

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
February 1, 2017**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Reid Boden, Les DeFelice, Cindy Fluharty, Patrick Ford, Jim Haizlett, Rich Lucas,
Jim Stultz, Rhonda Tysk, Kris Williams

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, Lori Finegan, John Gompers, Steve Greiner,
Nancy Gunza, Diana Harto, Jason Kogler, Roberta Linger, John McCullough, Joe Montemurro,
Ron Witt, Angie Zambito-Hill

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement

Chair DeFelice called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Introductions

None

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the Full Board November 30, 2016*

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of November 30, 2016.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee January 18, 2017*

On motion by Patrick Ford and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of January 18, 2017.

V. Agenda Order

No changes to the agenda order.

VI. Rules

None

VII. Board Items

A. Audit Presentation*

The auditors, Nancy Gunza and Lori Finegan, met with the Finance Committee prior to the Board meeting, giving a full presentation of the audit to the Committee. The audit is for the fiscal year 2016. The audit is performed based on required standards applied to the financial statement provided by management. The audit would have been completed sooner but there were delays in the pension and benefits information from the State.

The auditors are not required to give an opinion on internal controls for public and private universities. Their objective is to see that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material aspects; purely on how the financial information is presented.

Chair DeFelice thanked Ms. Linger on her hard work and the auditors for their work for the University and their relationship with the University.

On motion by Jim Haizlett and seconded by Rich Lucas, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the audit for fiscal year 2016 as presented.

VIII. President's Report

Dr. Greiner stated that he's been asked about our international students; WLU does not have any students from the countries impacted at this time. He met with the international students Sunday and will be sure they are up to date with what's happening. All students who left over the break have made it back to campus. If other countries are added to the list, it could impact West Liberty.

We are in receipt of our four-year reauthorization from the HEPC, officially re-authorizing WLU to operate within the State of West Virginia with "no concerns" being noted.

A Memorandum of Understanding with seven other area institutions was signed, forming the Ohio Valley Research Consortium. Dr. Greiner had begun work on this consortium with Congressman McKinley before his arrival at WLU. It has come to fruition, with the first initiative dealing with the drug issues in our area. No grants are in the works, but are being researched by the Committee.

We continue to have vendors examine our technology for the technology infrastructure project.

We have received a pledge of \$1 million to build a soccer/track complex. The caveat was that the Foundation Board had to come up with the additional \$1.5 million needed for the project. Angie Zambito-Hill stated that the Foundation Board held their quarterly meeting on Friday and, after discussion of the loan with several sub-committees, the Board unanimously voted that they would loan the University an amount not to exceed \$1.5 million. More information will be released once the loan is approved by the BOG and the HEPC. Ms. Zambito-Hill also stated that WLU has received its third largest estate gift in history. It was announced publicly on Friday that Dr. Larry Talley left his entire estate to the University. It will be used to endow scholarships in the College of Sciences.

Fundraising to date ended at over \$1.5 million, which is ahead of the last two fiscal years. The College of Business Scholarship Fund will benefit from the upcoming Great Gala. The WLU endowment has grown \$1 million in the last six months.

Dr. Greiner stated that this coming fall we will start a men's club soccer team. They will compete against JV's and small institutions with the intent of going to NCAA Division II in the fall of 2018. There will be 18 students for a club team, increasing to 30 and 40. With the addition of the soccer/track complex, our track numbers should double. The project includes the soccer field, track, lighting, locker room and bleachers.

Dr. Joseph Horzempa is one of five finalists for the West Virginia Professor of the Year award, WLU's second finalist in three years.

The Hilltop Players were one of eight schools invited to perform at the Region Two Festival of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Although there were no winners, they came back with a lot of good advice. They are a young cast and may be invited back again.

Treasure Fields, from Concordia University in Wisconsin, is our first Head Coach for the new Acrobatics and Tumbling Program. Justin Simpson, assistant coach at WVU for men's and women's track, has been hired as the Head Coach for Men's and Women's Track and Cross Country Teams. As of this morning Thomas Olivier, assistant coach at Marshall University, has been hired as the new Men's Soccer Coach.

A brief discussion followed with regard to the State of West Virginia projected budget deficit.

