

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes**

**February 9, 2011**

**Attendance:**

Beverly Burke, Richard Carter, George Couch, Brian Joseph, Patrick Kelly, Paul Limbert, Jim Stultz, Ann Thomas, Michael Turrentine

**Unable to Attend:**

Robert Steptoe, Michael Stolarczyk, Richard Whitehead

**Administration/Faculty/Staff:**

Robin Capehart, Scott Cook, John Davis, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Pat Henry, John McCullough, Jack Wright, Shane Stack, Rosey Miller, Bill Baronak, Keely Camden

**1. Call to Order:**

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

**2. Chairperson Comments:**

Chair Joseph asked that President Capehart take the floor for his request. President Capehart, as part of his President's report, asked that Dr. Keely Camden, Dean of the College of Education, give a first-hand update on the College. Following this presentation Bill Baronak, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Communication, will give an update on the College and projects that are in coordination with the College of Education.

Dr. Camden stated that there are several exciting initiatives and projects under way right now, one of which is from a substantial grant received from the Benedum Foundation. The grant involves environmental laboratories at two area elementary schools, which will be laboratory schools, with University and school faculty working together to create these laboratories. These grants are shared with professional development for faculty members to attend conferences and coordinate or sponsor other events as part of their own professional development. The grant was actually awarded in December and work has been under way since that time. Our Elementary Education majors on campus are using it for their Methods courses at Wheeling Country Day two days a week where they can experience methods first-hand. Students will work along with teachers from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and after classes are dismissed, the instructors will work on methods teaching for the next two hours. There is a community garden and a stream behind the school with walking trails, making it a unique place to foster the laboratory school. West Liberty Elementary, who has had a long-time partnership with WLU, is the next site and work is underway to begin a larger laboratory school. We have talked previously with West Liberty Elementary about creating a true laboratory school at their campus in conjunction with WLU.

There will be a new center on campus, the International Center for Education Excellence (ICEE). The Director of the Center, which you may have seen in a recent issue of the Top of the Hill Magazine, has set up several partnerships in several countries and has just returned from Kenya. This is a site-based professional center for our students, faculty, and teachers in a unique school in Kenya. We will be traveling to Italy in the spring and Beijing, China in May for two weeks. This is the first time ever also in partnership with DOD teachers abroad, and we will have three students headed to Heidelberg, Germany. This is our second placement; we have a fourth additional placement in North Carolina. Two of our graduates from last year received offers to begin teaching English as a second language. We have been skyping to keep in touch with them.

With regard to accreditation, after ten years Exercise Physiology is nationally accredited for the first time. WLU's teacher education has been nationally accredited for 54 years. NCATE was piloting a new version of Continuous Improvement (CI); we are the first in the State to receive permission to execute this program and are considered a pilot school for Continuous Improvement. Dr. Camden will get the dates when the team will be on campus in March. The team leader is a dean in South Carolina. This is their first Continuous Improvement accreditation and WLU is honored and excited to be on the front line. Marshall University is opting in to the pilot next year.

Because of a recent donor gift, facility upgrades have been ongoing in the College of Education. Some classrooms are getting facelifts and a new computer lab is being established on the third floor of Main Hall. Other areas were torn apart during the Christmas break and a new student lounge and workroom were created. This is a very exciting time in general for the College of Education and students are seeing not just the prospect, but actual physical changes; the facility changes that have a huge impact.

We are creating several programs for which we are seeking State approval; Gifted Education, masters track in Educational Leadership, Theater Education, and French Education. These are being approached on the heels of the strength of our Master of Arts in Education program, having graduated 25 students in December, 2010, with 76 currently enrolled. The Benedum Foundation has approached West Liberty concerning an idea for a regional art center. This could be similar to the Appalachian Education Initiative (AEI) for advancing the arts in education, located in Morgantown, WV; President Capehart sits on their Board. With the initiatives and projects we have going, our strong Music and Art Education programs and theater coming on board, there are great possibilities for this region and across the State. We actually received the collaborative grant over Christmas for these initiatives.

