

Minutes
WEST LIBERTY STATE COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Wednesday, October 18, 2006

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Mary Blair, Clyde Campbell, Al de Jaager, Lynne Exley, Dan Greathouse, Dan Joseph, Roseanna Keller, Larry Miller, John Moore, Will Turani, Aaron Wilkinson

Unable to Attend: Bernie Twigg

Administration/Faculty/Staff: Allison Adler, Mike Bailey, Anthony Banks, J. D. Carpenter, Jim Compston, John L. Davis, Jim Frum, Jesse Gagich, John Gompers, Dr. Jack Hattman, Patrick Henry, Donna Lukich, John McCullough, Marcella Snyder, Dr. Cliff Trump, Jim Watson, Ron Witt

1. **Call to Order:**

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. and asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes.

Mr. Moore stated he has had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Trump, and renewing his acquaintance with Allison Adler, whom he had worked with previously. When they are finished with their presentation, you will appreciate them for the professionals they are in working through this search process. This is a journey that some of us have participated in before, whether with this college or others, and you know how arduous this task can be. Their firm is known throughout the state for the quality job they perform. Having said this, Mr. Moore deferred to Dr. Campbell to go through a number of items not only as a Board member, but as Chair of the Presidential Search Committee.

2. **Approval of Minutes*:**

Full Board
08/30/06

Executive Committee
None

ACTION ITEM I:

A motion to approve the minutes of the full Board of August 30, 2006 was then made by Larry Miller and seconded by Aaron Wilkinson; motion passed unanimously.

3. **Presidential Search Presentation:**

Dr. Trump thanked everyone for being at the meeting this evening. He stated he wanted to offer up to the group a few random thoughts on the presidential search process, advise what his firm is about and what they will be doing, and their relationship with the search committee.

Dr. Trump began with giving some background information on himself and his assistant, Allison Adler. Dr. Trump was Chancellor of the West Virginia State College System for six years and President at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota. He has been retired since 2000 and doing consulting work with in-state and out-of-state institutions. He had worked previously with Ms. Adler when she worked with him as Chancellor and after that time. Ms. Adler will be working on this project with Dr. Trump. Ms. Adler attended WLSC for three years and completed her degree with West Virginia State.

Dr. Trump has worked on ten to twelve presidential searches and will use a network of associates to assist in locating high quality candidates for WLSC. Work has already begun and names being received by telephone, with the AASCU, and State higher education executive officers. The appointment of the next president is an investment in the future of WLSC and this search will take a lot of time and energy from the Board. Dr. Trump was pleased to see others involved in the process and stated that the single most important thing this Board and Committee will do is select the next president, and he appreciates their confidence in him and his firm.

Dr. Trump continued with the fact that, at the Chair's discretion, he will be happy to work with negotiations or other things that come up with finalists such as entitlements, salaries, length of contract, etc. Every candidate is treated with respect; they invest a lot of time in applying for this type of position. There will be a quick turn around on responses to candidates from which we receive materials. When candidates don't receive a response to know what's going on in the application process it reflects on the institution. We want to maintain WLSC's excellent reputation. Each application will be kept completely confidential until it becomes necessary to step forward with the candidates names. In the higher education network, information moves faster than the internet and we need to maintain confidentiality. The candidate's current position should not be compromised. We will communicate step-by-step where we are in the process and advise all applicants when a president is hired.

Presidential Search Specialists will disclose a significant amount of information about the job and applicants will be fully informed about the College to avoid any surprises. Dr. Trump noted the Committee should not jump to conclusion or base appraisals of an applicant on their application alone. Don't judge too quickly. Don't let our enthusiasm for a particular candidate get ahead of the data, and don't rule out a candidate on the basis of one issue.

One concern today is that applicant pools are shrinking around the country for this type of position. At one time there would have been 150 applications for a position such as this. Now we don't expect more than 50 to 75; we'll have to wait and see. Finally, this is a partnership and all parties should work together. Be mindful we are working for you and you have ultimate control of the search. After finalists are selected, we are under no obligation to offer the position. We don't want to choose a compromise candidate when we can't decide between the others. Also, the person selected should be told the selection was by a unanimous decision, even if it wasn't. This makes the candidate feel they are starting with a clean slate.