IX. Finance Report

With regard to the audit presentation, Ms. Linger stated that the legislative auditors are different from the external auditors. The legislative auditors are engaged by the HEPC for all State audits. The external auditors are independent auditors not affiliated with the State. Legislative auditors are state employees who look mainly at state processes and how we follow state processes.

An operating budget status sheet was distributed and reviewed. Dr. Greiner added that there may be other campus projects. With the possible demolition of houses to complete the track project, townhouses could be built. There is also consideration for an apartment complex for students, funded through either a public/private partnership or USDA funding. Performance contracts are being reviewed to replace all lighting with LED lighting for a savings on electric. We are also looking at infrastructure; boilers, water, and assistance with replacements for energy savings; all will be put out for bid. He also asked that members let the Board know if they need a committee to look at specific projects.

X. Reports

A. Chair of the Board of Governors (DeFelice)

Chair DeFelice asked members to reach out to the community in search of a volunteer for the one open seat on the WLU Board of Governors. In order to balance the Board, this person is required to be a democrat. Members were asked to bring names back to the next Board meeting.

B. Provost Update (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford stated that three masters programs have come before the Board and been approved, those being the Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology, Master of Science in Dental Hygiene, and the Master of Arts (MA) and Master of Science (MS) in Biology. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visit for the MA/MS in Biology is March 20/21, 2017, with a decision on the program by late spring or early summer. The MS in Dental Hygiene and MA in Clinical Psychology are at the agenda for the WV HEPC meeting being held this Friday for approval. If there are any questions, Dr. Tammy McClain will be attending for Clinical Psychology and Stephanie Meredith for Dental Hygiene. We are optimistic about the meeting on Friday and will update the Board at the next meeting.

C. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed an enrollment report reflective of WLU's last day to enroll date. The current headcount is 2,157, the highest since 2012. A discussion followed with regard to enrollment, which is very positive at this point. All of the indicators are good for enrollment next year.

Also discussed were the issues currently plaguing WVNCC and how they affect WLU. Dr. Greiner noted that he has had discussions with Dr. Riley, President of WVNCC, with a marketing idea for her to be able to encourage their students to come to WLU. There is currently an articulation agreement in place with WVNCC, but we would market an articulation with WVNCC graduates with an AA or AS, with guaranteed admission to WLU. Students who transfer from a community college graduate at a very high rate; a 90+% graduation rate.

D. SGA Update (Boden)

Mr. Boden stated that the SGA is scheduled to meet with Ron Witt to begin planning October 14th homecoming activities. Knowing the date for homecoming so far in advance gives everyone an opportunity to finalize plans.

The Toppers Den student section has been well-attended at sporting events in the ASRC. Thanks to Jason Koegler and the Foundation, they are co-sponsoring a half-court shot contest. Three students are selected by raffle for a half-court shot to win a \$1,000 scholarship if they make the shot. A Veteran's Day half-court shot is being proposed, inviting veteran students to take those shots.

A bus trip to New York City is being planned for the weekend of April 21st. Details are being worked out by SGA committee members. Also being planned is a spring fling, a sort of mini-homecoming, to be held at the end of Greek Week. The spring fling dance will follow, with discussions to hold the dance on campus. There will be a bubble soccer day and possibly a zip line on the quad. Topper Idol begins this evening, which is sponsored by Housing and Residence Life staff, and usually brings a full-house to the College Union.

XI. Information Gathering

Chief Montemurro stated that the West Liberty Town Council approached WLU with a proposal to assist the town of West Liberty police force. West Liberty gave them a proposal, but we are

waiting on an opinion from the Attorney General's office. A brief discussion followed with regard to the proposal.

Although no costs have been discussed yet, Chief Montemurro is working with Marcella Snyder and consulting with a group for an active shooter training campus presentation. A discussion followed with regard to various types of campus alerts. Dr. Greiner would like to increase the number of security cameras on campus and the need for updated locks on doors.

XII. Possible Executive Session

None

XIII. Actions Emanating From executive Session

None

XIV. Next Meeting Date – April 5, 2017

XV. Adjournment

On motion made by Jim Haizlett and seconded by Kris Williams, seconded and unanimously carried, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to adjourn the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

Leslie DeFelice _____
Chair

James R. Stultz _____
Secretary