

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
October 5, 2016**

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:

Richard Carter, Scott Cook, Linda Cowan, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, Brian Fencl, John Gompers, Steve Greiner, Matt Harder, Diana Harto, Moonjung Kang, Jason Koegler, Melinda Kreisberg, Robert Kreisberg, Roberta Linger, Martyna Matusiak, John McCullough, Stephanie Meredith, Joe Montemurro, Daniel Morgan, Sylvia Senften, Ron Witt, Maureen Zambito

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

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

II. Introductions

Vice Chair DeFelice introduced new Board members Cindy Fluharty, attorney at law with Jackson Kelly, PLLC in Wheeling; Kris Williams, Chief Operating Officer of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, and Rich Lucas, President and CEO of Main Street Bank in Wheeling.

He then recognized Richard Carter and thanked him for his eight years of service to the Board of Governors. Mr. Carter thanked him for his kind words.

III. Nominating Committee

A. Election of Officers*

Members of the Nominating Committee met, consisting of Richard Carter, Jim Haizlett, and Jim Stultz, and proposed a slate of officers consisting of Les DeFelice as Chairperson, Patrick Ford as Vice Chairperson, and Jim Stultz as Secretary of the WLU Board of Governors. Mr. DeFelice tendered his resignation as Vice Chair, and Mr. Ford tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board.

On motion by Jack Adams and second by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the slate of officers as stated.

IV. Public Comment

Two individuals, Brian Fencl, Associate Professor of Art, and Moonjung Kang, Assistant Professor of Art, gave public comments.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the Full Board of 08/10/16*

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Patrick Ford, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of August 10, 2016.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee 09/21/16*

On motion by Patrick Ford and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of September 21, 2016.

VI. Agenda Order

No changes to the agenda order.

VII. Rules

A. Policy 56 – Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices*

Dr. Greiner noted that at the August 10, 2016 Board meeting Policy 56 was approved for dissemination for a 30-day comment period. Comments received are included in the board packets. An adjustment was made to policy section 2.2 to comply with West Virginia State law.

A discussion followed with regard to clarification on the new wording of the document, the protocol in place to respond to a campus situation, and comments from WLU's Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety, Joe Montemurro.

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Jack Adams, it was adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve Policy 56, Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices with one opposed.

A brief discussion followed with regard to notice to campus on the passage of the policy, updated signage, and active shooter and other training, which has been prepared by Chief Montemurro.

VIII. Reports

A. Chair of the Board of Governors (DeFelice)

None

B. Provost Report (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford gave an update on the status of the proposed MS in Biology; the proposal has gone to the HLC and a site visit may not be required, which will speed up the approval process and save the University money. The proposal for the new Master of Science in Dental Hygiene is on the agenda, which will proceed to the HEPC upon approval. The MA in Clinical Psychology will likely be approved in December. Dr. Crawford then asked Dr. Melinda Kreisberg to give an update on the HLC preparations.

Dr. Kreisberg distributed the criteria and core components by which the HLC determines whether an institution merits accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation. The University goes through this process every ten years. A discussion followed regarding the process. On behalf of the Board, Chair DeFelice thanked Dr. Kreisberg for her work on this task.

C. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed enrollment update figures as of October 5, 2016. Numbers were compared to this time last year with a 1.6% decrease overall in enrollment. We've met and exceeded projections and indicators. Three of the five colleges have positive enrollment; numbers could still increase; these are not final numbers. A brief discussion followed with regard to what is included in student enrollment and WLU's invasion of John Marshall High School.

D. Alumni Report (Witt)

Mr. Witt distributed his report on the Alumni Association goals and how they will be tracked. The Alumni Park pyramids will eventually be replaced with a new site in the Main Hall breezeway. Efforts will also be made to reinstate alumni chapters.