Mr. Baronak stated that Benedum came back with something bigger, where we had started small. We would like to start with a visual media design project with 12 teachers from three different state high schools. These teachers would come in and we would teach them what they need to take back to the high schools. Many students are wanting graphic design and don't know what it is until they get here; retention of these students was down and we were losing them. We would be going to the teachers, bring them on campus, have them sit down with our students and teachers, talk about the curriculum, and take it back to their high school. Halfway through the year they would come back to campus.

Dr. Camden stated that this information was pitched in the Digital Media Design (DMD) area and the thought was why not have a bigger umbrella? Why not Arts and Education and put all of these projects underneath that reach? Hopefully the project you will see this summer and next year will grow out of this area. Mr. Baronak stated that we are hooking them in through what was known as the Flash Animation Festival, which has changed over to the MAD (Media Arts Design) Festival. A number of people will be coming in with Keynote speakers; high schools kids in the day and college students in the evening. There is a planned summit similar to the Science Summit last year, but for Arts and Communication. The Friday of the Summit we will have individuals coming in from around the country who have been successful in their industry, whether it be music, art, theater or broadcasting. WLU graduates will be invited to come back to see what is in the future for the next five to ten years. We don't need to teach what's going on now; we need to teach what's going on in five years. This is how the initiative got started. They are working with Development to put the summit together and have already sent out 60 invitations and heard from approximately 20 people so far who will be attending. Most of those wanting to come back and attend are alumni and friends who are very excited about the summit.

Mr. Baronak also wanted to thank the Board for taking the time and consideration in making the switch from having only a College of Liberal Arts, and adding the College of Arts and Communication. This was a very important switch that needed to happen and we are seeing the benefits. We can now conquer and divide between the two deans and work on additional grants. We just received \$110,000 from the Shank Foundation for an Art Therapy Director in the Art Program. We will bring this director in to begin building the program. This would not have been possible without the extra area. He thanked them again for working through the process of the additional College last year.

Chair Joseph asked when the MAD Festival will be held. Mr. Baronak stated that the MAD Festival will be held April 29<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with the Great Gatsby Gala that Jason Kogler is working on as part of the summit. Theater students will be dressed up and doing things on campus, along with music from the 1920's. The students involved have already raised half the goal of \$50,000 in just three weeks.

President Capehart stated that he hears a lot of congratulations for the many things happening on campus, but these are the people doing the heavy lifting; the things that benefit the students and University and put a face with all the work on campus. Dr. McCullough stated with regard to NCATE, next to Higher Education, is the most laborious accreditation on the entire campus. We have done great work there with 54 years of continuous accreditation. WLU has been accredited for the longest period of time in the nation. This is testimony to Dr. Camden and all those who preceded her.

### 3. **Approval of Minutes\*:**

<u>Full Board</u>	<u>Executive Committee</u>
12/08/10	12/01/10

Chair Joseph asked if there was any discussion with regard to the December 8, 2010 minutes of the full Board. There being none he asked for a motion to approve said minutes.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the minutes of the full Board of December 8, 2010 was then made by Jim Stultz and seconded by Mike Turrentine; motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Joseph then asked if there was any discussion with regard to the December 1, 2010 minutes of the Executive Committee. There being none he asked for a motion to approve said minutes.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of December 1, 2010 was then made by Bev Burke and seconded by Mike Turrentine; motion passed unanimously.**

### 4. **Reclassification to Non-Classified Position\*:**

Dr. McCullough stated that the information before you for approval is a faculty position we are requesting to establish as a new non-classified position as Head Wrestling Coach. We have four tier one sports and it's interesting that all four of those tier one sports, football, men's and women's basketball, and wrestling, have held national rankings in their programs. The wrestling team has an exceedingly high GPA and has been in the top ten in the nation every year as far as their team GPA. The non-classified position will align with the other three non-classified positions; football, men's and women's basketball coaches, and better aligns the duties and responsibilities of this position with teaching. The Board always watches and monitors, as it should, the number of non-classified positions and the ratio of total employed staff. If approved, this does not put us to the ceiling on the limit of non-classified positions. Chair Joseph asked if there was any discussion; there was none.

