

WLU Board of Governors

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, October 5, 2016 - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Shaw Hall Board Room

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement**
- II. Introductions**
- III. Nominating Committee**
 - A. Election of Officers*
- IV. Public Comment** Description: Up to 10 individuals may sign in (name, address and a brief description of their chosen topic) to speak in open session for three minutes each. The sign-in sheet will be available from Executive Secretary Mary Ann Edwards fifteen minutes prior to the meeting until the noticed start time.
- V. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Minutes of the Full Board 08/10/16*
 - B. Minutes of the Executive Committee 09/21/16*
- VI. Agenda Order (Board may move to change order of consideration)**
- VII. Rules (“Rule” means any regulation, guideline, directive, standard, statement of policy or interpretation of generation application and future effect that also has institution-wide effect or affects the rights, privileges or interests of employees, students or citizens.) If approved, the following policies shall be presented for a 30-day comment period and if no comments are received forwarded directly to the Chancellor/WVHEPC for approval.**
 - A. Policy 56 – Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices*
- VIII. Reports**
 - A. Vice Chair of the Board of Governors (DeFelice)
 - B. Provost Report (Crawford)
 - HLC Preparations (Kreisberg)
 - C. Enrollment Update (Cook)
 - D. Alumni Report (Witt)
- IX. President’s Report**
- X. Finance Report**
- XI. Board Items**
 - A. Approval to Reallocate Unused Bond Proceeds for IT Infrastructure*
 - B. WLU Institutional Compact*
 - C. Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Proposal*
 - D. Academic Reorganization*

*Action Items
- XII. Information Gathering (Members may ask questions or gather information to prepare for future agenda items without general discussion or action at this meeting.)**
- XIII. Possible Executive Session**
- XIV. Actions Emanating From Executive Session**
- XV. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, November 30, 2016**
- XVI. Adjournment**

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
August 10, 2016**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Reid Boden, Richard Carter, Les DeFelice, Patrick Ford, Jim Haizlett, Jim Stultz,
Rhonda Tysk

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Scott Cook, George Couch, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Steve Greiner,
Diana Harto, Angie Hill, Casey Junkins, Lynn Ullom, 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**
Chair George Couch submitted his resignation to the Board and has accepted a position at Gannon University in Erie, PA to start a Health Management Department at the University. Vice Chair DeFelice recognized Mr. Couch and thanked him for the exceptional job he did as a member of the Board of Governors. Mr. Couch thanked all those involved during his tenure on the Board of Governors.
- III. Swearing in of New Board Member**
Vice Chair DeFelice issued the Oath of Office to D. Reid Boden, Student Government President, and welcomed him to the Board.
- IV. Public Comment**
None.
- V. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Minutes of the Full Board 06/08/16**
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 June 8, 2016.
 - B. Minutes of the Executive Committee 07/27/16**
On motion by Pat Ford and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of July 27, 2016.
- VI. Agenda Order**
No changes to the agenda order.
- VII. Rules**
 - A. Policy No. 56: Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices***
Dr. Greiner stated that Policy 56 was presented at the recent Board of Governors Executive Committee. The policy is up for discussion and review this evening. The process is that once a decision on content is made tonight, the policy will be sent to all constituent groups for a 30-day public comment period. Any comments received will be addressed at the next Board meeting.

The policy design is very similar to that of WVU. An email was sent to all University presidents from Chancellor Hill with the HEPC's interpretation of the state code, which was checked by their legal counsel and the Governor's legal counsel. Even though there is a

concealed carry law and no permit is needed, WLU can restrict if we have a no weapons policy. WVU's policy has been in place since 1998.

A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the policy. A unanimous vote was made to change section 1.2 from "The President of West Liberty University may grant exceptions..." to "The Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police of West Liberty University..."

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Pat Ford, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the dissemination of the new Policy on Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices to constituent groups for review and comment.

VIII. Reports

A. Provost Report (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford stated that the MA/MS Biology Program proposal has been approved by the HEPC at its July meeting. It will now go to the HLC for approval of the program this fall, with implementation anticipated in fall 2017.

