

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
February 5, 2020**

Attendance:

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

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey, William Mercer

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Stephanie Bradley, Sydney Burkle, Scott Cook, Katie Cooper, Brian Crawford, Mary Ann Edwards, Steve Greiner, Matt Harder, Diana Harto, Angie Hill, Stephanie Hooper, Jason Koeigler, Roberta Linger, Cathy Monteroso, Nick Musgrave, Sara Sweeney, Ron Witt

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

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

II. Introductions

A. Sydney Burkle

Dr. Greiner introduced Sydney Burkle, Philanthropy Vice President of the Epsilon Theta Chapter of Alpha Xi Delta. Ms. Burkle formally invited the Board members to attend the first annual AmaXing Challenge Gala benefiting Autism Speaks on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the White Palace, along with background about the event. Tickets are \$50/person and she will send information to Dr. Greiner to distribute to Board members.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Agenda Order

No changes to the agenda order.

V. Approval of Minutes*

A. Minutes of the Full Board December 11, 2019*

On motion by Robert Gall 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 December 11, 2019.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee January 22, 2020*

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of January 22, 2020.

VI. Board Items for Approval*

A. Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology*

Dr. Bradley presented information on the proposal to add the MS in Speech-Language Pathology to be offered within the College of Sciences. In order for students to use their bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology and provide therapy to the public they must have a Masters in Speech-Language Pathology. A brief discussion followed, and it was noted we would need an additional full-time faculty member, the Clinical Director, to start the program in the fall of 2022.

On motion by Robert Gall and seconded by Kelly Baker, 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 Speech-Language Pathology to be offered within the College of Sciences, Department of Health Sciences.

B. Metro Rate – Fayette County, Ohio*

Mr. Cook distributed information with regard to the metro county expansion proposal for Fayette County, Ohio. There has been no enrollment from this county in the last six years. A brief discussion followed.

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the new metro rate county beginning with the 2020-21 academic year as stipulated.

VII. President's Report

Dr. Greiner noted that Dr. Matthew Zdilla is a finalist for the 2019 WV Professor of the Year. In the last five years WLU had two professors named WV Professor of the year.

BestCollegesOnline.org has ranked WLU's MBA program #3 in the Top 50 Affordable Accelerated online 2020 programs.

A partnership to assist students needing one class to graduate has been signed with Bethany and Wheeling University, allowing students to take a needed course at these institutions, paying the cost charged by their home institution.

Bids will be going out for the clinics in Campbell Hall within the next two weeks for the Behavioral Health and Speech Pathology and Audiology areas. Construction should start around April and be completed by August.

There will be a CMTA meeting next week to try and finalize plans for the summer project involving interior/exterior lighting and low flush toilets and water saving faucets. A complete HVAC renovation of Main Hall will also take place this summer, along with the replacement of some switches. The Marketplace will undergo some renovations this summer with funds provided by Sodexo.

Dr. Greiner congratulated Dr. Cathy Monteroso and the College of Education on their scores released by the National Council on Teach Quality (NCTQ) for its 2020 Teach Prep Review. Based on their criteria, WLU's reading program qualified for an "A," one of a few in the country.

Dr. Greiner thanked Kris Williams for her generous donation that enables us to name WLU's Rollie Williams International Center in memory of her father, Rollie Williams, who was a professor at West Liberty for 37 years.

Dr. Greiner stated that we have been invited back to China, but a week after the invitation the coronavirus was identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. A conference call will be held Tuesday with colleagues in China to get an update.

We are pleased that the Governor has rescinded the mid-year budget cut. WV has the 4th highest enrollment decline in the nation. A real concern for us is that funding for FTE has decreased 33% in the last ten years in West Virginia. WLU is very fortunate to have a net enrollment increase of 6.6%.

WLU is the only public masters granting institution to experience enrollment growth.

President's Council has been working with legislators and the legislative agenda for a new funding module. The current module is broken and penalizes institutions for an enrollment increase. With no funding available for capital improvements, they continue to work for a solution.

VIII. Finance Report

Ms. Linger gave a budget update as January 1, 2020. All is trending as expected with no concerns. On the expense side personal services are trending slightly below the benchmark, but overall running at about 51.4%. There are still some issues with the state auditors and getting things paid, but this should be resolved next month.

IX. Reports

A. Provost (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford stated the MS in Speech Language Pathology will be headed to the HEPC in the next few weeks, then onto the HLC in the spring. The MS in Art Therapy and Counseling has

passed through Graduate Council and will next move to the Faculty Senate. The program should be on the BOG's April 1st agenda, with the MS in Exercise Physiology proposal not far behind. Today the intent to plan was submitted for an Educational Leadership certification MAEd track for Principals and Superintendents. A BA in Music intent to plan is currently in process.

Dr. Crawford noted that he attended a committee meeting in Charleston on Monday, which reauthorizes state institutions to grant degrees. When asked by the committee how WLU manages to stay so strong in enrollment when so many are dropping, he stated a combination of new programs and expanding our geographic range. Two other members of the committee also pointed out WLU's reputation in terms of excellence, sciences getting involved early on in research, etc.; we have a pretty good reputation across the state right now.

B. Enrollment Update (Cook)

Mr. Cook distributed enrollment information as of February 3, 2020. Enrollment was finalized this week with a total headcount of 2,203, up 2.1% over last spring. Housing is at 1,035, up 2.3% over last spring. Undergraduate applications received are up 6% and undergraduate applications accepted are up 8% over this period last year. Graduate applications received are slightly down at this time.

Some of the student success measures: WLU in 2019 had the highest 4-year graduation rate in the state for the second year in a row, the second highest 6-year graduation rate, and the third highest retention rate, slipping from number two last year. Historically WLU does well in all the performance indicators.

C. Staff (Baker)

Ms. Baker stated that Staff Council has been working to get a meeting with the Board of Governors, and respectfully asks that the meeting be held in May 2020. This will give the Council time to hold an election for a new chairperson and prepare for the requested meeting.

D. Faculty (Gall)

For the first item Dr. Gall stated that last April the Faculty Senate overwhelmingly passed a policy to reestablish how faculty are evaluated, taking into consideration comments from faculty. Provost Crawford recommended against the changes; Faculty Senate will be coming back to these policy changes in the future.

The second item deals with the College of Business and their requirement to hold faculty hours in excess of what is called for in policy, which Senate will try to address.

The final item, as brought to the attention of the Executive Committee, is the faculty and staff concern about President Greiner serving as consultant on the Presidential Search Committee since he was not evaluated as President. It was stated that someone such as President Emeritus John McCullough would be a better choice as consultant to the committee.

E. Student Government (Yakicic)

Ms. Yakicic stated that SGA has been working on funding with the HEPC and with Sodexo on meal plan selections and renovations. A New York bus trip is planned for the spring, most likely at the \$50/per student rate. They are looking at River City for the spring fling dance, which has been a good location and successful in recent years. An SGA day will be held on the quad in the spring with food, prizes, and inflatables.

X. Information Gathering

Dr. Gall wanted to bring to the Board's attention that with Ms. Hooper now being in the position of General Counsel, university and board policies have fallen behind on changes in State Code. The Board needs to try to do something to regularize review of Board policies to make sure they are up to date. A number of discrepancies have been pointed out, some more than a few years out of date.

XI. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

XII. Adjournment

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Isabella Yakicic, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to adjourn the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

Richard Lucas _____
Chair

Jack Adams _____
Secretary