

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
October 14, 2015**

Attendance:

Allyson Ashworth, Richard Carter, Sandra Chapman, George Couch, Les DeFelice, Patrick Ford, Jim Haizlett, Brian Joseph, Patrick Kelly, Ann Thomas, Rhonda Tysk

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Olivia Best, Hayden Blazer, Megan Bobes, Keely Camden, Scott Cook, Dallas Cosgray, Brian Crawford, Ashley Edgell, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Matt Harder, Carrie Hart, Diana Harto, Stephanie Hooper, Tammy McClain, John McCullough, Cindy McGee, Daniel Morgan, Morgan Wagner, Salena Wilson, Ron Witt, Jack Wright

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

Chair Couch 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 of 08/12/15 and Executive Committee of 10/07/15

On motion by Patrick Ford and seconded by Sandra Chapman, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of August 12, 2015, and the Executive Committee of October 7, 2015.

V. Agenda Order

No changes to the agenda order.

VI. Rules

None

VII. Reports

A. Chair of the Board of Governors (Couch)

Chair Couch noted that the 2014 Annual Security Report is now available on line on the University's web site. With current world events it would be good for members to take the time to read this report.

He was also recently able to attend the Faculty Senate meeting, Graphic Design presentations, and the Pitch contest at the Children's Museum, thanking Les DeFelice for his participation on the Pitch Committee for selections. Also thanked were Ron Witt and Jason Kogler for the benefactor's alumni recognition banquet last Friday.

The University Choir held a fundraiser for their trip to Ireland at the home of Lynne and Ben Exley. Other upcoming events will be held for this trip and members are encouraged to attend.

Members should have received the Legislative Liaison report for September. Please take an opportunity to read the report and the pending bills.

Chair Couch recognized Ann Thomas, who on September 26th was recognized by the Wheeling NAACP with the annual Freedom Fund Community Award.

Commencement will be held December 12, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. Board members are encouraged to attend and should meet in the Athletic Director's office by 10:45 a.m. Spring commencement will be held May 7, 2016.

B. Provost Report (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford noted that budget meetings are being held with each dean to identify cost-cutting measures for FY16 and FY17.

Effective Fall 2016, due to low enrollment, the following majors and minors are discontinued:

- Political Science major
- International Studies major (minor remains)
- Interdisciplinary Pre-Law major (minor remains)
- BA Psychology majors (BS Psychology major remains)
- Cultural Landscapes minor
- Physical Landscapes minor
- Political Science minor
- Sociology Minor (major was closed last year)

A Zoo Science major in the Biology program is being planned to begin in Fall 2016. There are only four programs in the country, all with waiting lists, and all much more expensive than WLU. Final approval is expected shortly.

The HLC site visit for the proposed MBA and MS-Criminology is scheduled for November 2-3, 2015.

C. Facilities Analysis Committee Update (Hooper)

Ms. Hooper noted she was able to attend the open house at the Gary E. West Event Center and was impressed with the amount of time, effort and thought the students put into their presentation. The Committee will focus on space utilization and deferred maintenance, incorporating a few other committees already formed on campus. Assisting with the Committee are Les DeFelice and Richard Carter, several members of the campus community, and possibly a real estate developer will provide free consulting. A Housing Committee will be set up as a subcommittee, and Pat Ford has agreed to be on the Committee. This Committee will start up after the arrival of the new president. Each campus group will be represented, and notifications will be sent out for meeting dates.

D. Gary E. West Event Center Update (Newman)

Evan Newman, former SGA president and Board member, and current full-time student, presented a PowerPoint update on the Center. A discussion followed with regard to alcohol, insurance, and liability. Chair Couch thanked the entire Committee for their good work on the future of the Center.

E. Presidential Search Committee Update (DeFelice)

Mr. DeFelice noted that the Committee is grateful for everyone who took the time to provide input. Pat Ford, as Subcommittee Chair, gave a brief update on the final step of the process before announcing the incoming president.

VIII. President's Report

Dr. McCullough introduced Diana Harto, Chief Human Resources Officer replacing Jim Stutz. He continued with a comprehensive overview of campus activities. A discussion followed with regard to Policy 11 and positions on campus. Jim Haizlett made a motion to move the discussion to Executive Session; with no second, there was no further discussion at this time.

IX. Finance Report

Mr. Wright reviewed a two-page finance report with the Board, which was given to the Finance Committee in early September. He also noted that the audit is coming up and will be presented at the December meeting.

X. Board Items

A. WLU Institutional Compact*

The Board of Governors is asked to approve, per the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the 2015 update for the "Leading the Way" 2013-2018 Compact. The Update,

which must be submitted to the HEPC by November 1, 2015, is available on line, with an executive summary contained in the Board packet.

On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Brian Joseph, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the 2015 Update to the Compact.

XI. Information Gathering

None.

XII. Possible Executive Session

A. Presidential Search Update

Chair Couch asked for a motion to move to executive session.

On motion by Rhonda Tysk and seconded by Jim Haizlett, pursuant to WV Code §6-9A-4, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to move to executive session at 5:15 p.m.

The Board exited executive session at 5:45 p.m. and reconvened.

XIII. Actions Emanating From Executive Session

A. Upon Motion of Ann Thomas, seconded by Patrick Ford and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee to invite Dr. Stephen Greiner and Dr. Ron Dempsey as the finalists for the position of President of West Liberty University to be interviewed by the entire Board of Governors and a representative of the HEPC on October 29, 2015.

B. Further, upon motion of Ann Thomas, seconded by Les DeFelice and unanimously carried, the Chair was authorized to have counsel prepare a draft Contract for the successful Presidential candidate to be reviewed, discussed and considered by the Board at the October 29, 2015 meeting.

XIV. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, October 29, 2015

XV. Adjournment

On motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

George Couch _____
Chair

Patrick Ford _____
Secretary