The Library Planning Taskforce's purpose is to collect information; what is needed by academic programs and the campus community. They will be constructing an electronic survey to complete information gathering by the end of the fall semester. Dr. Crawford will work on the Strategic Plan for the Library with Cheryl Harshman.

The Academic Reorganization Taskforce will be assisting with gathering information and reviewing proposals for all aspects to be addressed. The initial proposal will be prepared by Dr. Crawford, with Dr. Greiner's input and approval, and be provided to the Taskforce for review and planning. The proposal will be submitted during the fall semester and we hope for a decision by the first of November on which action to take, with changes to be implemented by July 1, 2017.

B. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed information with regard to summer school enrollment for review. The Deans will be meeting tomorrow to look at the summer school schedule. With regard to student loans on summer courses, they are a trailer to the academic year. If students have exceeded their federal financial aid, they need to apply for private loans. The Federal government sets a maximum limit a student can borrow.

Information was distributed with regard to fall enrollment as of August 10, 2016. Numbers were compared to this time last year. Local demographics from high schools for the next three years are expected to increase; throughout the state is not as promising; overall demographics are down. Having graduate programs improves undergraduate numbers.

C. Institutional Advancement/Foundation (Hill)

Ms. Hill distributed the FY 17 Development Plan detailing some of the changes with the Foundation structure. She reviewed the statement of focus, with a plan to ramp-up the Planned Giving Program. Long-term goals for the endowment fund are to work with the Board to grow this fund.

D. Alumni Report (Witt)

Mr. Witt distributed the Alumni Association report, homecoming information, and gave a brief background on the history of the Association. There are challenges in rebuilding the Association, but he is working to get the alumni engaged and focused. Florida and Pittsburgh chapters are very active, but there are some chapters that no longer exist. They will be working to reestablish these chapters, along with expanding the program in areas where there are large concentrations of alumni. There will be interaction with Ms. Hill and Jason Koegler, and with the shared database there won't be a duplication of efforts.

A discussion followed regarding upcoming events, an expanded presence on social media, alumni benefits, and the directory project. Vice Chair DeFelice asked that Mr. Witt

come back to the next meeting with a better sense of measurable goals going forward; goals need a number.

IX. President's Report

Dr. Greiner stated that there has been a restructuring in Athletics with Aaron Huffman stepping down as Athletic Director. Lynn Ullom and Roger Waialae will be splitting the duties on an interim basis. Dr. Greiner introduced Mr. Ullom, who spoke briefly and answered questions.

The Masters in Biology is in the approval process, along with an on-line Masters in Dental Hygiene and a Masters in Clinical Psychology. These are in process and would be up and running no sooner than 2018. We are also looking at a masters in Athletic Training, since you will soon be required to have a masters to work as an Athletic Trainer.

Negotiations continue with the new use of the Gary West Center. The plan is to have it operating as a restaurant with a target date of September 15th. We are in the process of getting equipment inspected and necessary license in place for opening.

Roberta Linger starts work Monday as VP of Finance and Administration, having previously worked at WVU. Angie Zambito-Hill is back with WLU as Executive Director of the Foundation.

President Greiner spoke today with the PA Program students, who started classes on July 5th. He was also the keynote speaker for the recent white coat ceremony.

As a student success story, Rosalie Haizlett was named Emerging Artist Fellow by the Tamarack Foundation. There are only two Fellows named in the state. Catherine Tate was a winner in the Phi Beta Lambda Cost Accounting competition held in Atlanta, GA.

Maureen Zambito presented a phenomenal number of media contacts in recent months, doing a tremendous job in getting the word out for the University, the most recent being the article, "Higher Education Contributes \$2.7 Billion to State Economy." A brief discussion followed regarding WLU's positive image, marketing efforts, and public relations.

X. Finance Report

President Greiner noted that the Finance Committee met prior to the Board and gave an update on the information contained in the packet. A brief discussion followed with regard to the state financial situation.