Dr. Trump then asked for comments or questions. Mr. Moore asked how quickly he anticipated getting the search announcement out. Dr. Trump said that the advertisement they take with them this evening will need to be in by October 23rd to appear in the November 3rd and 10th issues of The Chronicle. The ad will also appear on the Chronicle's web site.

Dr. Campbell noted that the announcement does not list a salary or a salary range. We really do not want to say our salary is competitive because it's not. The latest national mid-point for a four-year institution is \$195,000. We will not be putting the salary or range in the announcement, but when applications are received, a response will be sent with a range based on the last salary given here at West Liberty.

Mr. Turani noted that during the previous presidential search he was involved with, a lot of things happened; people calling, sending letters, etc. Does Dr. Trump have any suggestions on a way within the search committee that they can control rumors, innuendo, critics, etc? Dr. Trump stated that it will take a lot of strength on the part of the committee, because everybody wants to know how the search is going. Committee members could respond by stating that only two people can speak on behalf of the committee and those are the chair and vice chair, and that you are not authorized to speak or share information regarding the search. That is the way it has to be and committee members need to resist speaking about the process or the process is at risk.

Mr. Moore stated that in his experience working in human resources and the time he has spent working with search firms, West Liberty is indeed getting a bargain. He believed part of this was due to the fondness the firm has for West Liberty and the relationships we have built. We will be receiving a top quality service at a very reasonable price.

4. **President's Report:**

Dr. McCullough noted with regard to the presidential search, if you look at Dr. Trump and Allison Adler, he could not add any more in terms of confidence and credibility in the excellent selection of their firm for this very important task.

J. D. Carpenter will be reporting enrollment figures later in the meeting. Dr. Carpenter's report represents a solid turn around in the enrollment picture here at WLSC. The bar was raised and everyone on campus has responded to the student recruitment challenge.

The visit with Chancellor Noland and HEPC Chairman Mike Garrison couldn't have been more positive. The press coverage we received, the editorial in the Wheeling News-Register, couldn't have been written more positively.

Matthew Cottle and Dr. Andy Cook accompanied Dr. McCullough to Charleston to meet with Governor Manchin regarding the I-70 Science Center. The presentation was received with a positive initial reaction from the Governor's office. A subsequent meeting is being scheduled with Secretary Kay Goodwin and WV Superintendent of Schools Steven Paine as we continue to move forward with this project. Dr. McCullough, Mr. Cottle, and Dr. Cook met with Mr. Dempsey of AEP. Mr. Cottle and Dr. Cook met with representatives of Verizon and the Chancellor, letting everyone know that work is continuing on this project. Dr. Lukich will have more information later in the meeting.

Chancellor Noland will return to campus on the afternoon of November 29. Meetings will be set up with the Board, Student Government Association, Faculty Senate, and Classified Staff Council. These will not be lengthy meetings, and we are very pleased the Chancellor will be back on campus. Information will be distributed to the various groups when the Chancellor's visit is solidified.

Dr. McCullough will be in Charleston next Thursday to meet with the WV Higher Education Policy Commission and expects approval of the proposed Metro Rate. He is not anticipating any problems and thinks this will be a significant selling point to move WLSC forward for marketing into Belmont, Jefferson, Allegheny, and Washington counties.

Chuck Jeswilkowski accompanied Dr. McCullough to Pittsburgh last week to meet with two of West Liberty's alumnae, Anne Stevens, Superintendent of Fox Chapel School District, and Tom Healy of Allegheny County to begin making promotional inroads and getting some of those dimensions in place regarding the Metro Rate and get the word out. This is a large market that is relatively untapped, and we want students to take a look at WLSC and the value that's going to be a part of what we do. We will roll out this information within the next couple of weeks pending approval by the HEPC. The counties included are Washington and Allegheny in Pennsylvania, and Jefferson and Belmont in Ohio.