E. Foundation Report (Koegler)

Mr. Koegler, reporting for Ms. Zambito-Hill, discussed how important it is to realize the value of fundraising. The Foundation works collaboratively with the University, most recently in the purchase of the house across the street, but it can be so much more. A goal for Hilltopper Athletic Club of \$50,000 has almost been met, so the goal has been modified to \$100,000 for the end of the year. A sizeable endowed scholarship is coming in pieces, and an endowment for unrestricted scholarships of \$100,000 was received from alumnus Marty Adams. President Greiner will be traveling to visit some major prospects in the next few weeks.

IX. President's Report

Dr. Greiner gave a brief report, noting a 19% increase in international students, the *U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges* publication ranking WLU at the 5th spot in the "Top Public Schools in Regional Colleges in the South," and the opening of G-Top next week.

Meetings have been held with representatives from WVU and with attorneys, discussing public private partnerships in student housing. We are early in discussions, but this is one good way to build with no cash investment on the part of the University. Numerous updates were included in the President's report.

X. Finance Report

Ms. Linger distributed the FY17 Operating Budget update dated September 20, 2016. Revenue is up due to increased enrollment, and even with the impact of the FLSA ruling, the net budget position is much higher than expected. Dr. Greiner proposed, if we remain in the current financial condition and there are no mid-year budget cuts from the State, a 2% raise to take effect January 1. We still need to see what the State will do with regard to a mid-year cut.

XI. Board Items

A. Approval to Reallocate Unused Bond Proceeds for IT Infrastructure*

The Board of Governors is asked to approve the reallocation of the remaining 2012 bond proceeds to a project to upgrade the University's IT network infrastructure. A recent assessment of the network uncovered major concerns in the network and server infrastructure. A reliable and up-to-date network is crucial to the mission of West Liberty University.

The West Liberty Board of Governors previously approved the use of the bond proceeds for the following purposes:

1. The design, construction and equipping of a new Health Science building;
2. The renovation of biology labs/classrooms and ADA compliance improvements at Arnett Hall;
3. Renovation and equipping of Main Hall into areas for Business and Education expansion as well as new programs, including Americans with Disabilities compliance improvements;
4. The design, construction and equipping of a new wing on the Issuer's Media Arts Center;
5. Such other capital projects as may be approved by the Board of the Issuer from time to time.

The use of funds for any items in number 5 above requires the approval of the University's Board of Governors and the Higher Education Policy Commission.

A brief discussion followed with regard to an RFP and keeping the IT staff involved in the process.

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 reallocation of the 2012 bond proceeds.

B. WLU Institutional Compact*

The Board of Governors is asked to approve, per the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the 2016 update to the Compact. The Update, which must be submitted to the HEPC by December 1, 2016, will be available for review by the Board, an Executive Summary of which is contained in the Board packet.

On motion by Patrick Ford and seconded by Rich Lucas, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the 2016 Update to the Compact.

C. Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Proposal*

Dental Hygiene Program Director Stephanie Meredith presented the MS in Dental Hygiene Proposal, a new 30 credit hour graduate degree program housed in the College of Sciences, Department of Health Sciences. The degree program was approved by the West Liberty University Curriculum Committee and the University Faculty Senate.

On motion by Jim Haizlett and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the proposal to add the new degree program Master of Science in Dental Hygiene to be offered within the College of Sciences, Department of Health Sciences.

D. Academic Reorganization*

Dr. Greiner noted that the recommendation for this realignment first started in December 2014. Since it was early in his tenure, he asked the Provost to meet with the college units and gather information during the spring. The recommendation was delivered yesterday. Opinions differ as to whether to combine the College of Arts and Communication and the College of Liberal Arts, but there is also a financial element to be considered. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the realignment.

On motion by Jim Haizlett and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to table the academic reorganization until the November 30, 2016 meeting of the Board.

XII. Information Gathering

It was noted that more information on the issue of academic realignment will be sent to Board members. Members were encouraged to attend Executive Committee meetings of the Board.

XIII. Possible Executive Session

None

XIV. Actions Emanating From executive Session

None

XV. Next Meeting Date – November 30, 2016

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Leslie DeFelice _____
Chair

James R. Stultz _____
Secretary