XI. Board Items

Vice Chair DeFelice noted that a revised schedule of meetings for FY 2016-17 was distributed. The dates for the Board and Executive Committee meetings have all been moved up one week in order to resolve numerous meeting conflicts.

On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Pat Ford, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the revised Schedule of Meetings for 2016-17.

XII. Information Gathering

The Facilities Management team has been studying housing, utilization of buildings and equipment, and other assets of the University. The framework is there from meetings which were held twice a month.

Dr. Greiner noted that the West cabins are full; the yellow house is also full, which shows that those other options are what the students want. Those on the waiting list for the apartments across the street had first option on the cabins.

A brief discussion followed with regard to the resignation of the Board Chair. Mr. Gompers stated that the vice chair assumes the responsibilities of the chair, but remains the vice chair. The vacancy can be filled by the Board through an election held at any regular meeting, as long as the election is publicized in the notice to the State. If the vice chair is nominated to be chair, you can also nominate someone to fill the vice chair vacancy. If you don't want to

have a chair there would be no election and the vice chair can assume the responsibilities until June 30, 2017.

The current Nominating Committee consists of Richard Carter, Jim Stultz, and Jim Haizlett. If there is a member present interested in the position, they should express this to the committee.

XIII. Possible Executive Session

None.

XIV. Actions Emanating from Executive Session

None.

XV. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, October 5, 2016

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Jack Adams, the meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Les DeFelice _____
Vice Chair

Patrick Ford _____
Secretary

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Executive Committee
Minutes
September 21, 2016**

Executive Committee Members Present: Patrick Ford

WLU Administrators: Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Stephen Greiner, Roberta Linger

Others: Richard Carter, John Gompers, Jim Haizlett, John McCullough, Rhonda Tysk, Jim Stultz

1. Secretary Ford called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.
2. President Greiner reported a successful beginning to the academic year.
 - a. US News & World Report now lists WLU as one of the top 5 public colleges in the south. This ranking provides very positive public perception of the institution.
 - b. Work on the Facilities Master Plan continues.
 - c. There was a recent meeting on public/private housing partnerships that included individuals involved with such projects at WVU.
 - d. Fundraising is going well. The endowment should be increased by at least \$1 million this year.
 - e. The Governor has appointed four new Board members:
 - i. Rich Lucas
 - ii. Kris Williams
 - iii. Chris Carder
 - iv. Cindy Fluharty
 - f. Mr. Gompers questioned the availability of Chris Carder to serve, as she is currently a member of the Ohio County School Board. President Greiner will follow up on this.
 - g. The President reported that he will likely bring forward a proposal at the 10/5 meeting to enact a salary increase for employees.
3. Ms. Linger provided a budget update showing an increase in revenues, several adjustments to expenses, and a new budget position of positive \$434,185.
4. Mr. Cook provided an enrollment update. There has been an increase in first-time freshmen, transfers, and graduate students. Overall there is a decrease in enrollment of 3.4%, but an 8% decrease was projected and budgeted for.
5. Dr. Crawford reported on the status of the MA/MS Biology program proposal, which has been submitted to the HLC.
6. Dr. Crawford indicated that he will ask Dr. Melinda Kreisberg to provide a report on HLC preparations at the upcoming meeting.
7. Dr. Crawford asked that Academic Reorganization be added to the agenda as a possible action item. This was agreed.

8. The WLU Institutional Compact Update is under construction and will be provided to Board members prior to the meeting.
9. The MSDH program proposal will also be provided to the Board members in advance of the meeting.
10. BOG Policy 56 is still in its 30-day comment period. When this period is over, all comments will be sent to Board members in preparation for the 10/5 meeting.
11. Mr. Ford made an observation on the very positive experience he had during a recent visit to campus.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Vice Chair, Les DeFelice

Secretary, Patrick Ford

West Liberty University Board of Governors
October 5, 2016

**POLICY 56 DEADLY WEAPONS/DESTRUCTIVE DEVICES
WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

Action Item

At the August 10, 2016 meeting, the Board of Governors approved the dissemination of Policy 56 – Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices to constituent groups for comment. The comments received were reviewed and the Board is asked to approve this policy.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the Policy 56, Deadly Weapons/Destructive Devices.

