Grace, Tammy	Decision and Information Science	Promote & Reemploy
Louis, Steven	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Promote & Reemploy
Martin, Robert	Dept of Organizational Leadership	Promote & Reemploy
White, Benjamin	Philosophy	Promote & Reemploy

III. Administrative Appointments

Dulio, David. Chief Community Engagement Officer, effective 08/01/2026, pursuant to the Executive Employment Agreement between David Dulio and Oakland University that was reviewed and approved by the Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and is in compliance with the law and conforms to the legal standards and policies of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

Kruse, Julie. Interim Dean of the School of Nursing, effective August 2, 2026, pursuant to the Employment Agreement between John Krauss and Oakland University that was reviewed and approved by the Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and is in compliance with the law and conforms to the legal standards and policies of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

IV. Administrative-Professional Appointments

Del Valle, Jacquelyn. Attending Veterinarian, Office of Research Administration, effective 06/01/2026, appointed administrative-professional classifies at level W, pursuant to the Board's Contracting and Employment Authority Policy.

Sipos, George. Associate Vice President of Global and Digital Learning, Academic Affairs, effective 06/15/2026, appointed administrative-professional classifies at level W, pursuant to the Board's Contracting and Employment Authority Policy.

Snyder, Marci. Interim Director of Accounting Services, Accounting Office, effective 05/01/2026, appointed administrative-professional classifies at level U, pursuant to the Board's Contracting and Employment Authority Policy.

Acceptance of Grants and Contracts to Oakland University for the Period of May 1 – June 30, 2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees accept the grants and contracts to Oakland University identified in the Grants and Contracts Report, Attachment A, for the period of May 1 – June 30, 2026.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Adoption of the Name Change from Leadership, Ed.S. to Education Leadership, Ed.S.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the change in the program and degree title from Leadership, Ed.S. to Education Leadership, Ed.S.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Adoption of the Name Change from Acting, B.F.A. to Acting for Stage and Screen, B.F.A.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the change in the program and degree title from Acting, B.F.A. to Acting for Stage and Screen, B.F.A.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Final Medical School Report Winter 2026 – June 1, 2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves granting the degree more fully described in the Final Medical School Report for Winter 2026 – June 1, 2026.

(A copy of Attachment A is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Final Undergraduate and Graduate School Report Winter 2026 – April 28, 2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves granting the degree more fully described in the Final Undergraduate and Graduate School Reports for Winter 2026 – April 28, 2026.

(A copy of Attachment A and B is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Approval of Funding for Campus Access Controls and Security Upgrades Project

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees formally approves the \$5.9 million not to exceed budget authorized for use for the Campus Access Controls and Security Upgrades Project; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the President, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, and their respective designees, to perform all acts and deeds and to execute and deliver all contracts, instruments, and documents required by this resolution that are necessary, expedient, and proper in connection with the Campus Access and Security Upgrades Project and the ongoing administration of the Project; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that said contracts, instruments and documents shall be reviewed by and be in a form acceptable to the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel prior to execution, and be in compliance with the law and with University policies and regulations and conform to the legal standards of the Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

E. New Items for Consideration/Action

F. Other Items for Consideration/Action that May Come Before the Board

G. Trustee Comments and Discussion

H. Adjournment

Chair Scott adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Submitted,



Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and Secretary to the
Board of Trustees

Approved,



Trina Scott
Chair, Board of Trustees