**A motion that the West Liberty University board of Governors approve the creation of a non-classified position titled "Head Wrestling Coach" was then made by Jim Stultz and seconded by Patrick Kelly; motion passed unanimously.**

### 5. **Annexation of University Property by the Town of West Liberty:**

Chair Joseph recognized Mr. Davis to present the annexation of University property by the town of West Liberty. Mr. Davis stated that last semester the president was approached by the Mayor of West Liberty, Rosey Miller, who is present this evening, about the idea of the town annexing the University. Since that first contact Jack Wright and Mr. Davis had several conversations with Mayor Miller and in the more recent last two months, traded emails with Susan Moser, who is legal counsel to the town of West Liberty on this subject. In a nutshell, and Rosey will answer any questions, it is our understanding that the town is interested in adding the University to the town limits to make the town eligible for more and larger grants that are out there for municipalities; grant money with which they could improve the town. In addition, the town would become eligible for a larger slice of the pie with respect to WV lottery funds. As previously mentioned, Mr. Davis and the president had conversations, along with Mr. Wright, and also met with John Gompers and discussed this issue a few months ago and tonight is being presented as an information item.

President Capehart stated that WLU is the only institution of higher education not located within the city limits. On a broader prospect, this would provide the town an opportunity to do some things. Mayor Miller has had a lot of good ideas and plans to upgrade things, but they are strangled by a small population. Bringing the University in would enhance the population. We can't be taxed since we are a State entity and would not be subject to property taxes or anything like this; there may be a fee or two they could put on us but it wouldn't be burdensome. As Mr. Davis stated, this would entitle them to apply for a lot more administrative street programs. In the spirit of cooperation within the town, our willingness to assist in upgrading the town, as an information item coming forward, we would support the annexation.

Mr. Kelly asked if this would provide more police coverage for the campus and upgrades to roads. President Capehart stated that the campus streets are actually considered state roads, so that's really not an issue. The town of West Liberty actually assists with police protection on campus. WLU has a mutual agreement between the University and town. Mr. Couch asked if students would be eligible to vote. Mr. Davis stated that students in the residence halls who wanted to register to vote in Ohio County could vote in the town election. The town's legal counsel has asked for a list of all campus addresses. The University owns about 20 houses; we provided

a list of addresses, not names. The town's legal counsel could go to the courthouse in Wheeling and see who lives there. They are already thinking ahead of the additional votes they might have with the annexation. President Capehart stated that late at night when he hears the fire siren go off he thinks of some of those houses up town burning down with our students inside, in need of some type of regulation/inspection. If the town were able to apply for more grants, a lot of things could be done with the enhanced revenue with regard to regulations on these homes.

President Capehart asked Mayor Miller how much of an increase the town could possibly receive in lottery money with the annexation. Mayor Miller stated that the town has been doing with comparables with Bethlehem, who receives revenue from gaming money of approximately \$13,000/month; West Liberty receives \$1,700/month.

## **6. President's Report/Campus Reports**

President Capehart apologized for not getting the report to the Board sooner. President Capehart continued with a presentation to the Board, beginning with enrollment figures and residence hall numbers. Although we are experiencing problems with our printing vendor and have been down one admissions counselor for over two months, our numbers are still ahead of last year.

Chancellor Noland asked President Capehart to serve as a member of the Legislative Liaison Committee which will promote higher education issues that are pending before the Legislature and has been named Chair of the Committee. There is a name correction bill to correct our institution from "West Liberty State University" to "West Liberty University." Senate Bill 330 addresses a number of areas of concern by the college presidents and legislators. Dr. Barr, President of Glenville State College and Jenny Allen, a member of the HEPC, are also on the Legislative Liaison Committee and following this and other bills. Last year SB 330 (then SB 480) actually went through but due to technical difficulties the Governor did not sign. There are some concerns with the bill from some of the presidents and legislators, and those concerns will be discussed on a conference call tomorrow to discuss the issues. The bill erodes a lot of the authority of the boards of governors. Chair Joseph noted that this is a concern for West Liberty. He would like to set-up a committee to look into this part of the bill. He asked if Patrick Kelly, Jim Stultz, Richard Carter, and John Gompers as legal counsel would look into this matter and see what we need to be concerned with in this bill and report back to the Board, to which they agreed.