DRAFT Proposal

WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors

Policy No. 56

TITLE: DEADLY WEAPONS/DESTRUCTIVE DEVICES

SECTION I. GENERAL

- 1.1 Purpose – The purpose of this policy is to impose the prohibition of and penalty for the possession or storage of deadly weapons, destructive devices, or fireworks in any form on the West Liberty University campus or any University-leased facilities.
- 1.2 Scope – This policy applies to all University faculty, staff, students, and visitors, including those on any satellite campus. It shall also apply to private vehicles parked or operated on University owned or leased property, which openly display firearms. The Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police of West Liberty University may grant exceptions to this policy in writing for the convenience of the University in achieving its mission.
- 1.3 The provisions of this policy shall not apply to the following persons, while acting in their official capacity:
 - Law enforcement officers or law enforcement officials;
 - West Virginia Department of Corrections employees;
 - Members of the armed forces of the United States while on activity duty or serving in an official capacity;
 - Any circuit judge, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, or investigator duly appointed by a prosecuting attorney; and
 - Individuals required to possess the items prohibited by this policy in order to participate in academic/research undertakings sanctioned by West Liberty University. This includes the possession of historic weapons/replicas used for educational purposes.

SECTION II. POLICY

- 2.1 Possession or storage of a deadly weapon, destructive device, or fireworks in any form (as defined by West Virginia State Code) is prohibited on the West Liberty University campus in University-leased facilities and in vehicles owned or leased by the University.
- 2.2 Any person carrying or possessing a firearm or other deadly weapon in violation of this policy who, upon being requested to do so, refuses to temporarily relinquish possession of the firearm or other deadly weapon, and/or refuses to leave University or College premises or grounds as previously defined while in possession of the firearm or deadly weapon, shall be charged with a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or confined in the regional jail not more than six months, or both (§61-7-14 WV Code).

Approved by the WLU Board of Governors on mm/dd/yyyy.

Approval to Reallocate Unused Bond Proceeds for IT Infrastructure

ACTION ITEM

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 require the approval of the University's Board of Governors and the Higher Education Policy Commission.

Proposed Resolution: Resolved, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the reallocation of the 2012 bond proceeds.

West Liberty University Board of Governors
October 5, 2016

2016 UPDATE TO COMPACT

ACTION ITEM

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 attached.

Proposed Resolution: Resolved, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the 2016 Update to the Compact.

Compact Update Executive Summary

The Board of Governors approved West Liberty's initial reporting strategies for the Higher Education Policy Commission five-year statewide Compact on October 29, 2014. The Board approved West Liberty's first-year strategy updates on October 14, 2015.

The Board is asked to approve West Liberty's 2016 Compact Update, which is due to the HEPC December 1, 2016. Upon completion, the full Compact Update document will be available on West Liberty's [IR&A website](#).

Executive Summary:

I. Strategies

1. **Degrees Awarded** - Recruitment efforts targeting students interested in the STEM disciplines is ongoing and enhanced by the efforts of retention committees specific to the College of Sciences (biology, math, and chemistry) and the College of Liberal Arts (psychology). There were 24 graduates from biology, chemistry, and mathematics in 2015, and 19 students graduated with a degree in psychology. The development of innovative majors like zoo science has attracted a new population of students to the STEM fields. The College of Liberal Arts collaborated with local high schools to bring prospective students to campus and introduce them to career opportunities in the field of psychology during 2015-16.
2. **Developmental Education**
 - A. **Developmental Math:** students are completing their developmental requirement more quickly and efficiently through the integration of content that specifically aligns to their college-level mathematics courses. Pass-rates are improving with 81% of developmental math students passing a 100 level course under the new math models.
 - B. **Developmental English:** Developmental students are placed in an advanced learning program that integrates them into mainstream classes. Faculty and student tutors collaborate to help students quickly realize their college-level writing skills. Pass-rates were well under 50% before the co-requisite model was adopted, and now close to 90% completion rates are being realized in the five-hour composition courses.
3. **Enrollment** - West Liberty experienced an 11% increase in new students in the fall of 2016. The implementation of Hobson's Radius CRM provides a true online application and improved communication with prospective students. Dedicated faculty continue to assist enrollment services by participating in events such as "high school invasion" where they will teach college-level content to high school students at John Marshall in a one-day event.
4. **Faculty Scholarship** – Academic/scholarly accomplishments are reported individually by faculty in an annual review. A system to quantify this data and maintain a University-wide record is currently being developed in the Provost's Office.
5. **First-Year Retention** - The Hilltopper Academy continues to increase the involvement of WLU faculty and adjust to curriculum changes like the co-requisite model. Student programming and services (academic success classes, ongoing tutoring programs, and counseling) are implementing retention strategies. College 103 is a new freshman course for students who are on academic probation, and is designed to encourage motivation, help students set goals, and improve study strategies. A University-wide retention committee has been established to review University retention data and strategies.
6. **Graduate Student Success** - A campus-wide quality initiative is underway for developing a graduate program infrastructure. The Graduate Council, initiated in the fall of 2015, is responsible for curriculum approval, review of faculty qualifications, and recommendations for additional policy and/or modifications to existing ones. The implementation of Degree Works and the CRM has greatly

increased student and enrollment services for graduate programs. A graduate student orientation is established, and a process for hiring graduate assistants is approved.

7. **Graduation Rates** – West Liberty is committed to improving graduation rates through the development and implementation of successful student services and programming.
 - A. Staff training and implementation of the Ellucian-Degree Works advising tool is complete, and the Registrar’s Office utilized the system for May 2016 graduate evaluations. Degree Works significantly increased efficiency and lessened the workload of the evaluation process. The overall assessment of this advising tool is positive from students, staff, and faculty.
 - B. Student programming continues to offer a variety of programs/events (academic, entertainment, athletic, wellness, international student support) that provide opportunities for students to develop a strong sense of belonging and connection to the University that will improve the student’s overall experience and encourage successful degree completion.
8. **Progress Toward Degree** - First-time freshman are routinely informed of the benefits of preregistering and completing at least 15 hours per semester for on time degree completion. In addition, a requirement for academic scholarship renewal is the completion of 30 semester hours per academic year, and this requirement aligns with those of the PROMISE Scholarship.
9. **Research and Development** - West Liberty encourages faculty to engage in research and related academic writing and publishing. The Colleges of Sciences and Education co-hosted a grant-writing workshop open to all faculty.
10. **Student Loan Default Rates** - Financial planning information is provided to local high school students and parents during Financial Aid Night and Open House events. Students/parents were surveyed on the effectiveness of these events, and the results indicated that students/parents wanted more time to meet individually with counselors. West Liberty responded by building more time into orientation to focus on financial aid counseling. HEPC funding provided WLU with “Inceptia” an online system to counsel and educate students on repayment plans.

II. **Comprehensive Plans**

1. **Academic Quality** - Improve student competence, achievement and success by monitoring the effectiveness of student learning in General Studies and in the Academic Degree Programs.
 - A. **Assessment and Accreditation Committee (A&A):** In the spring of 2016 the A&A Committee reviewed assessment planning for Chemistry, Criminal Justice, Communication, Psychology, and the BLA. These reports were submitted and evaluated using LiveText Assessment Management System, and scores, recommendations, and comments were provided to all stakeholders. In addition, Elementary and Secondary Education, Chemistry and Psychology submitted a BOG Program Review and these were approved at the April 2016 meeting of the Board.
 - B. **General Studies Assessment (GSA):** In the 2015-16 academic year, the GSA Committee began the process of reviewing all courses in the general studies program. This is an ambitious first-of-its-kind review of general studies. A rubric has been developed for reviewing and scoring the submissions, and LiveText is being utilized for submissions and scoring. A new requirement implemented in 2015-16 is that faculty teaching GS courses are to collect assessment data using LiveText on the GS student learning outcomes (problem solving, communication, self and cultural awareness) for the University. This data will help the University to identify general studies strengths/challenges and improve the curriculum.
2. **Career Pathways** - Career-Readiness (Academic): WLU intends to expand career-readiness of students through an increased focus on courses in the STEM fields. Career Services: WLU is identifying the needs of local employers and investigating WLU student recruitment initiatives.