Friday, November 10 at 11:00 a.m. will be the formal dedication ceremony for the Media Arts Center. After a few of those involved in the project say a few words, there will be an opportunity for tours of the Center. We are excited about the MAC and what it brings to our academic programs and this campus. This will not be a lengthy program, and we would love to have the Board attend.

The Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Program, a nationally accredited program, received a positive review two weeks ago. Good work was done by Dr. William Wagener and Mary Ann Merz.

The Strategic Planning Session has been set for November 21. Dr. McCullough invited the Board if their schedules permit and understand that they may not be able to stay the whole day. This is the first session that's been held in three years, and we look forward to some comprehensive planning and having things in place for the new president.

The Enrollment Management Planning Session will be held December 12. This was a positive meeting a year ago which provided us with a baseline for the Enrollment Management Plan and the significant turn around in enrollment. This Plan has been absorbed by the campus, has worked, and continues to work for the campus community. This year's session will provide updates and possible fine-tuning of the Plan.

5. **HEPC and Legislative Update (www.hepc.wvnet.edu):**

Dr. McCullough stated that the Metro Rate will be presented to the HEPC one week from Thursday, and we are looking forward to its approval.

Regarding our possible university status, we had previously said that it might take possibly three years or a little longer, but we are much closer than that. Although we would need the Board to take action before we would be on the agenda in Charleston, and we would need the green light from the central office in Charleston, we are substantially closer to obtaining this status. With the amount of turn over in faculty and the hiring of terminally degreed faculty, there is the possible move up of two years on the time chart.

In the process of identifying capital improvement needs which we send to Charleston every year for legislative review and support from the HEPC, our major project is \$3,000,000 that is needed to replace the HVAC in Main Hall. With the technology upgrades and other improvements, this is a critical need to be addressed. Although we're not confident we will receive HEPC frontline support, this project is identified out front as our most critical capital improvement need.

6. **Budget and Finance:**

Mr. Henry reviewed with the Board the year-to-date budget as of October 9, 2006. The Finance Committee has reviewed this budget and the numbers are in line and where we should be at this point in the year. We are currently at 51% of total revenue, with expenses just under 27%. Currently we have two audits in the review stage. Financial statements will be available after the audits are complete. Adjusted budget totals are blank at this time and will be adjusted after next semester enrollment figures.

Mr. Cottle asked with regard to the budget activities page, the numbers are based on 4,300 students; where did we get this number? Mr. Henry stated that this is based on and FTE of 2,150 students per semester.

Mr. Henry continued with the question Mr. Wilkinson had asked at the previous Board with regard to details on student fees at other state institutions. The list is broken down by various budget lines to come up with the totals. Some schools use different terminology and not all schools responded, but this is the information that could be broken down.

Mr. Wilkinson stated that we can't compare our budget to Marshall, but the others we can compare with are significantly higher than ours. This illustrates the reason for the lack of programming on campus and how difficult it is to run the student organizations with this kind of funding. If there were any way to get the funding up to where the other schools stand it might be easier. Mr. Turani stated that some of the information received from other institutions was difficult to breakdown and you can't tell what it is really used for; whether it's tutoring, etc. If the information was contained in an institutions audit we know the breakdown. Otherwise, some line items are difficult to compare.

Mr. Wilkinson also asked if the \$14,000 for intramurals includes the salary of Mr. McConnaughy, which is \$10,000. Mr. Henry stated that yes; the salary is part of the intramurals budget. Mr. Moore asked what is defined as Student Affairs and the \$136,781 line item. Mr. Henry stated that this is the VP's total budget for the Student Affairs area. A question was asked on a breakdown for the Student Programming line item, but Mr. Henry will have to check in to this and did not have details.

Mr. Turani continued with the proposed management process audit of the WLSC Business Office. This audit is intended to try to improve the quality and function of the Business Office. This is not targeted at any one person and not an attack on the office, but due diligence by the Board of Governors. It will also be a template for future use in other offices on campus. Mr. Turani stated he would be happy to answer any questions about the process and again, this is not a negative by any stretch of the imagination.

