

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes**

**October 15, 2014**

**Attendance:**

Beverly Burke, Joe Carey, Sandra Chapman, George Couch, Les DeFelice, Patrick Kelly, Evan Newman, Frank Noble, Ann Thomas

**Unable to Attend:**

Richard Carter, Brian Joseph

**Administration/Faculty/Staff:**

Robin Capehart, Linda Cowan, Brian Crawford, John Davis, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, John McCullough, Jack Wright

**1. Call to Order:**

Chair Couch called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

**2. Chairperson Comments:**

Chair Couch congratulated everyone involved in the West Family Stadium event and renovations. WLU thanked Gary and Flip West, and their daughters, and he acknowledged brothers James and Jack as part of the recognition.

On Friday the Science Wall of Fame members recognized were Professor Emeritus Robert Schramm, Internet Pioneer Elizabeth "Jake" Feinler, and biologist Dr. Philip D. Stahl; we are pleased to have them recognized in Campbell Hall. The Alumni Hall of Fame members recognized were John Wm. Hoppers, West Virginia Senate President Jeff Kessler, and Mary Hinzman Whitman; they were honored Saturday morning. Jason Koegler and Intern Levi Smith, Institutional Advancement's team, did a wonderful job with the Benefactor's Gala held at the Capitol.

Chair Couch thanked Dr. Crawford for his service and leadership during President Capehart's sabbatical and is grateful for what he did for WLU; the President is back at the helm. He also noted that Fall Commencement will be held December 13<sup>th</sup> and would like to have a good showing of Board members in attendance.

**3. Swearing in of New Board Member:**

Chair Couch issued the Oath of Office to Leslie DeFelice, of Visiting Angels WV.

**4. Consent Agenda Items\*:**

Chair Couch stated that the Consent Agenda consists of the minutes of the full Board of August 13, 2014, and the Executive Committee of October 1, 2014. A discussion followed with regard to changes to the Executive Committee minutes.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Consent Agenda, adopting the revised minutes of the Executive Committee of October 1, 2014, was then made by Pat Kelly and seconded by Ann Thomas; motion passed unanimously.**

**5. Action Items\*:**

**a. WLU Institutional Compact Update**

Dr. Crawford gave background on the Institutional Compact, noting that last fall the Board was asked to approve the required information for target numbers and rationales. This document is WLU's set of strategies and plans for meeting those targets. President Capehart stated that the Compact is our response to the HEPC's Master Plan. The HEPC establishes the matrix, such as headcount, degrees awarded, etc., and asks us to set targets and come up with plans to meet the targets. In many cases WLU is already doing this, but we need to identify this in a particular format.

A discussion followed with regard to approval of the Update to the Compact. The completed document will be made available to the Board by the close of business Friday, October 24, 2014, with a special meeting of the Board to be held the following week.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors table the approval of the 2014 Update to the Compact until a special meeting to be held October 29, 2014 was then made by Les DeFelice and seconded by Sandra Chapman; motion passed unanimously.**

**b. Master of Science in Criminology**

Dr. Crawford presented the proposed new graduate degree program, a Master in Science in Criminology. No additional staffing would be required, with 15 to 20 students anticipated for the first class.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the creation of a new graduate degree program, the Master of Science in Criminology, within the College of Liberal Arts, was then made by Patrick Kelly and seconded by Beverly Burke; motion passed unanimously.**

**c. Graphic Narrative Major**

Dr. Crawford presented the new major, Graphic Narrative, housed in the College of Liberal Arts. This is a specific genre of literature that is of great interest, and we believe WLU has the first-ever major in the country. Currently there are two students in the program and we are hopeful we will attract many more in the coming year. No additional staffing would be required.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the creation of a new major, Graphic Narrative, within the College of Liberal Arts, and the Department of Humanities, was then made by Les DeFelice and seconded by Frank Noble; motion passed unanimously.**

**d. Study Abroad Fee**

Dr. Crawford stated that the study abroad fee comes as a requirement from a grant received by WLU from the HEPC early in the summer. WLU agreed when the grant was accepted to establish this fee to help support future trips for the program. The fee will be charged only to those students participating in the Study Abroad Program.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Study Abroad Fee was then made by Patrick Kelly and seconded by Sandra Chapman; motion passed unanimously.**

**e. Highlands Center Lease Modification**

Mr. Wright noted that the Board approved the lease modification with the Ohio County Development Authority, involving the conference room at the Highlands Center, at the April 2014 meeting. Unfortunately, the business venture has not gone as quickly as hoped and the lease execution date of September 30, 2014 has passed. It is being recommended that this timeline be extended to December 31, 2014.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors extend this timeline to December 31, 2014 was then made by Les DeFelice and seconded by Patrick Kelly; motion passed unanimously.**

**6. Informational Items:**

**a. President's Report**

Pursuant to Board of Governors Policy 2, Section 6, President Capehart gave a report on activities undertaken during his sabbatical from July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014. Attached to the minutes is the Report on Sabbatical covering research activities, professional, and personal renewal.

A discussion followed with regard to long-term items to be addressed going into next year and the Smart Campus Program, along with the necessary process for developing and implementing master's programs.

**b. Faculty Senate Update**

There will be no Faculty Senate update this evening. An update will be given at the December meeting.

**7. Executive Session (if needed)**

None.

**8. Action Items from Executive Session\***

None.

**9. Adjournment:**

Chair Couch asked if any further business was required. There being none the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

**A motion that the West Liberty University Board of Governors adjourn the October 15, 2014 meeting was then made by Sandra Chapman and seconded by Ann Thomas; motion passed unanimously.**

George Couch

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Chair

Sandra Chapman

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Secretary