- A. Career Services: Established relationships with several area employers to recruit on campus. Career opportunities of areas employers are disseminated to alumni and graduating seniors. A Career Services graduating senior survey indicates that 42.5% of May 2015 graduates secured employment or were accepted into graduate school prior to graduation.
 - B. Career-Readiness: A Master's Program proposal in biology was approved by the HEPC and is pending approval by the HLC. The new zoo sciences program was initiated through a partnership with the Good Zoo, Oglebay Park.
- 3. Critical Regional Issues** - Civic engagement is a core value of the University Master Plan and is a fundamental element of University culture. Off-campus enrichment activities and collaboration projects showcase West Liberty's students and promote career opportunities.
- A. College of Sciences - Oral Health Care Program provides preventative oral health care and education to high risk children in the Ohio County school district.
 - B. College of Arts and Communication - Student Design Services are offered "pro bono" by graphic design students to campus and community organizations.
 - C. College of Education
 - a) Parents Night Out - Students majoring in special education create and implement programming for individuals with autism and related disabilities in the local area.
 - b) Fitness & Fun Day – Local area students with disabilities visit campus for a day of organized physical activity and art projects.
 - c) Kaleidoscope Event – Community education, activities and assistance is provided to underprivileged pregnant women and families with infants and children under two-years-of-age.
 - D. Alumni – Community University at WLU – offers stimulating learning opportunities to people age 50+. Volunteer presenters engage older adults as learners and topics are based on presenter and learner interests.
- 4. Collaborative Access-** Collaborative Access plan is designed to enhance efforts and provide access by intensive collaboration between Enrollment Services and Academic Affairs in enrollment planning and initiatives. Despite budget cuts, Enrollment Services has been able to make significant purchases with Degree Works and Hobson Radius CRM. The implementation of these systems required significant collaboration between enrollment Services, Academic Affairs, IT and Finance. However, our efforts are being rewarded since the 2016-17 new student class is up 11% over the fall of 2015. Due to the enrollment decline of the last few years, faculty have become much more engaged in the recruitment process, and their availability has improved our efforts.
- 5. Financial Aid** – In addition to the information provided to local high school students and parents during Financial Aid Night and Open House events, the Director of Financial Aid facilitates a session on credit card use, default consequences, SAP Policy and budgeting in West Liberty's Freshman Experience course. After the presentations, student questions are addressed concerning decreasing borrowing load early and scholarship opportunities.

MS IN DENTAL HYGIENE PROPOSAL

ACTION ITEM

The Board of Governors is asked to approve the creation of a new 30 credit hour graduate degree program, the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene. The program will be housed in the College of Sciences, Department of Health Sciences. In accordance with West Liberty University policy and the Higher Education Policy Commission guidelines, the degree program was approved by the West Liberty University Curriculum Committee and the West Liberty University Faculty Senate.

***Proposed Resolution:* Resolved, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors 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.**

**ACADEMIC REALIGNMENT
WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

Action Item

The Board of Governors is asked to approve the combination of the existing College of Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Communication, and School of Professional Studies into a single new college. This new college will include divisions of Arts, Humanities, Professional Studies and Social Sciences, with the School of Professional Studies becoming a department. This realignment of academic programs will increase the number of faculty in the classroom, provide new opportunities for collaboration, increase operating efficiencies and decrease administrative costs. Faculty, staff, and students were consulted regarding the proposed changes. Faculty and administrators will be further consulted regarding the naming of the new college and its internal structure.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty university Board of Governors approves the merger of the College of Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Communication and School of Professional Studies effective July 1, 2017.