Mrs. Blair asked if the auditors will be contacting other departments on campus to see what the working relationship is like with the Business Office on campus, since other departments are customers, too. Mr. Turani stated that they

would, but they will not be interviewing everybody on campus. They will take a cross section of the Business Office customers and conduct interviews. There is not enough time or money to interview everyone on campus.

ACTION ITEM II:

A motion to approve the services outlined in the engagement letter submitted by Costanzo & Associates was then made by Dan Joseph and seconded by Roseanna Keller; motion passed unanimously.

7. Academic Affairs:

Dr. Lukich reported that the HLC/NCA working groups are collecting data. If you are asked to provide materials or information, please respond promptly. It is critical to the timeline that this process be completed by late November, which is only six weeks away. A survey was sent to faculty today requesting information for one of the standards.

Political Science faculty coordinated four classes of students to participate in a legislative day held on campus October 12. Three members of our Northern Panhandle Delegation attended: Senators Bowman and McKenzie and Delegate White. They were very informative in describing the process of bills being created and passed or vetoed. Rich Lizza coordinated the event with the faculty.

Two campus planning events are scheduled this fall. Bob Fliess, as Faculty Senate Chair, will be invited to represent faculty at both sessions, those being the Strategic Planning meeting on November 21st and the Enrollment Management Strategic Planning meeting on December 12th.

The International Ad Hoc Committee is meeting to explore ways to increase internationalization of our campus. They are preparing an action plan to be submitted to the HEPC by mid November and preparing a grant application for possible funding toward this goal. If approved, up to \$15,000 could be awarded.

The CLS program had its accreditation site visit on October 5 and 6. The exit meeting was very positive and we will await the report of the Board of Review in the spring. Commendations were given by the visitors for the Program Director, faculty, students, and Advisory Board members. The Program is vital as it serves the needs for clinical lab scientists in this tri-state area, including Pittsburgh.

Nursing continues last minute preparation for their accreditation site visit November 6-8 and Music is writing their self-study for a spring visit.

Ads have gone out for the open positions in Special Education and Political Science.

Mr. Wilkinson asked if we fill the Special Education and Political Science positions, will there be more classes offered in these areas, and how will the students know about these classes, since schedules have already been printed and distributed. Dr. Lukich stated that we are currently using adjunct instructors for these positions. If we are able to hire full-time instructors by January, and their schedules are not filled, the opportunity exists to add to the current schedule. If this is the case we would communicate this to the students by e-mail, campus postings, etc.

8. Enrollment Update:

Dr. Carpenter stated the numbers presented tonight are fresh as of today, and it is a pleasure to present this report to the Board. These numbers are within one or two, that being first time freshmen for the fall 2006, at 480 on campus, which is a 13% increase over this time last year. Rumor has it West Liberty has the largest increase in their freshmen class in the State of West Virginia. The current overall headcount is 2,274 students, which is a 1.8% increase over the fall of 2005 with 2,235 students. We are down .8% for in-state-students, but up 4.5% for out-of-state students over last year, with 1,622 in-state, 424 from Ohio, 127 from Pennsylvania, and 99 from other states from Florida to California. We literally have students from coast to coast. This is our first increase in overall enrollment since 2001. WLSC's full-time equivalency (FTE) headcount is 2,301, which means we have fewer students taking more than a full-time load of hours. To obtain our FTE number you take total credits divided by 15.

Student retention is important and these numbers are reporting positive as well. Overall retention for the class of 2004 was 81.5%. From last year to see return this year is 87%, a 5.5% increase in institutional retention in one year. Freshmen to Sophomore are most critical and when we tend to lose a lot of students. We were at an all time low in 2003 at 58.5%. We had a 4.5% increase in retention in this group to 63%; another significant number. These numbers are indicative to us that what we are doing is working and starting to pay off.

Housing and residence life have a 9% increase in residence enrollment over last year. We are back up over 1,000 students living on campus this year. We are currently in the thick of the recruiting season which will run through the end of October. The beginning of November we will start working on individual prospects received during this time. We are very excited about the new metro rate going before the HEPC. Brooke High School hosted a WLSC day, and we are currently working with other institutions such as Wheeling Park, John Marshall, and others, to do the same set up.