Projected completion dates for capital projects are December 2011 for Shaw Hall and Main Hall windows will be replaced during the summer of 2011. The science building should be placed where there is access to parking and the first option is along Faculty Drive across from the parking beside the baseball field. Faculty Drive will be the walk-in area; this will give us an opportunity to create a nice landscape/park area in the wooded area behind Boyd Hall. Until we can meet with the architects and discuss the different options we have this is the first area we are looking at to build.

West Liberty will again be hosting the Civics Challenge/quiz bowl competition this year with 12 teams signed up to attend. The competition will be filmed with Channel 14 and runs on Channel 7 on Sunday. We will broadcast the rest of the week on Channel 14. We have had more inquiries about the competition this year; River High School was the champion last year.

We now have a Toastmasters Club on campus. If you're not familiar with the Toastmasters, it's open to the community and is an organization President Capehart encouraged all to get involved. This group allows individuals to develop or improve their ability to speak publicly.

Dr. Root's University Economics Club will have a series of speakers coming up in the next couple weeks. There are normally 50 to 60 people in attendance, sometimes as many as 90.

The PA Program should have its first cohort up and running in the Spring 2012. The MBA continues going through the HEPC pipeline and we anticipate classes to begin in the summer of 2011. Dr. McCullough is confident if approved by the HEPC and the HLC, we will be authorized to offer graduate level business classes in the fall. President Capehart stated that at this time he is receiving mixed signals in the area for a Nurse Anesthetist Program.

We have hired Barry Christmas to serve as the women's soccer coach. Barry worked with Dr. Camden at Bethany, who also recommended him for a teaching position this semester. President Capehart has spoken with several people who met Barry through soccer camps he has conducted all over the State of West Virginia. All have spoken of him highly and stated he will be great for the soccer program. Women's soccer will start as

a club sport in the fall of 2011. By the fall of 2012 we should be through the entire process for conference play with the NCAA.

Matthew Perry has been hired as the men's lacrosse coach and to also serve as a student recruiter as part of Scott Cook's office. The NCAA has men's lacrosse as part of the Major Collegiate Lacrosse Association. The University of Michigan and Arizona State are a couple of the big schools involved and WLU hopes to begin competition in the spring of 2012. Mr. Turrentine stated that a newspaper article said that lacrosse is the fastest growing sport in the country. President Capehart stated that the interesting thing is that's the reason so many of the schools are going to the Major Collegiate Lacrosse Association because there are no scholarships for lacrosse. If it is brought in as an NCAA sport it creates Title IX issues; only eight or nine teams play in the NCAA.

On January 10 President Capehart had the opportunity to meet with Senator Manchin, along with representatives from WVU and Marshall, regarding higher education issues. A pamphlet was distributed dealing with biomedical research grants and upon opening the pamphlet, saw that four grants were awarded; one to WVU, one to Marshall, and two to WLU. President Capehart was proud to see the amount of undergraduate research going on and being recognized by the HEPC.

With regard to the Bucks for Brains program, Dr. McCullough stated that WLU is competing at a level to be able to draw down more than Marshall with the science initiatives. This is the unique thing about West Liberty; although we do not have a graduate program in science, the percentage of our undergraduate students accepted to professional and science schools is at 99% to 100% in the last four years. If you include Exercise Physiology, or any program with a science base, nearly one-third of our students are in the sciences; approximately 800 students. Bucks for Brains is a \$50 Million program Senator Manchin created. \$35 Million was set aside for WVU and \$15 Million for Marshall to match State dollars with private donations to encourage university research and leverage private giving. At this point WVU has done a pretty good job with the interest they have generated to benefit the regional colleges. West Liberty has actually drawn down more than Marshall with Development, the Research Corporation and the College of Sciences going out and finding private monies that directly benefits our students. Students are directly involved in all of this and it's an experience they won't get in a lot of other Universities.

The men's basketball team is ranked No. 1 in America. If they stay at No. 1 for one more week they will be the longest running team ever in the No. 1 ranking. The women's basketball team is ranked No. 1 in the region and No. 1 in the WVIAC. Our wrestling team is currently ranked No. 15 in America.

President Capehart asked if there were any questions, which there were none.

**8. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Brian Joseph \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Richard Carter \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary