

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Student Life Committee
Minutes
March 13, 2023**

Attendance:

Sydney Burkle, Thomas Cervone, Stephanie Shaw, Tom Cervone, Ryan Glanville

Unable to Attend:

Jamie Evick

Administration/Faculty/Staff/Guests:

Cathy Monteroso, Katie Cooper, Lynn Ullom, Cyndi Galloway, Doug Orr, Nancy Goplerud

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Shaw called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

2. Introduction of guests: Nancy Goplerud and Doug Orr, Aladdin Food Services

**3. Approval of Minutes
November 29, 2022**

On motion by Tom Cervone and seconded by Rich Lucas, the West Liberty University Student Life Committee unanimously approved the minutes of November 29, 2022.

4. Spring 2023 Enrollment Update

Katie Cooper gave a Spring 23 enrollment update. Total current headcount is 2,075. This is up 1.5% from last spring.

5. Fall 2023 Application Update

Katie Cooper shared that applications are slightly down (9 applications). Recruiting pushes--students that have visited campus but haven't applied or been accepted. Also reaching out to inquiries that haven't yet applied.

Testimonies from current students are being sent out to prospective students. Dr. Monteroso is also sending out postcards to local accepted students.

6. Spring 2023 Student Activities

Katie mentioned Kate Billings coordinates 7-8 activities on campus each week. Night to Shine had a lot of student participation. Topper Idol was also a success. Upcoming Off Campus Events-Pirates game, Oglebay bike trip, to name a few.

7. Enrollment Initiatives

Katie noted that we have 195 students registered for the upcoming accepted student days. Last year's attendance was 205. We are currently working to enhance our summer orientations. Hoping to spend more time answering questions and making sure everything for the student is finalized.

8. Retention Initiatives

The resource fair for transfer students was a success. All offices were available, all day, in the Union.

Peer mentoring out of the SLDC is still active and successful.

College 101 was changed from a 10 week to a 16-week (full semester) course to help with retention efforts and to better support our students. It's still a 2-hour course and Roger Getz will be leading the course in the Fall.

Tom asked if there are any specific factors for retention? Katie responded that we do have outgoing surveys and a lot of the time we get feedback that students have financial problems. Not necessarily financial aid problems but needing to get a job to support their family or personal financial problems.

Stephanie asked if we ever pair alumni with current students to provide support and provide testimony. Dr. Monteroso responded that this would be a great opportunity. Some scholarship recipients do this, but it would be great to explore for first year students and would be a good support system. Amanda Bennett could work with the alumni group.

9. Aladdin Update/Discussion

Doug Orr & Nancy Goplerud gave updates on Aladdin Campus Dining. Nancy noted that there seems to be more students coming in and that they are spending more time there.

Doug stated that the CPI (Consumer Price Index) in January was an 8.2% rate. Aladdin has asked for this increase throughout the entire company. In the past increases have been 2.5-3%, but with the changes in the economy, they must go by the CPI.

Dr. Monteroso asked what other enhancements can be expected in the upcoming year.

Nancy said that the pizza vending machine will be here in the fall. The study room downstairs will be presented soon. Mobile ordering will be up and running in the fall. Starbucks will be completely done soon. Some more upgrades will be happening in the Bear's Den. The food truck (Tuk Tuk Truck) is still being discussed. Nancy would like to see the truck available for a variety of events--late night coffee, athletic events, available on the quad to pair with student activities.

Stephanie Shaw noted that projections for Wendy's are showing CPI actually below current rates in their 4th quarter. She asked how Aladdin will find balance over the term of the increase.

Doug responded that he feels that CPI is one ask, but this will also help them retain quality employees moving forward and better serve customers. Stephanie suggested separating COLA vs. CPI. Doug noted that the CPI dropped a little in February and asked Stephanie how much CPI is expected to drop from now through the 4th quarter. Stephanie will send us some data points on Wendy's projections.

Ryan Glanville thanked Aladdin for their support. Black history event received a lot of positive feedback. Ryan mentioned talks about the possibility of an international street fair project. Nancy is still working on this. Street food from different countries in the quad. Ryan offered to help with this event if needed. Sydney will send the dead week schedule to Nancy.

10. Arts Update-Katie Cooper

On March 1st a concert was held to promote mental health awareness.

Hosting a "So you think you can dance" event for local high school students.

The Musical Revue Performances will be held March 24, 25, 26.

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time production April 27-30 and May 1.

11. Athletics Update- Lynn Ullom

Wrestling won its 3rd MEC Championship in late January. Also won the super-regional for the 3rd consecutive year and advanced 7 wrestlers to nationals. Ty McGearry won the national championship. He's the 11th wrestler in school history to do this.

Track Teams--indoor track, conference championship offered and our Men won first track championship in over 40 years. Coach Simpson was named the MEC Coach of the year (men's). Women's track finished in 2nd place. Both Men and Women will be competing for outdoor championships.

Acro & Tumbling-Team is participating and we will host the national championships on campus in late April. Foundation, Shawn has the city of Wheeling stepping in to play a role in the event. Baylor, Oregon-major Division I teams will be participating here.

Baseball/softball/tennis all underway. No longer have tennis courts on campus. Men's golf will participate in the NCAA regionals.

Men's Basketball-MEC Tournament gives an intangible return on investment, many WLU fans were in attendance at the WesBanco Arena. IUP games have even had a good fan base. If we win on Tuesday, we'll be going to IN.

Lynn thanked Nancy and the Aladdin team--athletics have always had a good relationship with the food service team.

Dr. Monteroso added that the Women's Basketball team had many young fans from the community at their Wesbanco games. Many on the Women's team are student teachers and they really make an impact.

Lynn shared that we had a student visit campus recently that was committed to WVU. He has a video editing skillset and came to visit WLU and met with several people on campus. He committed to WLU on the spot during his visit. Personal interactions and everyone making a commitment to our students is a responsibility of everyone here on campus, not just the admissions department.

Ryan Glanville mentioned that we've lost several international tennis players due to lack of facilities for practice and competing. Lynn responded that the cost for new courts is high, and we can't rebuild at the current location due to problems with the land/hillside. Engineers won't sign off on a project at this location. We're looking into outside grants, but there hasn't been any success yet. Dr. Monteroso added that we're actively trying to come up with a solution for tennis.

12. DEI Update-Cathy Monteroso

We don't currently have a director of DEI and we're working on what this will look like. We've shifted some responsibilities to the DEI committee. The committee has a second chance prom, lavender ceremony, and multicultural events coming up. DEI Committee has been unfunded, they've worked from grants. Ryan added that Aladdin's in-kind funds have helped this year.

Stephanie noted that recent social media updates have been great and very informative. Stephanie also mentioned that there were diversity scholarships awarded and wants to make sure we don't lose sight of these. Katie is working to make sure they continue as is within the guidelines of the foundation. Stephanie can reach out to Katie or Betsy Delk for more information on the scholarships.

Adjournment - Tom Cervone motions to adjourn. Ryan Glanville seconds the motion. Motion to adjourn approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Cyndi Galloway

Stephanie Shaw _____
Chair