Goalquest is up and running and we currently have 22,000 prospective students, putting us three months ahead of this time last year. With the scholarship programs in place and other new initiatives, as well as a very wide array of other initiatives in our portfolio, we feel confident for the fall class of 2007. Again, we are being cautiously optimistic.

Mr. Moore congratulated Dr. Carpenter on these results. He was really pleased and Dr. Carpenter's staff needs to be commended. Mr. Moore stated, as you will recall, he was all over Dr. Carpenter with regard to student numbers. He and his staff went forward with enthusiasm and got the job done.

Ms. Exley asked about the PROMISE Scholarship numbers. Dr. Carpenter didn't know that anything significant caused the decrease in scholarships, other than possibly the change in standards to receive the PROMISE. For the PROMISE Scholarships not renewed, it could be that the student did not return or did not maintain the academic standard needed to receive the scholarship.

9. **HEPC Capital Project Emergency Revolving Loan*:**

The Board of Governors is asked to approve a request for \$500,000 from the Higher Education Policy Commission's Capital Project Emergency Revolving Loan Fund for replacement of the roof on the Hall of Fine Arts. The Finance Committee has discussed this funding option in view of the fact that these monies are not available in the current budget, and the roof situation has reached the point of being an emergency situation.

Mr. Henry stated that the HEPC will loan us up to \$500,000 interest free to be paid over the next five years to get the roof put on now. We are asking the Board to approve making application for the loan. The total cost of the roof is more than the \$500,000, but we can look at our reserves to complete the project. With the recent rains coming in the building, this project is becoming a critical situation. We do not want to cause any additional damage to the building.

Mr. Miller asked what the cost is for the entire project, which Mr. Henry stated was approximately \$628,000. Mr. Henry wasn't sure how many square feet were involved in this project. Mansuetto had the original bid and is doing other roofing jobs on campus. A brief discussion followed from Mr. Miller with regard to local contractors and not just taking the lowest bids, but what meets our needs here on campus. Mr. Miller is currently working with a contractor from Akron, Ohio.

Ms. Exley asked how soon we could fix the problem. Mr. Henry stated that Mansuetto is currently working on campus and they could probably channel their resources over immediately if needed.

Mr. Wilkinson asked about the repayment of this loan and whether it would be done by a new fee or the reallocation of money. Mr. Henry stated it could be an added fee, or forgo paving projects and use the money received from the parking hang tags. This project was discussed at the finance meeting and this work needs to be done. We do not have many choices with a building that is under water. The loan is a no interest loan. This project is one of the top two submitted to Charleston as a capital improvement need for WLSC. We can get the project going and if the HEPC fund it and take the loan money to pay back the line item from which we pull resources.

Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Miller for his helpful comments on contractors. Using local contractors is good practice when we can, unless there is a serious, significant difference in cost.

ACTION ITEM III:

A motion to approve the application to request \$500,000 from the HEPC's Capital Project Emergency Revolving Loan Fund for replacement of the roof on the Hall of Fine Arts was then made by Al de Jaeger and seconded by Roseanna Keller; motion passed unanimously.

10. **Appointment of Presidential Search Committee*:**

Dr. Campbell stated that you will recall at the June 14, 2006 Board of Governors meeting, the Board approved the engagement of a professional consultant to assist WLSC in the presidential search. This evening, as Mr. Moore mentioned, a meeting was held with Dr. Clifford Trump and Ms. Allison Adler, and we have a letter of agreement to be signed by John Moore, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Trump, and Ms. Adler. This letter is one in which we agree to pay their firm \$17,000 for the entire presidential search process, beginning to end, plus travel and accommodations involved. The college will foot the bill for these expenses. Again, this amount is a bargain and encompasses the process from beginning to end when the new president is installed.

Dr. Campbell then asked for a motion to approve the letter of agreement between the Board and Presidential Search Specialists in which we agree to pay a total of \$17,000.00 plus travel and accommodations involved.

