

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
October 16, 2019**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Kelly Baker, Richard Carter, Cindy Fluharty, Patrick Ford, Robert Gall, Rich Lucas, William Mercer, Kris Williams, Isabella Yakicic

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, Steve Greiner, Matthew Harder, Diana Harto, Angie Hill, Jason Koegler, Roberta Linger, Gerard NeCastro, Sara Sweeney, Ron Witt

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

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

II. Introductions

A. CMTA Performance Contract Presentation

Chris Wade, Project Manager, and John Bradshaw, Business Development, gave a presentation for CMTA, a national leading design firm who partners with architects across the country to design the most efficient higher education and K-12 schools in the country. They look at schools to see how they can save through their energy contracting and reinvest in education. They most recently did the upgrades on campus in Arnett Hall.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Agenda Order

No changes were made to the agenda order.

V. Approval of Minutes*

A. Minutes of the Full board 08/21/19*

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Richard Carter, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of August 21, 2019.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee of 09/25/19*

On motion by Cindy Fluharty and seconded by Kris Williams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of September 25, 2019.

VI. Board Items

A. Property Acquisition*

Dr. Greiner stated that the University has been offered a piece of property, the West Liberty courthouse dating from the 1700's, which is in an extreme state of disrepair. The owner would like to gift the property to WLU to preserve, but after visiting the property it is the recommendation of the Executive Committee to not accept this property. It would take too much in the way of University resources to repair and maintain the property.

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Kris Williams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to hereby decline the donation of the county courthouse property located in the Town of West Liberty.

B. Honorary Degree*

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted that in affirmation of the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees and Recognition Committee and the President of the University, the West Liberty University Board of

Governors authorize the conferral of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from West Liberty University at the December 2019 commencement to Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, and on a date yet to be determined, the awarding of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from WLU to Phyllis “Flip” J. West.

C. Pay Raise*

The West Liberty University Board of Governors is asked to approve the following salary enhancements for faculty and staff effective October 26, 2019:

- Faculty – a total of \$128,210 to be distributed based upon merit and external competitiveness (equity) tiers as established by WLU Policy 245 and Procedure 240 to those who were on payroll prior to October 1, 2018.
- Staff – a total of \$122,088 to be distributed based upon merit in accordance with WLU Compensation Guidelines to staff at least .53 FTE who were on payroll prior to October 1, 2018.

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by William Mercer, it was unanimously adopted that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the salary enhancements as stated, effective October 26, 2019.

D. Nominating Committee*

Dr. Greiner stated that Pat Ford, having accepted a position in Kentucky as Executive Director of the Marion County Foundation, cannot perform the duties required on a long-term basis as Chair of the Board. He will be resigning in December and the Executive Committee will be designated as the Nominating Committee to propose a slate of officers effective in January. The Bylaws do not allow for the vice chair to move into the position.

On motion by William Mercer and seconded by Rich Lucas, it was unanimously adopted that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Nominating Committee as stated.

VII. Reports

A. Chair of the Board of Governors (Ford)

None.

B. Provost (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford stated proposals are in process for the MS in Speech Language Pathology, MA in Art Therapy and Counseling, and MS in Exercise Physiology and working their way through the internal process before coming to the Board of Governors. The accreditation report was due to the HLC in May, which was a recap of how WLU created the new Master Plan. Last week the HLC requested dates for 2021-2022 review. The Social Work Program received an 8-year reaccreditation yesterday.

At the last BOG meeting there was a discussion regarding the closure of OVMC and East Ohio Regional Hospital and the effect on student placements. Thanks to Roberta Linger and her team, WLU now has an agreement in place with UPMC for student placements. We are making progress with discussions held today with Washington Hospital.

Faculty Senate Representative Dr. Robert Gall noted that we are in need of a chief librarian or administrator for the library; somebody in touch with the rest of the state consortium for the library. Dr. Greiner noted that we are in the process of evaluating staff for that position and have been discussing the library regularly with the Chancellor.

C. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed an enrollment update as of October 16, 2019, and stated that WLU's initial data file was submitted to the HEPC last week. These submissions take place twice a semester; an initial and final submission. Various enrollment breakdowns were reviewed by Mr. Cook, noting that housing numbers include all student housing managed by the University. He also stated that 80 families were on campus for Black and Gold day today. Campus visits are up 24% and as always, if we get the students to visit we stand a better chance of getting them enrolled.

D. Student Government (Yakicic)

Ms. Yakicic noted everything went well for homecoming and has received positive feedback. The SGA brought in over \$600 from ticket sales. Higher numbers were expected for the dance, but the club across the road took away from attendance. The town clean-up and parade were cancelled due to weather.

Members of SGA participated with WVU and Marshall University in a state-wide volunteer project at a camp for underprivileged athletes. These were middle and high school age students not looking to go to college. WVU's Club donated draw string bags and items and letters of encouragement were packed in the bags.

Ms. Yakicic attended the State Advisory Council of Students meeting in Charleston, being updated on what students can and have the power to do on and off campus. There are two initiatives to be accomplished this year; one being safety and the other dealing with meal plans. Students would like to see more blue emergency lights on campus and are also concerned with safety at Mac's Club. They would also like to see meal plans with more options like WVU and Marshall in the next school year.

VIII. President's Report

Dr. Greiner stated that he had a meeting with the owner of Mac's about ID's being appropriately monitored. Mr. West has also agreed to let WLU put additional parking on the property.

Chancellor Tucker asked for a presentation from WLU at the recent HEPC meeting. A presentation was given by Dr. Greiner, Roberta Linger, Jason Koepler, and Diana Harto. The chairman gave quite a few accolades at the conclusion of the presentation.

In new rankings by College Raptor, WLU was identified as a hidden gem in the Northeast. *U.S. News & World Report* named WLU a Top Performer on Social Mobility, and Niche.com recognized us as one of the top 10% Safest College Campuses in America.

We have gone live with a new digital platform called Topper Station. Jason Koepler and his crew have worked very hard on this vastly improved platform.

We are very pleased that the Theater Program continues to win awards at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

The Women's Softball team has been recognized as one of the top 20 team grade point averages among all NCAA Division II teams last year out of approximately 288 teams.

Construction updates:

- We hope to move students in Friday in both buildings of the new apartments.
- 4th Floor Campbell Hall – Architects are getting quotes for construction of lab for Speech Pathology and Audiology hearing clinic and clinic for Clinical Psychology. Completion is expected by August of 2020.
- The indoor practice facility will be completed in December when the interior lining is installed.
- The elevator in the library is still under construction since it could not be repaired and had to be replaced.

With regard to a China update, construction on any facilities over there are still two years away for WLU and would be a partnering opportunity and nothing more. The biggest thing now is our beta testing for a patent on a piece of medical equipment that Fred Kinder has created. Our Science Department will be doing the equipment testing. A brief discussion followed.

IX. Finance Report

Ms. Linger gave an update on the budget status for the end of the quarter. Revenue and expenses are both running about what is expected, but continue to watch expense side. The deadline for submitting the annual audit for FY 19 was yesterday and WLU's financial accounting recording was sent within the deadline. The auditors will present their findings to the Board at the December meeting. Overall the audit was good with one finding.

X. Information Gathering

None.

XI. Executive Session – Personnel

Pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4, at 4:58 p.m., a motion to retire to executive session was made by Jack Adams and seconded by Rich Lucas; motion passed unanimously and Ms. Harto was asked to stay in the meeting.

A motion to rise from Executive Session at 5:33 p.m. was made by Kris Williams and seconded by Jack Adams; motion passed unanimously.

XII. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Patrick B. Ford _____
Chair

Jack Adams _____
Secretary