A motion to approve the letter of agreement between the Board and Presidential Search Specialists was then made by Lynne Exley and seconded by Al de Jaeger; motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Campbell continued with the appointment of the Presidential Search Committee. Based on a policy developed by the Higher Education Policy Commission, all Governing Board members are included on the search committee. At its discretion, the Governing Board may appoint additional students, faculty, staff, community leaders, alumni, or other citizens to the search committee. A member of the Higher Education Policy Commission will participate in the concluding interviews to facilitate final approval of the selected candidate by that body.

Dr. Campbell also stated that Dr. Brian Noland, Chancellor of the WV Higher Education Policy Commission, would be naming a member of the Commission to work with the search committee, that person being Secretary of the

Department of Education and the Arts, Kay Huffman Goodwin. Ms. Goodwin is experienced as a member of the Commission and Secretary and has worked with other search committees. She most recently worked on the Bluefield presidential search. WLSC is fortunate to have Ms. Goodwin on the committee with her level of experience.

Dr. Campbell also wanted to clarify any misunderstanding or perception that this committee was a separate committee from the Board of Governors. The Presidential Search Committee consists of the current Board members, along with the previously named added members.

ACTION ITEM IV:

A motion to appoint a search committee consisting of the membership of the Governing Board as of July 1, 2006, Mr. Mike Bailey, Alumni Board representative, Mr. James P. Frum, Foundation Board representative, Mr. Jesse Gagich, student representative, John E. Gompers, Esquire, Board of Governors Legal Counsel, Dr. Jack Hattman, faculty representative, and Ms. Barbara Neuman, Classified Staff representative was then made by Dan Greathouse and seconded by Roseanna Keller; motion passed unanimously.

11. Approve Presidential Position Announcement/Advertisement*:

Having made a few editorial changes to the advertisement and redistributed copies to the Board, Dr. Campbell asked if there were any questions. In the draft advertisement you will note that there has been some language added in the paragraph regarding earned doctorate, other appropriate degree, a minimum of five years experience, or other organizations. Language was also added with regard to dates in that document so that we can get things kicked off as early as possible and continue to move along with the search process.

Dr. Campbell started that applications will be directed to Dr. Campbell, in care of Allison Adler and her address. Presidential Search Specialists will receive all initial nominations and applications and they will copy and distribute to the committee members.

Mr. De Jaager asked for clarification on "other appropriate degree." Mr. Moore stated that we are looking for first professional. An earned doctorate, medical degree would be acceptable, and juris doctorate, with the example used of the success of David Hardesty at WVU.

ACTION ITEM V:

A motion to approve the advertisement as drafted for publication for the presidential position was then made by Dan Greathouse and seconded by Will Turani; motion passed unanimously.

12. Adopt Statement of Qualities and Characteristics Sought in Candidates for Presidency*:

The Qualities Sought in Candidates for the Presidency of WLSC also reflects a couple of changes in the same vein as the advertisement. Looking under strong academic leader, a history of progressive administrative duties, five years of progressively responsible senior management level in higher education, business, or government, and an earned doctorate or other appropriate degree were added.

ACTION ITEM VI:

A motion to approve the document describing "Qualities and Characteristics Sought in Candidates for the Presidency of West Liberty State College" was then made by Al de Jaager and seconded by Lynne Exley; motion passed unanimously.

13. Approve Tentative Timeline for Presidential Search Process*:

Mr. Moore noted the tentative timeline begins today, October 18, 2006, with various dates running through March 2007, when we hope to have an on campus announcement of a new president. The search will be based on this timeline, but having been through this process in the past, a number of things can effect these dates and probably will as we move along. Mr. Moore then asked that we approve the tentative timeline for the WLSC presidential search.

ACTION ITEM VII:

A motion to approve the timeline as presented by the Chair of the Presidential Search Committee was then made by Will Turani and seconded by Dan Greathouse; motion passed unanimously.

14. I-70 Project Business Plan and Property Update:

Dr. Lukich stated that since the last meeting of the Board, the Committee for the I-70 project has met to monitor the development of the business plan and the process in place for the acquisition of the land. Several meetings have been held with community, business, and government leaders. This week, meetings were held with Chancellor Brian Noland, Governor Manchin, and corporate representatives of AEP and Verizon. Positive feedback is being received from these parties. Follow-up meetings are being planned with the WV Department of Education.

We are also reviewing the projected building costs for the project, recognizing that the estimates are high and may need to be reduced. Our consultant is finalizing the financial projections for sustainability of the Science Center and we anticipate having this in the near future.

Dr. Campbell asked about the Trumpet article he received stating that the Warwood Center would be relocated. A brief discussion followed regarding the article. Dr. Luckich and Mr. Cottle clarified that no one connected with the project was contacted for this article and that there are no plans to relocate Warwood Center.

15. **Italy Trip Update:**

Mr. de Jaager reported it's really nice and feels good to say he received another update on the trip; the approved proposed program for mass on that Sunday morning in Italy, so things are headed in the right direction. The group is getting some great assistance from people. Bayer has provided a grant; the Exley's are opening their home this Sunday for a fund raising event, with another event in Pittsburgh on February 11. The choir is willing to write to anyone you can think of if you know some company or individual or foundation that we could approach for more money, which could certainly be used. We continue to take in money and all students have enrolled, along with six or seven people outside the choral group, for a total of 43 or 44 people. Mr. Moore asked if all students are able to cover the basic cost yet, to which Mr. de Jaager said that they will.

Lynne Exley stated that she, Al, and Matthew sat down to brainstorm the fund raiser to be held in her home, adding the assistance of Tammi Secrist, and volunteers John McDermitt and Debbie Dunker with Sodexo. Tammi got the invitations in the mail and did an update which included a brochure. Invitations were sent to the various boards, friends interested in the arts, the symphony, and other select people. Lynne stated they would love for the Board to be there and looking forward to hosting the event. Mr. de Jaager said the students will be singing at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Exley also stated that she is tickled to death by Al's philosophy that one person goes/everybody goes. Some students are in the position to write a check, others don't have this ability. It's a great attitude and wonderful philosophy.

Dr. McCullough stated that the outpouring you see for this wonderful experience for the chamber choir highlights that this program is truly a college event. This outpouring and the experience that will transcend will enhance our image, and is a wonderful avenue and experience for the people involved.

Mr. Wilkinson stated that he was approached by a student and asked if anyone had contacted Brad Paisley and his foundation for support of this event.

16. **Student Government Proposal:**

Mr. Wilkinson stated that he and Student Government Vice President Jim Compston will be making a presentation on a topic they have been dealing with for a while in Student Government. However, Vice President Compston did the majority of the leg work on this issue along with the research committee.

Mr. Wilkinson directed the Board's attention to the handout with regard to the former president of Middlebury College in Vermont. We can't change the national law the government laid down in 1984, where all states increased the legal drinking age. All states complied, and in 1986 the legal drinking age in West Virginia was raised from 19 to 21. This move brought about the closing of the Pub on campus and pulling alcohol from the residence halls. Recently, Shepherd University and Concord University introduced policies to allow alcohol in the residence halls, and we have borrowed from these policies.

Mr. Compston continued by reviewing the breakdown of resident students who are 21 or older, along with a breakdown of student ages and their GPA. West Liberty has many students who meet the criteria for this proposal. We beefed up this proposal from the Shepherd policy with a GPA of 2.7 instead of 2.5. The alcohol issue is one that higher education has to address at some point in time. Not allowing alcohol does not stop people from drinking. Through this proposal we would teach students to drink responsibly. Concord University liquor law violations have dropped since instituting their alcohol policy. WLSC had 125 violations in 2002, 51 in 2003, and 125 in 2005.

Students were asked to e-mail questions and concerns to the research committee, which some did, and Mr. Compston answered these questions. Alcohol on campus is a determining factor to some students. If there is no alcohol on campus students will go somewhere else to drink, which we don't want to hear. Information received from the HEPC said the decision would be up to the Board of Governors and that is why it is being presented to this group. Mr. Compston would be happy to answer any questions. This proposal was written by a committee of students, with input from area coordinators, Anthony Banks, Marcella Snyder, and others whose opinions were taken into consideration. Mr. Compston asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Miller asked if there is a committee to review this proposal so that they can bring a recommendation back to the Board. This committee could meet with study body representatives and submit a report back to the Board. Would this be appropriate? Mr. Moore was not sure where to refer this question, but thought a committee is worthy of some discussion.

Ms. Keller stated that regardless of if we refer this to a committee, what about the parents that send the students here and want to send the students here because it is a "dry" campus. Mr. Turani asked how the enforcement of a six-pack versus a 12-pack of beer would be enforced, and answers to questions such as this should be reported to the Board members.

Mr. Compston replied that if they were responding to a noise violation, which gives them reason to go into a room, and see the excessive alcohol, this is how the six-pack rule would be enforced. If there is a case of beer they would be

written up for a violation. Mr. Turani asked when Beta is to be on line, what is the target date. The plan is to have the first two floors on line for the fall 2007 semester and gradually open the remaining floors in the future, as funding permits.

Mr. Moore stated that in checking on such a standing committee of the Board, there is none at this time. Mr. Moore, on behalf of the Board, would like to establish an ad hoc committee to work with Student Government on this issue, bring back a report to the Board, a recommendation if you will, and have the Board vote on the issue at that time. Speaking for himself, as an individual Board member, Mr. Moore did not feel that at this moment there was enough information upon which to act. This is something the Board doesn't take lightly. He also would like to know from a faculty standpoint what they feel, those who live here on campus, the administration and others. This topic is worth further discussion, and we are not prepared to call for a vote this evening. Mr. Moore would like to take Mr. Miller's recommendation and refer this matter to a committee to work with Student Government. Those interested in serving on the committee should get with Dr. Carpenter.

Mr. Moore asked Mr. Wilkinson what he would like from this committee, to which he stated they want an answer. Students on this campus are begging for something and at some point in time students of age need to be given a chance to prove their responsibility. If this is deferred to a committee, what research will be done and are we going to set a timeline to report back to the Board. The students have addressed everything with their proposal and understand the concern, but this is for those 21 or older and who are responsible.

Mr. Miller stated that the Board members have a major liability issue at this institution and can't just come forward and say "yeah" or "nay." No matter how long it takes, we have to be very careful as Board members. It is not just a case of whether a student is 21 or not, that's immaterial. This is a significant liability issue relevant to this campus and a responsibility of this campus and of the Board. Mr. Miller asked that the Chair go forward at his discretion and put together a committee of volunteers. A charge will be given to the committee to come back after a very thorough review has been made. A timeline is not the critical issue here.

Mr. Compston stated that with Beta coming on line and an integral part of this proposal, he would like to see more of a timeline set for the committee. Mr. Moore stated that once the committee is set he will get a timeline. He also stated he understands where the students of age are coming from and had been in the same position some years ago. This can represent a serious legal situation for the Board and we are not ready to vote. To be fair to the students we need more information to make an intelligent decision. Dr. Carpenter will work with a committee with appropriate timelines. Progress will be updated at the next meeting, and we will be pleased to continue to talk about this issue, as it is being carefully studied. Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Compston and Mr. Wilkinson for their time and effort.

Mr. Wilkinson raised the issue of the volleyball team raffle fund raiser that he felt the Board had a right to know about. He met with the coach and the fund raiser was for three guns. The coach didn't see the issue to which he had concerns with. The raffle has since been changed to a gift certificate instead of guns. Mr. Wilkinson's question now is what are the limitations on raffles for this campus, since the Board is responsible for what happens on this campus. One club has a gun raffle and is successful; do you take the risk with another and another and another?

Mr. Moore stated that this does raise a lot of issues and didn't want to belabor the Board further this evening. This is a matter for Student Services and the area administrator's response. He did not think this was a Board action.

17. **Adjournment:**
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

John Moore _____
Chair

Lynne Exley _____
Secretary

mae